AGENDA
Game, Fish and Parks Commission

July 8-9, 2019
Americinn Hotel & Convention Center
3112 Island Drive, Fort Pierre, SD
Livestream link http://www.sd.net/home/

Call to order 1:00 PM CT

Division of Administration

Action Items:

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
2. Approve Minutes of the June 2019 Meeting https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days
4. License List Request

Information Items:

5. Second Century Initiatives Update
6. Non-meandered Waters Update
7. Deer Application Deadline Update
8. Big Horn Sheep Auction License GPA Spending Example
9. Parks and Wildlife Fee Package Discussion
10. Recruiting the Next Generation

Petitions

11. Muzzleloader Deer Optics

Public Hearing 2:00 PM

Open Forum

Finalizations

12. Antelope Hunting Season
13. Archery Deer Hunting – Sand Lake Refuge
14. Restrict Firearm Use on GFP Land by Oacoma

Proposals

15. Velvet Antler Tagging
16. Chronic Wasting Disease
17. Rules Review Process Chapter 41:01 through 41:03 – Style and Form

Division of Parks and Recreation

Action Items:

18. CSP Private Cabin Permit Adjustment

Information Items:

19. Palisades State Park Expansion Update
20. Recreation Trails Program Update
21. Concessionaire Workgroup
22. Revenue, Camping and Visitation Reports

Division of Wildlife

Information Items:

23. Lake County Turkey Translocation Update
24. Grazing Leases on GPA's
25. Road Right-of-Way Ditch Mowing
26. Coyote Depredation Response
27. Big Game Water Development Projects in the Black Hills
28. Lake Sharpe New Creel Technique
29. License Sales Update

Solicitation of Agenda Items from Commissioners

Adjourn

Next meeting information:
September 5-6, 2019
Spearfish Holiday Inn & Convention Center
305 North 27th St., Spearfish, SD
GFP Commission Meeting Archives https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/4/

Minutes of the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission
May 2-3, 2019

Chairman Gary Jensen called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. MT at Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center in Pierre, South Dakota. Commissioners Gary Jensen, Travis Bies, Mary Anne Boyd, Jon Locken, Scott Phillips, Russell Olson, Douglas Sharp, Robert Whitmyre and approximately 50 public, staff, and media were present.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Chair Jensen called for conflicts of interest to be disclosed. None were presented.

Approval of Minutes

Jensen called for any additions or corrections to the May 2-3, 2019 and May 23, 2019 Special meeting minutes or a motion for approval.

Motion by Boyd with second by Bies TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2-3, 2019 and May 23, 2019 MEETING. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Commissioner Salary Days

One additional salary day for Locken were requested for attending the CWD stakeholder meeting.

Motioned by Phillips, second by Olson TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL SALARY DAYS. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget FY2020 Overview

Chris Petersen, administration division director, presented information on the legislative budget process and timeline for FY20 implementation. He also provided information on adjustments to the FY19 budget and future budget increase for the agency.

Tony Leif, wildlife division director, spoke in regards to the wildlife budget noting revenue sources and breakdown into public services, wildlife management, fisheries, habitat access and capital development projects.

Scott Simpson, parks and recreation division director, identified revenue sources and funding expenditures for parks and recreation.

Motion by Boyd, second by Olson TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OPERATIONS BUDGETS FOR FY2020 $50,745,076. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Boyd, second by Whitmyre TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CAPITOL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET OF $2,028,000 FOR FY2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Phillips, second by Locken TO AUTHOIZIE THE SNOWMOBILE TRAILS BUDGET OF $1,376,225 AS PRESENTED FOR FY2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Second Century Initiatives

Kevin Robling, deputy secretary, provided an update on the Second Century Initiative and activities

GFP Related Foundations and Funds

Robling and Sean Blanchette, Foundations Director for the Department provided the Commission with an overview of The South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation and The Second Century Habitat Fund, two nonprofit corporations that support the Department's mission and initiatives. Blanchette discussed each entity's mission and purpose, organizational structure as well as an update on current projects.

Non-meandered Waters

Kevin Robling, deputy secretary, provided an update on nonmeandered waters stating the goal is to continue providing recreational opportunities for families and outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy South Dakota's great outdoor resources, while also addressing concerns of landowners who own the land under the water. Currently 2,995 acres have been marked closed to public recreational use. This is less than 2 percent of the publicly-accessible nonmeandered water acres across the state and down from the peak of over 5,000 closed nonmeandered water acres in March 2018.

Robling noted Reetz Lake in Day County is approximately 800 acres and is open public access May 1 – Sept 30th, trophy regulations for Walleye/Sauger, Yellow Perch, Black Crappie & Bluegill. Statewide regulations for remaining species. In the first 30 days of May 2019, 257 boats were launched at the access.

Commission Rule Review

Jon Kotilnek, staff attorney, provided an update on the review of administrative rules.

Roy Lake Prospectus

Roy lake Resort requested to lower their sale price to $609,000. That generated a settlement agreement which establishes the terms of the sale. The lower price also generated a new prospectus, advertising the lower price.

PETITIONS

Hoop Net Use on Missouri River Tributaries

Richard Jongewaard, Wood, SD submitted a petition to allow hoop net use on the tributaries of the Missouri River.

Robling informed the Commission that the petition withdrew his petition and no action is needed.

Restrict Firearm Use on GFP Land by Oacoma

Samuel Bice, Rapid City, SD presented his petition to restrict the use of firearms on GFP land near Oacoma. He explained the area is not conducive to high powered riffles due to its proximity to populated areas due to safety concerns.

Tony Leif, wildlife division director, provided information on the petition process and options available for commission action.

Mark Ohm, wildlife regional supervisor, explained the area in question and handed out a map that illustrates where the public land is located.

Motioned by Sharp, second by Phillips TO APPROVE THE PETITION. Motion passes unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing began at 2:01 p.m. and concluded at 3:05 p.m. The minutes follow these Commission meeting minutes.

OPEN FORUM

Jensen opened the floor for discussion from those in attendance on matters of importance to them that may not be on the agenda. No individuals spoke during the open form.

FINALIZATIONS

Archery Deer License Allocation

Kirschenmann presented the proposed changes to the archery deer license allocation noting recommended changes from proposal to withdraw proposed change #1 and if an application deadline is desired, establish an application deadline of April 1st. He explained the delayed start date on public lands for nonresidents: As proposed, the anticipated impact would be minimal. Should the commission determine to implement a delayed start date for nonresidents on public lands, including Walk-In Areas, a later date such as October 1 would appear to be more appropriate to have a meaningful impact. Reviewing purchase dates of nonresident archery licenses, approximately half the total nonresident archery licenses in 2018 were acquired in September and October as we anticipated hunters were preparing to hunt the rut in SD. To meaningful address the crowding issue during the rut would require a much later delayed start date, thus making this approach not a viable strategy. Application deadline of August 1: should the commission determine to impose a nonresident archery application deadline, it is suggested to move that back to an earlier timeframe. Other states use an application deadline, and in most cases that is related to a limited number of licenses which requires the use of a lottery drawing. Limiting access permits for residents and nonresidents 35L: imposing a limitation on the number of access permits for both residents and nonresidents would appear to have a meaningful impact on the issue brought forward about crowding on this area. From hunter harvest data collected in 2018, it was estimated that about 550 resident and 480 nonresidents archery hunted 35L. The proposed number of access permits would reduce that estimated number of hunters in half for this area. Temporal distribution of hunters will play a significant role in the crowding concerns brought forward in the past. The department plans to collect future detailed information from hunters on various components of satisfaction to better understand how this change may or may not be addressing crowding issues on 35L.

1. Archery hunting for nonresident hunters will begin on the first Saturday after Labor Day for public lands and private land leased by the department.

2. Establish an application deadline of August 1 for nonresident hunters, where any application received after that date the license will only be valid on private land, not including Walk-In Areas.
3. Access permits on 35L will be limited to a total of 500 access permits. Those access permits would be distributed as follows: 400 resident access permits and 100 nonresident access permits.

Motioned by Phillips with second by Bies TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ARCHERY DEER LICENSE ALLOCATION TO MAKE THE APPLICATION DEADLINE AUGUST 1, 2019 AND APRIL 1 FOR 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Motioned by Locken, second by Phillips TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDATION ON ACCESS PERMITS IN UNIT 35 L TO BE 625 TOTAL, 500 FOR RESIDENTS AND 125 FOR NONRESIDENTS. Roll call vote: Boyd-yes; Locken – yes; Bies - no; Olson-no; Whitmyre - yes; Phillips – yes; Sharp- yes; Jensen-yes. Motion passes with 6 yes votes and 2 no vote. Motion passes.

Motion by Phillips, second by Bies TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ARCHERY DEER LICENSE ALLOCATION TO SET A NONRESIDENT START DATE OF OCTOBER 1 ON ALL PUBLIC LANDS. Motion carried unanimously.

Motioned by Whitmyre with second by Phillips TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ARCHERY DEER LICENSE ALLOCATION AS AMENDED. 41:06:01 & 41:06:22. Roll call vote: Boyd-yes; Locken – yes; Bies - no; Olson- no; Whitmyre - yes; Phillips – yes; Sharp- no; Jensen-yes. Motion passes with 7 yes votes and 1 no vote. Motion passes.

Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season and Auction License

Kirschenmann and Robling presented the recommended change to remove the November 1 deadline for submitting an application letter to language which states the deadline for an application letter will be established and announced by the Commission.

Kirschenmann explained that per recommendation from the Legislative Research Council that the department recommends the commission amend its proposal and simply repeal the entire rule. Without an exact deadline date included in the rule, it is not necessary to have the general language and can be handled administratively

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Remove the November 1 deadline for submitting an application letter to language which states the deadline for an application letter will be established and announced by the Commission.

The Commission amended the proposal to repeal the rule. The commission then voted to adopt the amendment.

Funding expenditures, prior raffles and potentially moving the auction to another day such as the Governors pheasant hunt and sheep pneumonia research were discussed.

Motion by Bies, seconded by Sharp TO AMEND THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASON TO REMOVE THE DEADLINE DATE ASSOCIATED WITH THE RULE. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bies, seconded by Whitmyer to PASS AS AMENDED THE CHANGES TO THE BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASON THAT REMOVE THE DEADLINE DATE. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on sheep auction funds and expenditures; $85,000 will be set aside for bighorn sheep management activities in SD.

Motion by Phillips, seconded by Boyd TO ALLOCATE 50 PERCENT OF AUCTION FUNDS TO BE SPENT ON GPA'S STATEWIDE AND THE OTHER 50 PERCENT TO THE SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND.

Motion by Phillips with second by Boyd TO APPROVE THE CHANGES THE BIGHORN SHEEP HUNTING SEASON AS AMENDED. 41:06:56. .Roll call vote: Boyd- yes; Locken – yes; Bies - no; Olson- yes; Whitmyre - no; Phillips – yes; Sharp- no; Jensen-yes. Motion passes with 5 yes votes and 3 no vote. Motion passes.

(Administrative Action)

Kirschenmann presented the recommended change in administrative action to allow the bighorn sheep auction license to be valid in both the Custer County (BH2) and Badlands (BH3) hunting units for the 2020 bighorn sheep hunting season.

He explained with the number and quality bighorn sheep rams found within the Badlands hunting unit, this is a fundraising opportunity to not only generate funds for South Dakota bighorn sheep management, but to also raise funds to supplement the Second Century habitat initiative and showcase the state of South Dakota. Last year a world record ram was harvested and there are other Boone and Crocket quality rams remaining in the herd. It should also be understood should the Badlands hunting unit be included for the area valid for the auction license, there would still only be one (1) SD auction license and there would still be a resident lottery license available in the Badlands hunting unit.

Motioned by Bies with second by Locken TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ALLOWING THE BIGHORN SHEEP AUCTION LICENSE VALID IN BOTH UNITS 41:06:56. Motion carried unanimously.

Boat Restriction on Deerfield

John Lott, fisheries chief, presented the finalization on public water zoning to remove the current "no wake zone" on Deerfield Reservoir in Pennington County and establish a 25 miles per hour maximum speed restriction. Lott explained Commission was petitioned to change the boating restriction for Deerfield Reservoir from a "no wake zone" to a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour and proposed the change at their May 2-3, 2019 meeting in Custer. No other boating restrictions specifying a specific speed limit are currently established for South Dakota waters and the proposed regulation would be difficult for Department law enforcement staff to enforce. The current no wake zone restriction on Deerfield Reservoir allows for a unique recreational

opportunity (e.g. kayaking, float tube fishing, etc.) that is limited on other large water bodies in the Black Hills.

Motion by Bies, second by Locken TO REJECT THE CHANGES TO PROHIBIT THE SPEARING OF LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS YEARROUND AT PACTOLA RESERVOIR. 41:07:06. Motion carried unanimously.

Restrict Spearing of Bass on Pactola reservoir

Lott presented the finalization on spearing to Remove largemouth and smallmouth bass from the list of species that can be legally taken with legal crossbows, spearguns, spears, and bow and arrow during established game fish spearing and archery season dates on Pactola Reservoir in Pennington County. He explained the Commission was petitioned to prohibit the spearing of largemouth and smallmouth bass, year-round in Pactola Reservoir and proposed the change at their May 2-3, 2019 meeting. The justification in the petition to prohibit the spearing of largemouth and smallmouth bass was that it had reduced the quality of the bass populations in the reservoir. Angler surveys documented a low incidence of spearing and low harvest of largemouth and smallmouth bass by spearers and anglers combined. Changes in the sizes of largemouth and smallmouth bass available to anglers in Pactola Reservoir cannot be attributed to harvest by spearing. It is not harvest that is regulating the quality and abundance of bass, but changes in the Pactola fish community over time due to environmental and biological influences. Prohibiting the spearing of largemouth and smallmouth bass reduces opportunity.

Motion by Phillips, second by Sharp TO REJECT THE CHANGES TO REMOVE THE NO WAKE ZONE ON DEERFIELD RESERVOIR. 41:04:02. Motion carried unanimously.

Restriction of the Use of Firearms, Crossbows and Bows in State Parks and Rec Areas

Scott Simpson, parks and recreation director, presented recommended change to restrictions on the use of hunting and target weapons on department controlled lands and prefaced his recommendations by stating that hunting, with safety restrictions, is allowed in 65 of 69 state park areas. The proposed changes would:

1. Allow uncased weapons when transporting them to and from designated shooting ranges and boat ramps to accommodate target shooters and bow fishermen. Our officers probably would not cite, but this clarifies the allowance.
2. Allow airguns on state park target ranges and to hunt with in parks as allowed by other rule.
3. Extend months hunting is allowed on Lake side Use Areas and Shadehill Recreation Area from Oct through April to Sept through May.
4. Repeal centerfire rifle prohibition for CSP spring turkey because statewide change in spring turkey rule does this.
5. Add crossbows (for firearm seasons) as allowable weapon in all park areas that allow bows.
6. Repeal the rule that states deer hunting is allowed through Jan 31 in all parks that allow hunting except Farm and LaFramboise Islands where hunting must end on December 31. With statewide change in deer season end date, rule is no longer needed.

7. Revise rule specifying concealed pistol allowance in park areas to align with the statute change made by the legislature.
8. Cleanup to correct nomenclature for several designated management units.
9. Extend spring turkey hunt date at Sica Hollow State Park from 8 days before Memorial Day to May 31st. The chance for conflict with other recreation uses is limited because of the park's limited development and northern climate.
10. The current rule prohibits discharge of firearms and bows on or across Mickelson Trail. Change would expand this to include airguns and crossbows.
11. Current rule expressly prohibits airguns in park areas. Proposed change would allow them for hunting allowed species in parks if they meet the muzzle velocity specified in 41:06 which is the hunting seasons and methods chapter.

Motioned by Bies with second by Boyd TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE USE OF FIREARMS, CROSSBOWS AND BOWS IN STATE PARKS AND REC AREAS 41:03:01. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSALS

Antelope Hunting Season

Chad Switzer, wildlife program administrator, presented the recommended changes to the antelope hunting season.

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference.
2. Landowners not possessing a license that allows the harvest of a buck may purchase an "any antelope" or a two-tag "any antelope" + "doe/fawn antelope" license that is valid on their property only.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Adjust the number of West River resident licenses from no more than 4,665 one-tag antelope licenses and no more than 300 two-tag antelope licenses to 4,235 one-tag antelope licenses and no more than 600 two-tag antelope licenses.
2. Adjust the number of East River resident licenses from no more than 100 one-tag antelope licenses to 85 one-tag antelope licenses.
3. Modify Unit 36A (Hughes County) by removing Hyde County.
4. Establish Unit 38A to include Buffalo, Hand and Hyde counties.
5. Modify Unit 50A (Mellette County) to include Todd County.

Resident Tags

Year	Buck Tags	Doe Tags	Total Tags
2017-2018	3,865	1,400	5,265
2019-2020	3,535	1,900	5,435

Motioned by Bies, second by Whitmyre TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ANTELOPE HUNTING SEASON. Motion carried unanimously.

Switzer presented the recommended changes to the archery antelope hunting season to modify the geographic area open for the archery antelope hunting season.

Motion by Phillips, second by Locken TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ARCHERY ANTELOPE HUNTING SEASON. Motion carried unanimously.

Switzer stated there are no recommended changes to the Custer State Park antelope hunting season and plan to retain a season closure based on the guidelines of the management plan.

Switzer presented the administrative action to allocate hunting unit licenses and access permits for the antelope hunting season.

Motioned by Boyd with second by Sharp TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ANTELOPE LICENSE ALLOCATION (appendix A). Motion carried unanimously.

Sage Grouse Hunting Season

Switzer provided information on the sage grouse hunting season with no recommended changes to keep a season closure based on the season recommendation guidelines found within the "Sage-Grouse Management Plan for South Dakota, 2014-2018". Results from the 2019 spring lek surveys indicated 60 (66 in 2018) males counted on priority leks and 153 (168 in 2018) males counted on all leks.

Archery Deer Hunting Season

Switzer presented the recommended change to remove the current delayed start date for the archery deer hunting season at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge and align with the September 1 opening date. He explained that after recent discussions with staff at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge and as part of an initiative to increase fishing and hunting opportunities on National Wildlife Refuges across the nation, the removal of this delayed opener is being recommended to increase archery deer hunting opportunities.

Motion by Whitmyre, second by Locken TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED CHANGE TO THE ARCHERY DEER HUNTING SEAONS. Motion carried unanimously.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

Big Game Water Development Projects in the Black Hills – not presented due to meeting time limitations

Bluegill Management – not presented due to meeting time limitations

Lake Sharpe New Creel Technique – not presented due to meeting time limitations

License Sales Update – not presented due to meeting time limitations

Antelope Management Plan

Chad Switzer, wildlife program administrator, and Andy Lindbloom, senior big game biologist, provided the commission a brief overview of the antelope management plan and key highlights of the plan. The process of revising the plan was described and

that the department will be asking the commission to adopt the revised plan at their July meeting.

CWD Action Plan

Chad Switzer, wildlife program administrator, provided an overview of the CWD action plan, the process used to draft the plan, public involvement, outreach to various entities, key action items, and the timeline for implementation. Switzer advised the commission that an electronic copy will be shared with the commission shortly after the commission meeting and asked the commissioners to provide the department any recommendations by June 26 so they can be incorporated. The department will be asking the commission to adopt the plan at their July meeting.

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ft. Sisseton Festival and Park Update

Alicia Tonsfeldt, park manager, gave an update on the Fort Sisseton Festival, park projects and upcoming events for the 60th anniversary of the park.

Spring Creek Ventures Ownership Update

Members of the Spring Creek Ventures ownership group including David Healan, Greg Vander Vorst and Tom Denham, were present to express their concerns regarding their lease expiration and continued challenges operating the Spring Creek Concession.

Palisades State Park Expansion Update – not presented due to meeting time limitations

Revenue, Camping and Visitation Reports – not presented due to meeting time limitations

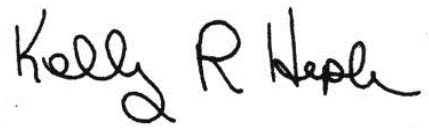
SOLICITATION OF AGENDA ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Olson requested an update on the turkey release project in Lake County, operations procedure for coyote complaints and mowing of road right-of-ways.

Adjourn

Motion by Phillips, second by Olson TO ADJOURN AT 12:11 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly R. Hepler, Department Secretary

Appendix A

2019-2020 Antelope

Unit	Unit Name	% NR	Resident Licenses				Nonresident Licenses				License and Tag Totals							
			Any-A 41	D/K 43	AA+D/K 48	2 D/K 49	Any-A 41	D/K 43	AA+D/K 48	2 D/K 49	RES 1-tag	RES 2-tag	RES Licenses	RES Tags	NR 1-tag	NR 2-tag	NR Licenses	NR Tags
02A	Pennington East	2%	100	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	100	0	100	100	2	0	2	2
11A	Bennett/Oglala Lakota	4%	50	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	50	0	50	50	2	0	2	2
15A	Butte NW	2%	200	100	0	0	4	2	0	0	300	0	300	300	6	0	6	6
15B	Butte/Lawrence	2%	250	100	0	0	5	2	0	0	350	0	350	350	7	0	7	7
20A	Corson	8%	50	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	50	0	50	50	4	0	4	4
21A	Custer/Pennington Central	2%	100	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	100	0	100	100	2	0	2	2
24A	Dewey	8%	40	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	40	0	40	40	4	0	4	4
27A	Fall River/Custer Southwest	2%	650	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	650	0	650	650	11	0	11	11
31A	Haakon	4%	100	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	100	0	100	100	4	0	4	4
35A	Harding West	4%	0	0	300	300	0	0	12	12	0	600	600	1,200	0	24	24	48
35B	Harding East	2%	300	200	0	0	8	4	0	0	500	0	500	500	10	0	10	10
36A	Hughes	2%	25	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	25	0	25	25	1	0	1	1
38A	Hyde/Hand/Buffalo	2%	10	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10	0	10	10	1	0	1	1
39A	Jackson	4%	50	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	50	0	50	50	2	0	2	2
41A	Jones	4%	40	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	40	0	40	40	2	0	2	2
45A	Lyman	CLOSED																
45B	Ft. Pierre National Grasslands	CLOSED																
49A	Meade North	2%	400	100	0	0	8	2	0	0	500	0	500	500	10	0	10	10
49B	Meade South	8%	300	200	0	0	24	16	0	0	500	0	500	500	40	0	40	40
50A	Mellette/Todd	4%	30	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	30	0	30	30	2	0	2	2
53A	Perkins North	4%	150	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	150	0	150	150	6	0	6	6
53B	Perkins South	4%	250	300	0	0	10	12	0	0	550	0	550	550	22	0	22	22
58A	Stanley	8%	40	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	40	0	40	40	4	0	4	4
59A	Sully	2%	30	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	30	0	30	30	1	0	1	1
60A	Tripp	CLOSED																
63A	Walworth/Potter	4%	20	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	20	0	20	20	1	0	1	1
64A	Ziebach	4%	150	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	150	0	150	150	6	0	6	6
	TOTAL		3,235	1,000	300	300	112	38	12	12	4,235	600	4,835	5,435	150	24	174	198
Unit	Unit Name	% NR	Any-A 41	D/K 43	AA+D/K 48	2 D/K 49	Any-A 41	D/K 43	AA+D/K 48	2 D/K 49	RES 1-tag	RES 2-tag	RES Licenses	RES Tags	NR 1-tag	NR 2-tag	NR Lic	NR Tags

Antelope
2017-2018 vs. 2019-2020 Comparison

Unit #	Unit Name	2017-2018 Resident Licenses	2019-2020 Resident Licenses	# Change	% Change	2017-2018 Resident Tags	2019-2020 Resident Tags	# Change	% Change
02A	Pennington East	150	100	-50	-33%	150	100	-50	-33%
11A	Bennett/Shannon	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
15A	Butte NW	300	300	0	0%	600	300	-300	-50%
15B	Butte/Lawrence	600	350	-250	-42%	600	350	-250	-42%
20A	Corson	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
21A	Custer/Pennington Central	125	100	-25	-20%	125	100	-25	-20%
24A	Dewey	40	40	0	0%	40	40	0	0%
27A	Fall River/Custer Southwest	550	550	0	0%	550	550	0	0%
31A	Haakon	100	100	0	0%	100	100	0	0%
35A	Harding West	300	600	300	100%	300	1,200	900	300%
35B	Harding East	300	500	200	67%	300	500	200	67%
36A	Hughes	25	25	0	0%	25	25	0	0%
38A	Hyde/Hand/Buffalo	25	10	-15	-60%	25	10	10	-60%
39A	Jackson	50	50	0	0%	50	50	0	0%
41A	Jones	30	40	10	33%	30	40	10	33%
45A	Lyman	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
45B	Ft. Pierre National Grasslands	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
49A	Meade North	800	500	-300	-38%	800	500	-300	-38%
49B	Meade South	500	500	0	0%	500	500	0	0%
50A	Mellette/Todd	30	30	0	0%	30	30	0	0%
53A	Perkins North	150	150	0	0%	150	150	0	0%
53B	Perkins South	550	550	0	0%	550	550	0	0%
58A	Stanley	40	40	0	0%	40	40	0	0%
59A	Sully	30	30	0	0%	30	30	0	0%
60A	Tripp	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
63A	Walworth/Potter	20	20	0	0%	20	20	0	0%
64A	Ziebach	150	150	0	0%	150	150	0	0%
TOTAL		4,965	4,835	-130	-3%	5,265	5,435	170	3%

Antelope Archery Access Permits

Designated Area	Number of Access Permits
	Any Antelope
Portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District	5

2017-2018 vs. 2019-2020 Comparison

Designated Area	Number of Access Permits
	Any Antelope
2017-2018: Portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District	5
2019-2020: Portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District	5

Public Hearing Minutes of the Game, Fish and Parks Commission
June 6, 2019

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

Archery Deer Season and Access Permit Allocations

Jimm Mudt, Britton, SD, He would like to applaud the effort the Department put into this. With the start dates, he does agree to a certain extent with Mr. Rogers that the 3rd week in September has been the starting date for the last 30 years and people coming here to archery hunt plan on that. As far as late access applying for a license he does not think August is too early. He also stated that if people want to come to South Dakota, they'll work with the system.

Doug Araham, SD Landowner Outfitter Alliance, Pierre, SD They don't have any opposition to moving commission proposal 1 or withdrawing it based on the department's proposal as it doesn't affect private land hunting. They would not have objections to proposal 2 and the recommended changes as long as the availability of those licenses after the initial application date continues to exist as is in the current proposal, only limited to private land.

Dana Rogers, SD Bowhunters Association, Hill City, SD thanks the commission for the changes made from the original proposal and requested some additional changes be made to application dates in the future, a later start date and number of resident and nonresident tags.

Bighorn Sheep Auction License

Kevin Hurley, Wild Sheep Foundation, Bozeman, MT. As vice president for conservation and operation of the Wild Sheep Foundation thanked the Commission for opportunity to auction South Dakota bighorn sheep license annually for the past 7 years generating gross revenues of $589,700. He noted they have returned 100 percent of the license auction proceeds to SD GFP for bighorn sheep conservation/management programs as they opted to see all funds raised invested into the SD bighorn sheep program. In addition the Midwest chapter has provide another $95,000 in funding support over the last 7 years. Hurley also provided totals for auction price and grant aid funding for projects in SD for the past 7 years.

Wayne Henderson, Lodge Pole, SD. He is a Perkins County Commissioner and a board member for the Wild Sheep Foundation. He fully supports whatever the Commission decides to do with the proceeds. Although, he would like to see the Sheep Foundation get as many funds as possible, he's completely happy with whatever the Governor and the Commission chooses to give them because it's a win-win situation, no matter how it's allocated.

Sam Kezar, Lennox, SD. 74% of all Agency funds for big horn sheep come from auction tags, it is these funds that make or break the big horn sheep that we have. He doesn't not think there's room to change the system that has been proven to bolster the animal, sheep cannot pay for themselves. He opposes this proposal.

Boat Restrictions on Deerfield

Ken Edel, Rapid City, SD wanted to make Deerfield more appealing to boat fisherman. Deerfield is the 2nd largest reservoir in the Hills. Orman & Angustora are outside Hills walleye fisheries. Out of the 30 lakes in the Hills all but 3 have either motor restrictions or are too small for boats. Boats would not have much room. More activity in the winter than the summer. Speed limit impacts mostly boats. He would like to have a recreational towing be prohibited. Need a shoreline maintenance plan. Boats will not disturb campers. Development and growth is affecting Deerfield not the boater speed and noise.

Jerome Harvey, Black Hills Paddlers, Rapid City, SD encourages commission to vote against this. Maintaining trout fishery. He opposed this proposal

Kassie Shiffermiller, Black Hills Paddlers, Rapid City, SD – Worried about paddle sports safety. Watersports enthusiasts have other lakes they can go on. Worried about wildlife and shoreline erosion. She opposed this proposal.

Mary Braley, Hill City, SD this speed increase would allow recreational sports such as skiing and tubing. As a kayaker I worry about my safety on the lake with the speed. Also, she is concerned about disruption of nesting habitat for osprey and bald eagle. Deerfield is a quiet, tranquil lake and she opposed this proposal.

Gail Crane, Hill City, SD read a letter from a friend Katherine Cleveland. She would like to leave Deerfield Lake as no wake zone. She enjoys the quiet and sharing it with her friends from out of town. Also, doesn't want people to be caught in unexpected storms.

Jon Crane, Mystic, SD Deerfield is a gem in the Black Hills. Deerfield Lake is the only lake in the hills a kayaker can go on and feel safe. Fast boats are dangerous.

Everett Hoyt, Black Hills Fly Fishers, Rapid City, SD Black Hills Fly Fishers voted to oppose the lifting of the wake zone on Deerfield Lake. Deerfield Lake is precious and cannot be considered in isolated lake. There are 5 major lakes for people to use for fishing. Department of Regulation & Reclamation have an agreement in place regarding speed.

Dan Holsworth, Hermosa, SD, spoke in opposition to removing the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake. He noted the lake has been no wake for 55 years. As an owner of the Mt. Meadow Store and Campground the no wake provides a peaceful atmosphere their campers want.

Sam Kezar, Back Country Hunters & Anglers, Lennox, SD. During a board meeting Back Country Hunters & Anglers agreed to oppose the boat restrictions on

Deerfield Lake. They feel it's important to protect the lake against potential degradation of water quality and lake shore erosion.

Joe Speckels, Custer, SD, has sailed on lakes in Black Hills, had boat capsized by a person with a high powered boat on Stockade Lake. Doesn't want to see someone drowned if no wake zone exists. He opposed this proposal.

Luke Rounds – Rapid City, SD Serf boats make extremely large wake going slowly at 10mph.

Dan Holsworth, Hermosa, SD, spoke in opposition to removing the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake. He noted the lake has been no wake for 55 years. As an owner of the Mt. Meadow Store and Campground the no wake provides a peaceful atmosphere their campers want.

Restrict Spearing of Bass on Pactola Reservoir

Ken Edel, Rapid City, SD believes the bass population has been depressed for the last 10 years. It is necessary to control panfish population. Largemouth will rebound if protected. Small largemouth bass are 12 inches or less in size. Something else affected the bass population. Let bass grow on Pactola.

Restriction of the Use of Firearms, Crossbows and Bows in State Parks and Rec Areas

No verbal comments received.

See attached written public comments submitted prior to the public hearing
The public Hearing concluded at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly R Hepler

Kelly R. Hepler, Department Secretary

Public Comments

Archery Deer License Allocation

Wayne Huebert

Sioux Falls SD

waynewhitetail@gmail.com

Comment:

I think the state is doing a good job with our hunting seasons, but if you choose not to limit the number of nonresident archery hunters like every other state then charge them double what they pay now. If I choose to go hunt another state I know the high cost and that is a deciding factor for me. I am not saying they are bad people just that we should take resident views first. I also believe the number of Black Hills archery hunters should be limited on the mule deer not sure how this would be done but we need to preserve the mule deer population. Thank you for your consideration and the job that you do.

Justin Broughton

Sioux Falls SD

justin.broughton@premierbankcard.com

Comment:

The changes to the NR archery deer license process do not address the issues brought forward by SD bowhunters. This proposal will simply spread the pressure to unlimited LAU's such as the Black Hills, Hill Ranch, Little Moreau, and others public pieces further exacerbating the problems resident archers face. This also does nothing to reduce the burgeoning archery mule deer harvest which has doubled in only the past 5 years. We must address the issue of NR archery now by limiting the number of any deer licenses available to NR archers similar to ND and by placing a cap on total NR archery licenses available. This cap and change would improve the archery experience for residents and NR's alike while only having a minimal effect on revenues. The reduction in revenue could be more than overcome by increasing the NR tag price to be competitive with neighboring states. Please consider strengthening this proposal as requested multiple times by resident archers. Thank you.

Justin Murphy

Lyons SD

justintmurphy@outlook.com

Comment:

The current proposals for nonresident archery tags do not do enough in my opinion. The state needs to put a cap on nonresident tags as well as have an earlier deadline for applications. The state should look at having limited entry units and offer whitetail only tags west river rather than any deer. Our mule deer populations are on the decline and the early season opener will only further push those numbers down. The commission should also look at raising nonresident archery tag prices. My last proposal would be to further push the nonresident opener back farther to the third Saturday of September. Please consider being more aggressive with these changes so we don't have to readdress them in a couple years when the problem persists. Thank you for your time.

Justin Murphy
Lyons, SD

Sam Kezar

Lennox SD

sam@aspenarbo.com

Comment:

I feel this is a good start to a long needed change. However, some of the items in this proposal I don't feel do the right thing.
First, a 5 day head start for residents to hunt vs non-residents isn't much of a change. I'm not really interested in that portion, but just doing 5 days just makes the residents more upset since its such a short period of time.
Secondly, the limited permits for the LAU areas is a good thing. But giving 20% to non-residents is absurd. Since when do non-residents get such a preference to a highly sought after area let alone at all. Could you imagine trying to offer the same split to residents in a rifle draw? I like the idea, but I think the proportion of non-resident tags should be capped at a lower percentage like the rifle draws.
Third, and this can incorporate changes within my second point. August first is not going to do anything to prevent South Dakota from being a state of last resort. All western states that have application deadlines for non-resident tags are done by May. An August first deadline to get a non-resident tag will still be the last resort for anyone looking to do an out of state, western style archery hunt. The date for applications should be moved back to early April to coincide with the Special Buck draws. Then, non-resident hunters would have to choose to apply here based on preference points and their desire to hunt other western states. This type of early spring draw could also coincide with the limiting of LAU permits. If done that way, a higher percentage could be awarded (10-15%) for those areas because demand would be there.

Lastly, I feel this issue would be best resolved to break up the public land tags and private land tags. Without the push back from the outfitters and guides, I feel the initial Option 2A proposal would have been acceptable to most. So why not look at providing a capped number of non-resident outfitter archery tags that can be applied for and a second set of capped public land archery tags that can be applied for? You could then also have restrictions that the public land archery tags are not valid for the LAU areas unless they applied specifically for that unit and a special draw.

I feel the LAU units should be a limited draw license for residents and non-residents across all weapon and season types. For a true trophy quality hunt, those areas should be limited to archery, rifle, and muzzleloader seasons.

Limiting access to hunting these areas is possible and does not restrict anyone in regards to it being National Forest. Every other state already highly regulates the hunting access on all federally manage public lands without issue. Limiting hunting access to public land is not a crime or problem, everyone can still go there and recreate, just not take an animal unless the state provides a license.
Thank you for your consideration.

Cole Kosmala

Rapid City SD

Cole.kosmala@yahoo.com

Comment:

Definitely support limiting out of state Bowhunters. Crazy pressure on most west River public I go to. Need a cap on permits like 2,000 total out of state Bowhunters. Definitely in favor of SDBI petitions. Need firm early draw date like April and later out of state start date like Oct 1 to help residents.

Dana Rogers

Hill City SD

dana.rogers.1@hotmail.com

Comment:

Commissioners and Staff,
SDBI petitioned for cap and draw changes based on our current NR % allocations used for Black Hills, Refuge and West River firearms allocations.

We showed from GFP data the significant increases in NR archery pressure from 2014-2018. It also clearly showed the disproportionate mule deer and overall harvest by NRs. The GFP staff biologist even presented you with a powerpoint slide showing disparities in mule deer harvest in Harding county, Black Hills, National grasslands units and along all counties bordering the Missouri River.

Thus far, that scientific data has not seemed to convince some on staff and the commissioners to move on these issues.

This current proposal is a START and I appreciate that. Given the timeframe here with summer and fall seasons upon us, we need to get this first step moving to build more data points for future years.

On the NR publicly accessible permit deadline, I would ask that be changed to July 1st for 2019. From the other states drawing deadlines I provided, you should clearly see that we would still be the LAST RESORT. A July 1 NR public land deadline should reduce the pressure some though. We won't know how much effect it will have until it's passed. Please adjust that date in the proposal and vote to pass.

On the NR publicly accessible archery permit start date of 1st Saturday after Labor day. That will only give resident archers Sunday Sept 1 and Monday Sept 2 (Labor Day) as weekend dates ahead of NRs. I would ask that this NR start date be pushed BACK a few more weeks to a 4th Saturday in Sept or even Oct 1. That would give residents a few weekends with less pressure to enjoy their bowhunting opportunities without the excessive pressure seen in many past years. Please adjust that start date for NRs back and PASS the proposal.

Regarding the final item of Limited Access Unit permits on the Custer National Forest (35L for rifle). As this is the only LAU mentioned and would cut the pressure on that unit from over 1,000 permits last year to 500 this year, I believe that unit will be positively impacted by this measure. The distribution of 400 LAU permits to residents and 100 to NRs is (on the surface) a fair compromise. I have to point out though that the 8% allocation normally used SHOULD only allow for 32 NR LAU permits instead of the 100, which is actually 20%.

Given the tight window of opportunity to get this moving in 2019, I ask that the two dates be adjusted and this proposal passed. We can then see what the data returns for 2019 show and if there was adequate improvement or not.

Thank you all for your time and efforts on all of these issues. SD resident sportsmen live here and we very much appreciate being considered prominantly when weighing your decisions.

Jerry Ohman

Glenham SD

jaohman@valleytel.net

Comment:

Sounds like it would be very hard to enforce.
Just have an application deadline.

Wyatt Skelton

Bryant SD

wyattskelton@hotmail.com

Comment:

I would like the commission and staff to make some substantial changes to these issues. The data shows significant increases in nonresident tags and muledeer harvest. I believe living in this state ought to have some benefits over those not living here. So to keep the residents hunting a quality experience, I'd like the nonresidents archery deadlines be moved to a July 1 this year for deer and antelope and March 1 next year. Also nonresident start date on the 4th Saturday of September or October 1 for deer. Also for next year, since it is "not possible" for 2019 a hard cap of 8% of resident archery licenses for deer and antelope. With a set limit of muledeer permits for those deer tags. Thank you.

Arnold Veen

Milbank SD

arnieveen@yahoo.com

Comment:

I do support that changes to NonResident archery licenses are in order and support your current proposal with the following modifications;
Proposal #1 Less than a week is not much of a improvement here I would suggest a Nonresident starting date of Oct 1st.
Proposal #2 A change of the August 1st date to a July 1st application deadline for Nonresident would be better.
Proposal #3 Very good idea to lower the pressure on this area and I do support this. On other areas that we hunter have to request access permits to hunt should be considered also to limit excessive hunting pressure.
Thank you for your consideration.
Arnold Veen

Wes Wingen

Whitewood SD

Wrwingen@yahoo.com

Comment:

I appreciate the effort to address the issue of non-resident archery hunters in South Dakota. I am in favor of the cap on access permits for the Custer National Forest. I am also in favor of the earlier non-resident archery application deadline of August 1st. While I support a later season start date for non-residents, I would encourage you to consider moving it back from the proposal for the first weekend after Labor Day. Even one or two weeks would be a great improvement over the current proposal. I view having non-residents afield as a barrier to more residents enjoying a pasttime that is priceless. A longer non-resident opener delay would be a great step toward further promoting archery hunting as an activity for more South Dakota residents to enjoy, while not impacting the non-resident license revenue stream. Thank you for your work on these important changes.

Caleb Walters

Aberdeen SD

caleb.walters@state.sd.us

Comment:

I oppose the change make a limited number of Archery license available for Unit 35L. This unit is already limited to the amount of rifle tags only allowing people to get a tag every 5 years or so. I have been told that they limited the amount of licenses to create a trophy area, which I am fine with. Bucks in that area are already extremely wary from being hunted and it is very hard to hunt them with a bow in this area. What information do you have supporting issuing a limited amount of archery permits??? Is this based on surveys from who was successful in the area last year?? Also with all the proposed deer lottery changes don't you think you are going to negatively effect all the west river outer fitters, hotels, gas stations, etc who count on the hunters traveling to those areas every year. Have you ever considered instead of a limited number of licenses, a point minimum for bucks, such as a 4 point or better law on one horn. That would allow everyone to hunt, but protect the smaller bucks so they can grow.

Dale Singer

Spearfish SD

singerinthedesert@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please do not limit archery tags to Whitetails, There are large huntable, numbers of Mule deer in western South Dakota.

Dan Leffelman

Onalaska WI

dleffelman@gmail.com

Comment:

Non-resident tags account for big $$ in the state of South Dakota. The success rates are still ultra low for archery hunters, and south Dakota has been a destination for my family for many years and has made some excellent memories. These changes would so limit participation from nonresidents like myself and maybe even make South Dakota a 3rd rate Destination. There are plenty of deer that can be saved by limiting resident tags and not deterring non-residents from hunting the great state of South Dakota. Please leave the non-resident archery regulations unchanged.

Lance Latvala

Deer River MN

Lancelatvala@Gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Levi Bertolotto

Blackhawk SD

levi.bertolotto@gmail.com

Comment:

I feel that archery hunting puts significantly less pressure on a deer herd especially if they live in a landscape like the Custer national Forest where they have terrain and cover.

Justin Oosterbaan

Battle Creek MI

**JUSTIN.OOSTERBAAN@GMAIL.C
OM**

Comment:

This would deter me from archery hunting in South Dakota. The possibility of hunting for deer in velvet is the only draw to hunt in SD compared to other states if I am going to travel. I archery hunted last year on public land during the first week of September, there was almost no one out hunting. I saw one Hunter in 3 days in 4 different public areas. I can't imagine it's a pressure issue.

Brandon Jochem

Eau Claire WI

Bjochem@charter.net

Comment:

I dont have a problem with the later start date as I do not hunt that early anyway. The issue that I have is with the deadline for purchase of a license. South Dakota is one of my all time favorite places to hunt. One of the great things is that I can buy a license as my schedule allows. I may not know my fall plans until 2 weeks before i leave. Taking that option away would likey keep me from even purchasing a license in South Dakota.

Ryley Thill

Johnstown CO

ryley_thill@hotmail.com

Comment:

It’s funny that 8% of your tags go to nonresident and 100% of your issues are due to piss poor management over the last 20 years. Out of state hunters should have the same time frame as residents so they can hunt with their friends and family at the same time. Either that, or come up with a mid solution for prior residents like Montana has done. I think the only thing this will accomplish is making residents who hunt with out of state family more annoyed by your bs. As far as the application date, it was always nice to be able to by a tag whenever, so you could purchase after you know you would be able to hunt and make the trip out. I mean if you guys as a state are turning into anti-hunting, just say it so no one has to wonder where all of the idiotic agendas are coming from. Either that, or stop listening to the “buddies” that the gfp have on a personal level and continue to cry and complain until they get the state to change things for them. It’s about the many, not the few, pretty sure you saw that with the last moronic proposal you had last year.

John Weber

Edgemont SD

weberjohn1@live.com

Comment:

Gfp needs to take a realistic look at the limited areas and changes need to be made to all of them. unlimited archery hunters on the hill ranch on 27L has decimated the heard. The quality of the hunt is very poor for anyone hunting that unit, especially for the "Limited" rifle hunters that apply there. It is no longer Limited anything with the hundred plus bow hunters that hunt there. Another change would be to close the archery seaons on the limited areas during rifle season. You have created an ultra high pressure hunt in an area that's supposed to be limited.

Steven Gisi

Ipswich SD

bow103hunter1@yahoo.com

Comment:

Does this mean that this area (35L) will be a separate season/license fee than from the West River archery tag? What is the reasoning behind this proposal?

Chris Ericks

Rapid City SD

chrisericks@ymail.com

Comment:

OK, I understand if the game-count quantifies a limit on access permits to Custer Nat. Forest. But, tax-paying SD residents should get all 500!

Josh Ihnen

Omaha NE

ihnen.josh@gmail.com

Comment:

Commission members,

I respectfully oppose the delay to the start of the non-resident archery deer season for several reasons. First, like Nebraska, SD offers one of the few opportunities to hunt velvet bucks, which is where some of the appeal lies in hunting the first week of September. Second, for those DIY sportsmen with limited time off from work, SD offers several weeks where antelope and deer can be hunted concurrently. Taking time away from this season overlap hurts non-resident hunters. Third, BLM and national grasslands are federal lands, and I don't believe it is right that a state agency can limit my opportunity on these lands. I love hunting in SD, but you are quickly changing my mind.

Thank you.
Josh Ihnen

Joel Messick

Rochester MN

Comment:

I strongly oppose establishing a deadline for public land nonresident applicants. As a nonresident, some years I don't decide to go on a hunt until the last minute when I get time off from work. Establishing a deadline would make it very difficult for those in my same situation to be able to hunt in South Dakota. It seems like this is just another effort to privatize hunting.

Ryan Conley

Lakeville MN

rmconley@gmail.com

Comment:

Why would you prevent a hunter from hunting on public lands if the license is purchased over the counter after August 1? This is silly, and I don't understand who it benefits. All it's doing is adding another irrational regulation to an already confusing system and is not encouraging more people to get out and hunt. I don't know who is being surveyed, or what the motives are, but I deer hunt public land every year in SD for 6 consecutive days in October, and I'm lucky to encounter one other hunter in the field. So if the motives are to provide more access and opportunity for resident hunters I'd say this is a made up problem. I have ZERO issues with delaying the non-resident season by one week, if I was a resident I'd love to have that. But this license change is just silly.

Victor Limacher

Milesville SD

victorlimacher@hotmail.com

Comment:

Gentlemen,
As complex as the deer season tag and season dates are already, I question just you are attempting to accomplish by this? This proposed season date change will just serve to complicate matters further adding confusion to an already complex system. I would suggest that if you are going to make this change, just change the entire archery season dates to the first Saturday after Labor Day, and then leave things alone for awhile. Again what exactly are you trying to accomplish here?
Adding the deadline date for non resident archery hunters seems to again just complicate things.

Andrew Schlader

Carver MN

Aschlader09@gmail.com

Comment:

I archery hunted public lands in South Dakota at the beginning of the season a couple years ago and had a great time. The first week or two of the season give opportunities to non residents to hunt before seasons in surrounding states are open. I was planning on returning for a hunt this September for opening week. If you take away the first week from non residents I will not be returning to this state to hunt and will hunt North Dakota instead. We pay high license fees as non residents. Also much of the public lands are federally owned not state so we should have the same opportunities on them as South Dakota residents. Thank you

Matthew Sadler

Rapid City SD

msadler822@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the proposed lottery for access permits to Custer National Forest (Unit 35L) during Archery season for South Dakota residents. As a South Dakota taxpayer, it is already bad enough that I am not guaranteed an annual West River deer rifle license or a Black Hills deer rifle license. In addition, SD residents have to wait an average of 15 years for an Elk rifle license. SD residents/taxpayers should not have to be further subjected to a lottery system for Archery access in order to hunt in the Custer National Forest. My recommendation is to keep the current State-wide Archery system in place for SD residents and limit the number of access permits in Custer National Forest for non-residents only.

Mikkel Haugen

Saint Peter MN

haugen.mikkel@gmail.com

Comment:

Great Idea. Please look into a cap on non-resident archery deer hunter license numbers.

Mikkel Haugen

Saint Peter MN

haugen.mikkel@gmail.com

Comment:

I think federal lands such as BLM, National Forest, or National Grasslands should be excluded.

Plus, I already took vacation.

Darron Mcdougal

Antigo WI

darronmcdougal@yahoo.com

Comment:

I totally oppose these changes. It's so difficult for nonresidents to pull off an enjoyable and potentially successful road-trip bowhunt to another state. In the past, South Dakota has always made it easy to plan an on-the-whim road-trip hunt. I could always buy the archery license anytime throughout the season (I don't always know by Aug. 1st if I can hunt South Dakota), and there weren't any stupid delayed starts or anything like that. And, I've always been satisfied with animal numbers and trophy potential. I think that delayed-start proposal is absurd. Quit goofing with details, or you'll lose nonresident license sales and the revenues that we as nonresidents have been bringing to South Dakota all these years.

Skyler Arent

Brookings SD

skyler.arent@gmail.com

Comment:

I believe resident hunter opportunity should not be limited in the Custer National Forest in Harding county. After hunting on the National Forest the past two years, running into non-residents has been the issue that my hunting partners and I have faced. Last season during opener I saw out of state trucks at nearly every access point I was around, totaling over 20 vehicles. I saw two resident hunting parties the whole weekend.

Also, with the deer herd in mind, I believe resident hunters are typically more selective in what they harvest, while non-residents are simply attempting to fill their tag in the limited window they have to hunt. A potential solution to this would be to limit access permits to non-residents like what is proposed, and reassess after several years to see if an impact has been made. If no change in hunter satisfaction or deer herd quality has occurred, further discussion about limiting resident access should be made.

The other aspects of the proposal I agree with, and if there was a small change so that limiting resident access wasn't part of the proposal, I would support it fully.

Thanks for giving me a platform to speak about my opinion.

Skyler Arent

Jake Pechacek

Maplewood MN

radke066@umn.edu

Comment:

Hi,
I wanted to take a minute to oppose the new proposal for delaying the start of the archery deer season until the weekend after Labor Day. I understand it will be more crowded with both residents and nonresidents chasing public land deer, but isn't that the point of having public lands? The big issue for me is the national holiday that could be used hunting, and the opportunity to shoot a public land velvet buck, something that is high on many hunters bucket list.
Thanks for hearing my input.

Gregory Peterson

Beresford SD

huntinsodak@gmail.com

Comment:

The lottery for Custer National Forest where 400 residents receive permits and 100 non residents seems to greatly favor non residents. Twenty percent seems ridiculously high.

Cody Sonnenfeld

Saint Francis MN

csonne8466@gmail.com

Comment:

I do not think that it is a good idea to limit the out of state hunters on access to the public lands. Most of the lands I hunt are NATIONAL GRASSLANDS it is not OK to limit another American's access to a nationally public lands. Also do not limit when people can buy tags as that will only result in less tags sold and a similar amount of deer shot.

Joel Barnosky

Mount Clare WV

bowtech302@yahoo.com

Comment:

I feel that this is a bad decision by the SDGFP. As a nonresident who enjoys hunting in SD, I think this is a step backwards. The opportunities in SD are limitless and I see no reason to arbitrarily punish nonresident hunters who are already willing to pay much higher license fees and access the same lands. Nonresident license revenues will surely go down should this happen. I am TOTALLY OPPOSED to all changes proposed and as a nonresident who will be directly affected, I feel that my voice should have some importance on this issue. Thank you for your time.

Heather Kammerude

Onalaska WI

Eather19@gmail.com

Comment:

Non resident harvest of deer and mule deer in particular are well under projected harvests especially in 35L. There were only 29 mule deer bucks taken by non-resident archers in 2017 in 35L when the state projected 39 and a total of 67 deer. There are no changes needed. These changes don't make fiscal sense for the state and they hurt non-resident opportunity. No changes should be made

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Dan Kes

Savage MN

Drkesconcrete@yahoo.com

Comment:

I’ve said in other surveys. This should not apply to hunters that have been buying tags for multiple years in a row, until they don’t Have some loyalty to the non res hunters that love South Dakota!

Dave Sobczak

Carlton MN

dsobczak66@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep us Non residents in mind on changes, as a non resident we do bring in money to the state as well.

Jim Gruber

Estelline SD

jgruber148@yahoo.com

Comment:

rules, rules and more rules... would someone like to explain to us the value in having all archery deer licenses in by August 1st? this only goes one more additional threat greedy resident lic. holders who want it all for themselves... as a land owner i am opposed to any of these new requirements.

Jalen Pietig

Morgan MN

jcpietig@gmail.com

Comment:

I know as a current nonresident that I likely don't have much say here, but I will mention that I went to school in SDSU and have bought hunting/fishing licenses in your state every year since I was 18. I archery hunt both 35L and 35A in Harding County every fall, and strongly oppose the proposal to limit archery licenses in 35L to 400 residents and 100 nonresidents. I do not oppose this selfishly so that I can still hunt 35L. I oppose this because as a hunter of 35A as well, I understand the immense hunting pressure this proposal would bring to the public areas that surround 35L. Since 35L is dense forest habitat, it can generally be hunted by a larger number of hunters. When you restrict that, the hunters venture over to the lands next door, which consist of much more open terrain. With a decent set of binoculars and today's rifle scopes, a hunter can pinpoint deer on this "prairie" type land from miles away, thus meaning it takes less hunters per square mile. In my experience, allowing people to hunt both 35L as well as surrounding public lands simultaneously keeps hunting pressure at bay and spreads both hunters and deer out in a way that everyone can enjoy.

Andrew Martin

Mesa AZ

andrewpmartin64@gmail.com

Comment:

I grew in the Piedmont South Dakota area hunting the Black Hills since I was 10 years old (1974) until joining the military and moving away. Since then I have held a non resident tag for nearly all of those years. I was excited to see the season opening change to the Labor Day weekend and have a group of 3 and possibly a 4th already lined up for that opening weekend. Vacation is scheduled with our employers, and flights are booked. If you make the change, which I hope you don't, so I can continue to make use of using less vacation days in the future, please start the delayed next year. I am sure we are not the only group that has already made investments in the 2019 archery hunt. Some of us "out-of-stater's" are residents at heart (my family is still there) and we would also like to enjoy the earlier opening.
Thank you for the consideration

Zac Everard

Luxemburg WI

Zeverard1@gmail.com

Comment:

As a resident who enjoys the use of FEDERAL public land in the state of South Dakota, I strongly oppose the proposed limitations to non resident archery deer hunting. My family had hoped to make your state a part of our family tradition, but this would ruin that chance.

Neil Johnson

Hibbing MN

nljbooks@gmail.com

Comment:

I came out there last year with my kids and hunted the CNF in Harding County. I had a great time and we never ran in to many other hunters. I am trying to understand why with all the decline in youth hunting states are constantly making it harder to participate in these activities.

Anthony Pantaleo

Fremont MI

adpantaleo@gmail.com

Comment:

While I do no oppose a later start date for non resident archery I do oppose starting the proposal for this year. Many non resident hunters have made plans and preparations for this years hunt based on the already published season dates. It would be very unfortunate to loose prospective non resident hunters who have already made these plans.

Anthony Pantaleo

Fremont MI

adpantaleo@gmail.com

Comment:

While I do no oppose a drawing date for non resident archery I do oppose starting the proposal for this year. Many non resident hunters have made plans and preparations for this years hunt based on the already published season dates. It would be very unfortunate to loose prospective non resident hunters who have already made these plans.

Tyler Pearce

Carbondale CO

track.elk@gmail.com

Comment:

It seems like the hunting opportunities for SD residents abound. Not sure why you would choose to push non-resident bowhunters to other states? I love bowhunting in SD, but, I'm happy to invest my money into the state economies of Nebraska or ND instead. Sounds to me like SD doesn't want non-residents there. It sure doesn't feel like the welcome mat is out for us anymore. We've run into a few resident hunters the last few years who have had bad attitudes towards us. It's unfortunate, it's a great state.

Continuing to push non-residents out is only going to hurt your reputation and revenues - sporting goods, hotels, gas stations and restaurants...the local businesses.

David Drummond

Marysville OH

davidedrummond@gmail.com

Comment:

I think it is extremely unfair to change the regulations for nonresidents in the current year. Many of us have or could hunt other Western States but it is too late now to draw permits in any other state. Delaying the start of the season and limiting access to Custer National forest could just about ruin our planned hunt. We hunted this area of South Dakota for the very first time last year. We've been hunting Colorado for 30 years until last year. Second, I think limiting hunter access to national forest land based on whether or not you are a resident of the state is unconstitutional. I pay lots of federal taxes and have for years. In my opinion I have as much right to access federal land in South Dakota as a resident. Nonresident hunters depend on public land access on most western hunting trips....probably much more than residents. We really like South Dakota and would like to come back but these changes might make that unlikely. Finally on access to Custer National forest, I'm not sure what the objective could be. When we were there the first week in October there was essentially no hunting pressure on Custer Nationial Forest land in Harding county. We were there every day for a week and never saw another hunter in the field. We only saw 3-4 trucks with hunters in the area the entire week.

Sam Sebastien

Deridder LA

Sas8049@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose Late start for nonresidents.

Tyler Debauche

Pulaski WI

ty_6_22@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Lee Lustfield

Lake Benton MN

lee.lustfield@outlook.com

Comment:

My son and I really enjoy being able to hunt early we really don't see many hunters on the ground we hunt. Hope you don't make the changes. Thanks, Lee

---

Larry Mckay

Miller SD

lefty1mck@midco.net

Comment:

why do you constantly punish the non resident hunters who pour money into the economy.

Scott Brassard

Dunbarton NH

Comment:

I enjoy hunting this area with a group of friends as well as camping on location. Not being able to hunt and camp in the area would greatly decrease the quality of experience we have enjoyed.

Scott Brassard

Dunbarton NH

Comment:

The lack of a deadline is what brings people to SD, it allows you to have an option should other tags not happen.

Also pushing back non residents to a later start date would not allow for any opportunity to hunt velvet deer.

You are creating a state that will become unattractive and drive away out of state hunter business which helps to drive parts of the economy.

David Bosmoe

Star Prairie WI

dbosmoe@yahoo.com

Comment:

As a non- resident I would opposed the law requiring non- residents to wait an additional week to begin hunting (on public lands).
Now that you changed it me and my friend who hunt out there spend the entire first week out there because it is Labor Day weekend we can use less vacation days to come out. Also it would take away an additional week of being able to hunt bucks that are still in velvet. And believe me that is a big deal to many whitetail hunters.
If I can not come out labor day weekend and that first week in September we wouldn't come until November. And that is an additional full week of revenue the small town we stay in would lose. And I am sure other non-residents would ignore the early season hunt as well.
My other option would be to just stop hunting in South Dakota. And I have been hunting out there for 30 years. Please don't adopted that regulation.
I oppose the new proposed non resident regulations.

James Strachan

Chancellor SD

jamesstrachan2105@gmail.com

Comment:

I dont see the purpose to change it one week doesn't make a difference, I'm beginning to think you just change things to change them. What's next preference points for archery too you'll never get a deer license but every 3 or 4 years like rifle season. Most out of state archery hunters are after a big buck I'm willing to bet there success rate is not to good. all you're doing is losing revenue. Also alot also combine it with opening of dove season so you will loose that revenue to. I have been fortunate enough to have hunted in many states in my years of hunting yes its expensive but they let you hunt. S.D if fast earning the reputation of why evan try to hunt there you cant get a license for anything but pheasant preserve hunting which I'm not getting into.

Peter Zach

Saint Francis WI

Comment:

oppose

Robert Feldhaus

Huron SD

robertfeldhauss@gmail.com

Comment:

Thank you for giving us residents a little time before opening archery season up to all. I support and appreciate this idea.

Todd Peterson

Elmwood WI

Tpeterson1066@gmail.com

Comment:

Please consider synchronized start dates for archery hunters regardless of residency. With nonresident fees being a significant investment for hunting in South Dakota, and an economic impact for your state and Game and fish department, it will be a deterrent to many. I would be glad to pay the fees if I can start the same day as a resident.

Todd Peterson

Elmwood WI

Tpeterson1066@gmail.com

Comment:

35L is an amazing landscape that is a privilege to spend time in. With a low limit of tags, specifically nonresident, it will be difficult to spend time with friends enjoying the outdoors in a place we enjoy in South Dakota

---

Todd Peterson

Elmwood WI

Tpeterson1066@gmail.com

Comment:

The Commission also proposed to establish an application deadline of August 1 for nonresident archery deer hunters. Any nonresident archery application received after that date would result in the license being valid only on private land; not including

---

Bradley Koenen

Little Falls MN

joannakoenen@gmail.com

Comment:

I can only hope that neighboring states begin to reciprocate with SD. I pay substantially more than residents for my right to hunt and fish there, only hunt public land, yet your state's sportspeople continue to bash and limit non-residents even though our financial support for public lands far outweighs what residents pay. What an amazingly selfish proposal. Next time your sportspeople travel out of state and hunt public land I hope they are looked upon as the selfish people they seem to be. How very sad.

Derek Bazell

Ironton OH

Bazelld@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Bryan Vyhlidal

Harrisburg SD

bvyhlidal@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tyler Haats

Kenmare ND

Haatsie@hotmail.com

Comment:

As I read this today I was disappointed South Dakota gfp wanted to go this route. I head there every fall to catch up with college buddies and take my father on a week trip bow hunting because we enjoy the hunting and camping South Dakota has to offer. I lived and went to college in Mitchell for 2 years and know there is a target on the non residents backs and living in North Dakota I understand where South Dakota is trying to go. Locals feel like there is too many non residents hunting and there is no room for the both of us. Well how many of them locals hunt out of state? Pretty quick to judge. On another note why limit archery tags for Custer national forest? I've hunted there the past few years and don't run into that many people. Lots of ground to hunt and the odds of taking a deer out of there is slim. Kind of upsetting that the state is trying to limit tags on federal public land that is owned by the tax payer. Take my opinion for what it's worth but if this is the route South Dakota wants to take I will find elsewhere to hunt and will not support this state any longer.

Randy Hultgren

Raymond MN

rkhultgren@hotmail.com archery

Comment:

I am a 64year old farmer from mn. I own a house in Akaska sd. I would love to hunt dear with a bow, but can't pull it back and shoot ethiecly anymore. I use a crossbow in mn. I would buy a nonresident tag license. Thanks

---

Dan Leffelman

Onalaska WI

dleffelman@gmail.com

Comment:

This is so late in the application season that any changes should be considered for the 2020 season. I can see some changes need to be made but some guys are counting on this hunt....have flights and hotels booked already. Please consider changes for next year

Brian Buchanan

Wentzville MO

blb078@yahoo.com

Comment:

T his is completely unnecessary. This is all due to a handful of residents complaining about non residents having "better success" than them. Well if a resident spend the amount of money on a tag, time off work, driving miles, etc, etc that a resident spent they would probably work as hard as a Non resident and have just as good success.

What are you all going to do if these changes are implemented and the non residents are still having the same success? A good portion of your funds come from Non residents and now you want to take away some of that just because some residents are complaining that they can not get any deer? That makes no sense what so ever.

Maybe if you compare the resident hunters that put in the same amount of time and effort that the non resident hunters put in the numbers won't look so skewed. But when you throw in the resident weekend warriors or road hunters of course it is going to look like the non residents are having better success.

If either of these two passes you can count of 3 less non resident tags, hotels, food, etc coming to SD anymore.

The third proposal about Custer access permits for NR we have no opinion on either way.

Brian Buchanan

Wentzville MO

blb078@yahoo.com

Comment:

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If either of these two passes you can count of 3 less non resident tags, hotels, food, etc coming to SD anymore.

The third proposal about Custer access permits for NR we have no opinion on either way.

Jay Kobriger

Eyota MN

Comment:

The changes this commission is proposing to implement seems to fly in the face of a welcoming attitude towards non-resident hunters. I don't understand the rational behind this idea of starting the non-residents after the residents archery season. Keep things like this up and soon you guys will have the entire state to yourself and wonder how you are going to afford all the things that need to be done.

Thanks
Jay

Todd Mcrae

Castle Rock CO

todd.mcrae@imacorp.com

Comment:

Delaying the start of the archery deer season for non residents by 6 days doesn't make any sense when the season is 90+ days long. How is that going to impact the hunting season? All it will do is cost the state money because families won't come to SD for Labor Day if they had wanted to hunt. They will now go elsewhere.

Greg Berg

St. Cloud MN

gregberg@midco.net

Comment:

The archery rules changes only make licensing and season structures more confusing. I have hunting SD archery deer for 15 years and have enjoyed the opportunities. As non-resident hunters we pay a large license fee and should not have privileges and opportunities removed. Please consider keeping the license and season structure the same without changes.

Tate Glader

Rapid City SD

Tate.glader@zbdavis.com

Comment:

I am in favor of the proposed changes. They will give SD resident hunters first crack at our public land and is a step in the right direction to limit the ridiculous amount of archery pressure in 35L. I think the commission also needs to consider limiting the number of Mule deer archers can harvest in the black hills. Do a lottery “Mule deer stamp” for black hills. We could have a fantastic resource there if we manage it.

Aaron Miller

Pierre SD

aaron.miller@state.sd.us

Comment:

I fully support delaying the season on public lands for non-resident hunters, establishing an application deadline (for public lands) and for limiting applications in unit 35-L. All of these initiatives will improve the quality of the experience for all hunters. There is currently too much pressure on public hunting ground. Public hunting ground requires specific management tools to protect the resources. When it is over used, the opportunities for a quality experience diminish.

Dan Baker

Littleton CO

b1rcr@yahoo.com

Comment:

I am a South Dakota native currently residing in Colorado. I fail to see a benefit to the state of SD, its residents, or the wildlife by imposing a requirement for non-residents to apply for an archery deer tag by Aug 1 or be required to hunt private lands. This appears to be a targeted effort to 1- reduce or eliminate non- resident hunting opportunities in the state, 2-reduce or eliminate non-resident hunting opportunities on public properties in the state.

As a hunter for over 45 years, I have seen the systematic elimination of hunting opportunities for both residents and non-residents through changes in license pricing and allocations in multiple states. Each reduction in opportunity reduces the chances for new hunters to be introduced and mentored in this great sport. Of greater concern to that with this proposal is the targeted effort to reduce the number of non-residents on public properties, much of which are federal properties that non-residents have equal rights to utilize in the state. Of the public land in SD, 5-6% is federally owned, and less than .01% (90k acres is owned by the state. This change in the licensing requirements clearly and unfairly targets non-resident use of federally owned property.

As a non-resident SD native who returns to SD to visit family and introduce my children and others this great state, it is often challenging to know exactly when and what opportunities to return will be. The fact that under the current licensing structure I can purchase an archery license short notice is of great value to me. It allows me to capitalize on short notice opportunities to return to SD and enjoy the great state I grew up in.

Ken Steiner

Pierre SD

tbfgus@hotmail.com

Comment:

Why make the non resident wait a week for the start date on public grounds. The pheasant is the same which tells non resident that we care more for residents. We are asking non residents to let us shoot the pheasants first and now the deer that are on public lands. What happens when a resident wants to hunt with a non resident companion? Leaves that hunter with a choice to wait or break up the group. That is not what hunting is about. This proposal makes zero sense to me as a South Dakota resident. I would rather we allow everyone the same opportunity to hunt the state of South Dakota at the same time. The non resident hunters all have an economic impact throughout the state in one way or another. I know when I hunt out of state it is more expensive when you factor in food, fuel, and lodging. Most non residents have places to stay and may not even visit the local grocery stores.

Tom Dice

Mitchell SD

tom@dicefinancial.com

Comment:

I am in favor of adding archery options that would permit hunting provided this license does not eliminate the option of a West River Archery permit also during the regular archery season.

Kenneth Robertson

Newalla OK

kenneth_robertson@ymail.com

Comment:

I oppose this measure based on the fact that nonresident license fee dollars are used to lease or purchase lands for public use. Limiting nonresidents to private lands is unfair.

Nathan Line

Sault Ste. Marie MI

nateline78@gmail.com

Comment:

As a NR, I hope to be successful in the WR deer draw this year. If not, I plan to purchase an archery deer license. If the proposed archery changes went into effect this year, I'd have to wait until Aug 1 to find out if I drew my WR tag. Then, if if was unsuccessful, I'd have to buy archery tag on Aug 1 by the end of the day. That gives me a very short window of notification. Hope this makes sense. At least make the archery app cut off Sept 1.

Steven Haugen

Tracy MN

shaugen@iw.net

Comment:

For many years my hunting party of 4 hunted the west-river firearms deer season in Harding County but have not been able to draw a license for the last four years due to the limited non-resident licenses available. As an alternative, two years ago my son and I purchased archery licenses and obtained the proper access permit so we could hunt in the slim butts. Now you are once again proposing a change to further limit non-resident access to Custer National Forest. Why is South Dakota so committed to limiting non-resident hunters?

Larry O'malley

Hayfield MN

lmomalley32@yahoo.com

Comment:

I am opposed to the delay start of the non residents on public lands! I hunt with a resident and we plan a opening day trip every year this will greatly impact both of our schedules and hunting opportunities. Delaying non resident archery hunters is a joke,like we have some big impact on public land hunting. I've been hunting SD for almost 10 years now and can say that on public lands I have rarely seen more than a couple others hunting! This will discourage many. Why delay only those which hunt public ground? There is no good reason for the delay as I know there aren't that many non residents flooding into your public areas as to cause issues that the residents aren't having ample opportunities. Non residents are there for a week maybe 10 days at most and are gone not to return. I am against this part of the proposed changes!! As for the application of license I am all for that but make it across the board not just those who hunt public that can not hunt if not filed for application in time. Thank you

---

Cole Adams

Louisville KY

cole.adams@ymail.com

Comment:

I don’t think it is a good idea to delay opening day for non residents or have an application deadline. My experience archery hunting on public land in South Dakota was that there’s wasn’t many people hunting. I seen very few hunters so I don’t see how this change would have any benefits. There aren’t many states that give you the opportunity to hunt velvet deer and this change would result in the loss of tag sales. I’m also against the application deadline. South Dakota is one of the few western states offering over the counter archery deer tags. With my work schedule I’m not always sure I can take a trip out west in the fall and knowing South Dakota has otc tags gives me an opportunity to enjoy hunting the west. I would be pleased if the guidelines stayed the same. Thank you.

Mike Starling

Newcastle WY

Alaskahunter2002@yahoo.com

Comment:

Why? More restrictions, deadlines in August? What purpose does this serve and why implement more when we’re trying to promote hunting and the outdoors

---

Rodney Hughes

Harrisburg SD

rhughes@q.com

Comment:

The current system allows the resident archery hunter to change their mind and submit for an archery tag on line. By eliminating that option you are negatively impacting those of us that may have been too busy or forgotten to submit for rifle season, but we know that we can submit anytime for archery. As an avid Archery shooter and hunter I am opposed to a deadline for Resident Archery tags. I like to be able to have my son's say 'Hey Dad... let's go hunting' then I simply go online and get my Archery tag. Leave it the way it is please.

Justin Cummings

Marshall MI

justincummings12@gmail.com

Comment:

Hands down I would rather put in for a draw than never have the opportunity to hunt deer in velvet. Not giving me the opportunity to hunt deer in velvet means I am going to focus my money and time in states that will allow me the opportunity.

Joe Arbach

Hoven SD

joe.arbachins@venturecomm.net

Comment:

I think there should also be a limit on non resident general archery tags issued. I had a landowner tell me that his out of state pheasant hunters get an archery tag and use a rifle to harvest them. As we know once processed no evidence of weapon used. Or no non resident archery until after second weekend of pheasant season. Probably not a lot of this done and very hard to catch I know.

Michael Mcnally

South Haven MI

mk1434@hotmail.com

Comment:

why not let crossbow hunting on private property.

Adam Yoder

Walhonding OH

adamyoder3000@gmail.com

Comment:

I'm from Ohio and we get a ton of nonresident whitetail hunters. We don't change the dates for them why should you do so for us?? It would greatly affect our hunting since we hunt a week on the opener then go to Colorado for elk. Please don't pass this unfair law. As nonresidents we already pay way more for our licenses and tags. Thank you Adam

Michele Rogers

Hill City SD

michelerogers02@hotmail.com

Comment:

I support the current proposal to limit Non-Residents to 100 access permits on the custer national forest. The early draw deadline and a later start date for them on public land as well.

A better scenario would actually be a cap on non-residents a far earlier draw date and an even later start date to bowhunt. We see a lot of out of state plates when bowhunting and in many cases they far outnumber people who live here.

Dillon Lermeny

Reva SD

Comment:

Thank you. Living in the area, I strongly support this.

Rusty Schmidt

Rapid City SD

rschmidt@rvsd.com

Comment:

Disagree with limiting slim buttes archery hunters to 400 resident. My family and I camp there every year for archery for the last 20 years. Yes there is more bow hunters now, but that is only during September and a lot of them were out of state, make nonresidents archery start in mid October they dont stay but a week at most. Whom wants this restriction, the land owners around slim buttes or other bow hunters. If its land owners then they have their agenda and if it is other bow hunters complaining then they just need to walk farther then where the majority congregate. I know the limit idea has nothing to do with the high archery success in the slim buttes. Thanks

---

Casey Holloway

Baraboo WI

caseyhollows@gmail.com

Comment:

I have been hunting South Dakota with a bow for the last 5 years and absolutely love it for two main reasons. The first is the quality of deer that I have found is very high in my opinion. Second is that I hardly ever see another bowhunter on the majority of the pubic land that I hunt. I can understand backing the start date for nonresidents on some of the more highly hunted areas (Custer, Black Hills, ect..) but I ask you please do not make this a state wide rule. As a nonresident it is very encouraging to come out on the first week of archery season and be able to hunt non pressured deer. I hunt mostly walk-in areas and private leased lands leased by the department. On these spots in the last few years I can count on one hand how many other hunters I have ran in to. I have also noticed that the majority of the local land owners in these programs have been kind and helpful in giving info on where I can and cant hunt. Maybe you could have a sign up sheet for some of these spots that are getting crowded and limit the number of hunters per piece. I hope you take this into consideration, I look forward to coming out every year and hope this proposal doesn't deter me from coming this year.

Tony Peterson

Andover MN

Comment:

The nationwide trend is that hunters are giving up and our numbers are dwindling. This revenue source that the G & F dept. is so dependent on isn't going to last forever, and moves to punish hunters because they live across state lines, will come back to haunt us. When you decide that decisions will be based simply on social factors, such as the griping of resident hunters who want easier hunting for themselves, then you're going down a path that sets a precedent which won't be undone. These moves aren't about the resource, they are about placating a certain group of hunters to the detriment of another group of hunters. Eventually NRs will figure out that Nebraska or ND or OK offers a more hospitable atmosphere and they'll take their money there. It's already happening with pheasants, and is only going to be more pronounced in the upcoming years as ringneck populations come on strong in several states. What's worse, while you're making decisions based on a group of hunters and their complaints, you're saying that the local businesses we frequent don't matter a whole lot. I'll bet if you reach out to the woman who owns the Bonesteel Motel and ask her if driving away nonresident hunters is a net positive for the state, she won't agree. I'm already seeing my colleagues in the outdoor media paying attention, and calling out, which states are actively punishing nonresidents because they can get away with it. Other states, like Nebraska, are taking note and welcoming nonresidents. For a while you'll be able to raise prices, but the elasticity in hunting license cost isn't going to stretch forever. Instead of traveling to your state, people will simply stop traveling altogether or go somewhere else. You might not see it for a decade yet, but it's coming. And eventually we'll look back at these moves and realized we diminished an amazing revenue source and robbed our fellow hunters of great experiences through short-sighted actions. I realize it's a tight-rope walk, but SD has done a good job of squeezing nonresidents for a long time already, and still the residents aren't happy and the nonresidents are becoming less happy. These latest moves to punish a tiny group of people who have no significant impact on the resource will further solidify the believe that SD cares solely about placating the residents while creating a system where NRs get screwed while footing a larger portion of the bill. This is something that probably doesn't end well...

Carson Weimer

Spearfish SD

Carson_weimer_2015@hotmail.com

Comment:

support

Brad Abramowski

Ham Lake MN

brad.abramowski@gmail.com

Comment:

I find it very alarming that the hunting community is seeing an every decreasing number of participants, there is a growing outcry from within the community that we want to continue to grow and develop our sport, and yet states and organizations are going far out of their way to limit possibilities and opportunities for hunters. The two proposals to the non-resident archery deer application process and season dates do nothing but limit your freedoms as an American citizen to access your own public land and pursue wild, public game.
The idea that resident hunters are having their opportunities encroached upon is falsely linked to non-resident hunters, and the data does not support that narrative. In 2017 there were 25,512 resident archery licenses issued, and only 3,800 nonresident licenses issued. Nonresidents only account for 12% of archery licenses sold, and only accounted for 19% of the total projected harvest (1,487 NR harvest, 6,135 R harvest).
I archery hunted SD for 10 total days over the opening weekend and a weekend in October, all of it on public land. Over these 10 days, covering several thousand acres, I only encountered 3 other hunters, all from out of state (MN and WI). As a nonresident archery hunter, I did not negatively affect any resident hunter's experience. I didn't "steal their spot", there were no residents to even compete with. I was alone out there. So what does limiting my capacity to hunt there help accomplish?
The biggest problem I have with these new proposals is limiting my ability to hunt on my public land. For you to give me a tag and say good luck go hunt, but you can't access PUBLIC land to do so, completely violates the principles that Teddy Roosevelt used to establish public grounds in the first place. To tell any single paying class of individuals they are not allowed to experience a public location, while not limiting every non-paying class of individuals for the same time frame is the framework for a dangerous totalitarian governance which will not have the backing of the people, and will not succeed.
In summary, I wholeheartedly oppose the proposed changes to the SD nonresident archery application process and access restrictions as they are founded in false believe systems and extremely flawed ideologies. I would fully expect anyone voting on these measures to see the unsound shortcomings of these proposals and vote them down.

Paul Thielen

Wheaton MN

pthielen@frontiernet.net

Comment:

I was disappointed to see the proposed changes that will make it even more difficult to bow hunt the land I own and have spent 18 years developing for wildlife habitat. I purchased land that straddles the border in 2001 and own about 100 acres in SD. Not only does it cost me over $1000 a year to take my sons hunting on our own land, now they have to apply before they are sure they can get the time off to come home. I live 4 miles from the SD border, own a buisiness in Sisseton and Wheaton, MN and pay over $6,000 in SD property taxes annually. we have planted over 23,000 trees and restored 4 wetlands, but the state of SD makes it more expensive to recreate every year and even more difficult to leave a conservation legacy for the next generation. It is little wonder why so many of my patients sell their land to the local Native American tribe.
Over 200 deer winterd on my land last winter, how unfortunate for those habitats to be lost forever.

Kevin Clemmons

Choctaw OK

theclemmons@cox.net

Comment:

Kevin Clemmons, Choctaw Oklahoma
Feedback On
Proposed Changes to South Dakota's Archery Deer Season

I've deer archery hunted in South Dakota as a non-resident in 2015, 2016, and 2018. I am opposed to the proposal to delay the start date of deer archery season on public lands for nonresidents. In 2017 nonresidents purchased 3,800 archery tags at a potential* total cost of $1,086,800. The same year residents purchased 25,512 archery tags at a potential* total cost of $1,020,480. The majority of deer archery tag sales funds are being generated by nonresidents, as nonresidents pay at a rate of over 7 to 1 compared to residents. I do not have data that shows how exactly all of these funds were dispersed, but some percentage of the funds are used to purchase/lease public access hunting lands. With nonresidents generating the majority of the funds used to purchase/lease public hunting lands, they should not have this "total days afield" restriction placed on them.
(* calculation based on all tags being for "Any Deer")

I am also opposed to the proposal to establish an application deadline of August 1 for nonresident archery deer hunters, with applications received after that date resulting in the license being valid only on private lands. My opposition is based on the rational explained above, nonresidents are providing the majority of the total archery tag revenue which helps fund the purchase/leasing public access hunting lands. If this restriction is imposed, the cost for this restricted nonresident archery tag should be reduced to equal the resident tag price. Charging a nonresident full price but not allowing them to hunt the lands those funds would be supporting would be questionable at best. I also oppose this based on the current (17 May 2019) unavailability of Archery Deer applications. Currently there is less than 2 ½ months till 1 August, what is a reasonable period of time for submitting the application? Implementation time should be considered if this proposal is approved.

I am also opposed to the limit proposed for archery access permits for the Custer National Forest (Unit 35L), at this time. The proposal states that if implemented these changes would impact nonresident archery hunters for the 2019 season. As of today, 17 May 2019, the Archery Deer application isn't available. Also unavailable at this time is a means to apply for one of the proposed 100 limited access permits for Unit 35L for nonresidents. I believe it is unrealistic to implement this proposal in the timeframe given. As currently presented, a lottery process would have to be created and made available and advertised to the public. Would a nonresident archery tag have to be purchased to enter the lottery? If not, would the drawing results be available in time for selected nonresidents to apply for and purchase their tag prior to the other proposed 1 August deadline. Seems to be a few logistical issues that need to be workout out in a more methodical manor than the perceived rush approach being proposed.

Up until 1994 the state of Kansas did not allow nonresident deer hunters to hunt in their state. The great state of Oklahoma was happy to reciprocate that restriction and refused the sale of any deer hunting license to residents of states that didn't allow nonresident hunting opportunities to Oklahomans. After many years, common sense prevailed and now hunters from both of these states are afforded some deer hunting opportunities as nonresidents. It seems two of the three proposed changes to the South Dakota Archery Deer Season are a return to time in the past where wildlife management wasn't the true focus of state game laws. Hopefully the South Dakota GFP will evaluate these proposals from a wildlife management perspective and implement them accordingly.

Ted Haeder

Wolsey SD

tedhaeder@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the proposed restrictions on non-resident archery hunters to access public lands because they introduce unnecessary confusion as to when and where non-residents can or cannot hunt. We punish our non-resident guests enough with a license fee that is 7.15 times higher than the resident fee. Please - don't subject them to another unneeded layer of regulatory bureaucracy.

I do support the proposed limit of 500 licenses in Custer National Forest (Unit 35L).

Thank you.

Ted Haeder
Wolsey

Ben Warnimont

Continental OH

greathornet69@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not change the start date for nonresidents , we travel out to SD each year from Ohio to bow hunt and stay with our friends. We hunt the cave hills each year and enjoy our time however with the limited access permits we possibly would not get drawn because the outfitters are going to have there clients put in for this permit even if they don't need it just to limit the amount of hunters.

Jamesn Parent

Fort Ripley MN

imharley10@gmail.com

Comment:

I have purchased a non resident archery tag every year for over 35 years, even when my wife was dying and I knew I could not hunt. Last year I added a west river tag even though I had no intention of going there. I spend a considerable amount of money in SD on my hunts.
your new proposals probably do not affect me very much as I turn 80 in July but I am deeply saddened by the fact that those hunters coming behind me will not be able to enjoy the great experience that I have over the years.
For me, forgetting to apply before August 1 and then not being able to hunt public land probably would result in my not hunting SD. It is hard to understand how that rule helps anyone and indeed targets the elderly and the poor who must wait till the last minute.

It really is sad that we have come to this.

Joshua Nelson

Lennox SD

jlnsd41@gmail.com

Comment:

YES! As a resident of South Dakota and avid archery hunter, it is time to limit the out of state access to our public lands. I agree with an application deadline for non residents. I feel the delayed start should be at LEAST a month. I feel the out of state tags should be limited all together. 30 years ago bows shot 20 yards and it was relatively harder to harvest a deer. Bows today shoot well past 60 yards and are much more advanced, due to this alone licenses should be issued at at premium NOT unlimited for non residents. I also feel our tags are too cheap for non residents, the price should be raised until the number of LIMITED tags stops receiving apps..supply and demand. For example, during WR Rifle season the parking lots for walk in areas are over flowing (over 50 vehicles) of which majority are out of state bow hunters. ARCHERY TAGS SHOULD BE LIMITED, ISSUED AT A PREMIUM, AND MORE RESTRICTIVE FOR NON RESIDENTS. Thanks for your time. I am not saying no non residents should ever hunt in SD. It's an industry, I get it.. I am saying the opportunity for non residents to hunt in our state on public lands should placed AFTER the residents of our state. Side note: the GFP commission vision used to say something regarding.... representing the people of SD....It doesn't anymore. That concerns me as an avid outdoorsman in SD. R/

Harry Grams

Zimmerman MN

harry.grams@co.anoka.mn.us

Comment:

Why is this happening? Our group has been hunting the Slim Buttes park since 1992 and now we have to go to a lottery system to hunt this specific area? Why is this 35L being identified as the only lottery section? I feel that as a hunter that has contributed to your economy, those that have hunted the Slim Buttes in the past should have some preference. I know that it is highly unlikely to happen. But this lottery consideration is a slap in the face to someone that has hunted your state for so many years. I recommend that previous non resident hunter are on a "preference" basis when the selection process occurs. Regardless, the whole thing is truly disappointing.

Greg Brecka

Baraboo WI

gbrecka@gmail.com

Comment:

I do not support the delayed start for out of state hunters and the application process for archery. We've traveled from Wisconsin to South Dakota every year to archery hunt deer since 2012. During that time we've hunted private and public lands. We've never had an issue with other hunters while on South Dakota's public lands. We've never seen another archery hunter on walk in land in the high plains. The only time we've hunted parcels with other hunters was in the black hills. If there are issues with over crowding or over harvesting in certain areas, I agreed that those areas should be in a draw. Why limit any hunter if no issues exist? An out of state hunter generates 10 times the revenue compared to the same in state hunter. Why limit the revenue that can be used to pay for additional leased lands, habitat work, and conservation. Requiring a draw will also limit out of state hunter's flexibility to make unscheduled trips. At least two of out trips hinged on extraneous circumstances that would allow for us to put into a draw. While I feel these changes may appease in state hunters, I feel that revenue will drop with these changes which could limit opportunities for our future hunters. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Justin Allen

Pierre SD

Comment:

Please put more restriction on NR bow licenses. The proposal is fine but is a small Band-Aid on a huge ever growing problem. Living in Pierre and waiting 3-5 years to successfully gain a any deer firearm tag in Hughes, Sully and Stanley but Joe for MN, IA, wherever can hunt with a bow for 4 months every single year is a slap in the face to gun hunters and residents. Raise license fees of NR big game hunters and further restrict areas tag can be used and also an over cap on NR licenses numbers.

Randy Thoreson

Sioux Falls SD

Firefighter285.rt@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Kris Mcgee

Cresco IA

Mcgeekris@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is a joke. I thought South Dakota had more integrity than this. You have been doing such a good job managing your lands and wildlife for nonresidents. This has no substance other than somebody in state government attempting to benefit from it. Somebody in government who propose this obviously hunts early season archery deer and does not want non-residents conflicting with them.

Dylan Latvala

Deer River MN

Dylanlatvala@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose Delayed non resident archery

Vance Patrilla

Toddville IA

kilramc@yahoo.com

Comment:

Why such a restrictive deadline and then a punishment of restricting us to private lands only? I am now able to come out to South Dakota and obtain a tag if my schedule opens up. Such a rule would eliminate this option and put South Dakota out of reach for bowhunting. Another rule to limit our bowhunting options.

Jason Taylor

Fort Pierre SD

taylorjd03@gmail.com

Comment:

To GFP & Commission, I writing this in reference to the NR Archery Tag Allocation proposal and letting you know that I strongly oppose the current proposal and hope that you will modify the current proposal to limit the NR archery hunters in SD.

According to the GFP stats, it shows that NR have harvested a higher number of bucks and does compared to residents. Which is common sense, due to a NR is not going to be as particular on what deer they shoot, because they have a limited amount of time and they want to fill their tag in that little amount of time.

The issue that was brought up to you at a previous commission meetings in Pierre, is the over ran and overcrowded public land in western SD by NR. Which is all because of the unlimited/over the counter NR archery tags. They are able to pick up a tag whenever they want, either on their way to another state to hunt, because they were turned down in another state, turned down for a rifle tag in SD, or just because they want to come to SD for the easy/cheap guaranteed tag. Having an August 1 application deadline is way too late and will still let NR use SD as a last resort after they get turned down in SD or other states. The application deadline for NR needs to be moved back to the same time, when they apply for their firearm tags and get rid of the unlimited NR tags.

If the Commission and the GFP would actually do what they say they do (talk and listen to the public), an overwhelming majority of the sportsmen (except for commercial outfitters and NR) would tell you the same thing, limit the NR archery hunters to an 8% cap, which would help reduce the pressure on the overcrowded public lands. For WR and BH rifle deer seasons there is a cap for NR at 8%, I don't see any reason that NR archery tags aren't also capped at 8%, besides the loss of the NR $$$ that the GFP would lose. It is time for the Commission to start putting their focus towards the average hunter (which is the majority of SD hunters). Also stop catering to the commercial outfitters and NR. Stop pushing through and being a rubber stamp for Secretary Hepler, the top GFP's officials, and Outfitters, whose agendas are not in the interest of the average hunter. For the Whitetail Special buck tag, there was an overwhelming majority of comments (from average sportsmen) that were against it, yet the Commission listen to and voted in the way, that catered to the minority of the comments (NR and Outfitters).

The proposal of 100 NR access permits for 35L is a good idea, but what about all the other large public land areas in SD. All that is going to do is push those NR that don't have one of those access permits to other public lands that are already overcrowded.

I like many other resident sportsmen, have absolutely no problem with NR coming to SD to hunt, but do see the need to limit the number of NR archery tags (8% allocation like rifle) that are available to them and help preserve our overcrowded public lands for the future.

Tom Jensen

Harrisburg SD

tomjensen178@gmail.com

Comment:

Please consider this email my strong opinion that the option of limiting non resident archery tags overall (via a cap or a percentage) is the choice preferred by myself and as many family and friends as I've spoken with on the topic. Please consider the non-resident cap option as the only immediate action to take on preserving our archery opportunity and quality deer we are fortunate to have in South Dakota.

Leonard Spomer

Pierre SD

lspom@mncomm.com

Comment:

Chairman Jensen, and Ladies and Gentleman of the Commission

I am submitting comments regarding the nonresident archery proposals, and suggestions that I would encourage you to take into consideration.

I am 69 years old and have held a resident hunting license every year since 1962. I have hunted deer with rifle every year except two since 1965, and have hunted archery deer every year since 1982. I served on the RAP for central SD, and the Elk Working Group.

First I will comment on the existing proposals.

No. 1
Delaying nonresident hunters until the first Saturday after Labor Day, or for a 5-12 day window, will have little or now impact on the number of nonresident hunters or their harvest.
I would recommend delaying the start of nonresident archery until October 1st.

No. 2
Establishing a deadline for August 1st for nonresident applications is a start but I would recommend the following.
Nonresident applications should be due no later than June 1st.
Surrounding western states have due dates for nonresidents as early as January 31.
The reason we have had such an influx of nonresident archery hunters in SD is because we currently have no deadline. Nonresidents can apply for all of the other western states, and if they don't get drawn they can always come to SD and get a tag. And even if they do get drawn, and go to one of the western states, they have been able to extend their season by coming to SD and buying another tag across the counter at the last minute. This deadline process needs to be aligned with other western big game states.
Furthermore there should be no difference if the tag is to be used on private property. Their deadline should be the same, no later than June 1st.

No. 3
Limiting access to special units like 35L is a good idea, but should be expanded to include other large blocks of public land like the Ft. Pierre National Grasslands, Buffalo Gap National Grasslands, etc. Otherwise the nonresidents will just move to another public area. And allowing 20% of those access permits to go to nonresidents is too high. I would suggest 8-12% maximum.

Now I would like to submit a new suggestion that aligns with the nonresident issue.
The biggest issue facing the department is funding, and here is a couple of ways to help address that issue.
Many states have an application fee for nonresidents that is usually around $50. This is a nonrefundable fee that buys you a preference point if not drawn. But, this fee is also in addition to the cost of your tag if you are drawn. In 2018 three of us applied for and were drawn for a Montana elk tag, in a remote unit. The cost of the tag was listed as $900.00, but in order to hunt you also have to have a nonresident small game license, and an "invasive aquatic species prevention" fee. As I recall our total was $1009.00 for each of us.
South Dakota is missing the boat. We need to have additional fees for nonresidents. Make them buy a nonresident small game license, or fishing license. Make the taking of predators or varmints a special fee. Or perhaps an invasive species fee, or CWD prevention fee, is in order. And the most important thing is MAKE THEM BUY IT in order to hunt. We could easily be collecting an additional $30-75 for each nonresident big game tag.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely

Leonard Spomer
20476 Browning Road
Pierre, SD 57501
605-222-1091
lspom@mncomm.com

Robert Barden

Pierre SD

Comment:

I support the three proposals which impact non-resident archery hunters. These are steps in the right direction but more needs to be done to address the problem of extreme overcorwding on lands accessible to the public, which is my experience is mainly caused by non-resident bowhunters. GF&P personnel have expressed their accomplished for non-residents at the expense of resident bow hunters. The number of permits which non-residents can use on public accessible lands needs to be limited much more than in the current proposal. South Dakota is a mecca for non-resident bowhunters. Some years ago I lost access to the private land where I bowhunted antelope. I have hunted on public accessible land for antelope only once since. Because of the overcrowding it was not enjoyable. I have no plans to go again as long as these conditions exist. On this trip every bowhunter I encountered and every hunting vehicle I saw was non-resident. Thank you very much for you consideration, hard work, and dedication.

Tom Braun

Hot Springs SD

coyowood@hotmail.com

Comment:

Limiting 500 access permits to 400 for residents, and 100 to non-res. should not be allowed! If there are not enough permits or licenses, of ANY type or ANY season, to fill the demand of tax paying SD res., there shouldn't be any for non-res! I've hunted that unit for years---skipped 2018, even though I had a permit, due to increased over crowding. Judging by the license plates in camp areas, along roads, and on CLOSED TRAILS, during the 2017 Dec. season, we thought we were in MN!! SD plates were outnumbered by non-res. plates from several others. Talked to 2 guys claiming to be from S. Falls. Strange to see they had WY plates on each of their vehicles. The number of non res. in the area has been on a steady increase for years. This change IS NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF SD HUNTERS! It's in favor of Dept. of Tourism! I realize that in this case, USFS land is involved, which is owned by all citizens of the USA, and access to that land may be argued in favor of non res., but not state hunting rights! I fear once this starts, it will spread to SD owned public areas requiring access permits too! Then, "application fees", then payment for the permit will follow! NO ON THIS ONE!!!!

Gon Sanchez

Fort Pierre SD

passagyrs@hotmail.com

Comment:

Agree on the proposals BUT would like to see the number of access permits for the Custer National Forest in Harding Co limited much further than the proposal of 400/100. The current quota of rifle tags for the same area is only 100/8! I have spent time summer camping in that area every year for the last 30 years and have rarely ever seen another person. I decided to bowhunt there two years ago and was shocked to see a hunter on every clifftop. I couldn't find a campsite in the Cave Hills or Slim Buttes or a hotel room in Buffalo or Bowman, ND because of the massive influx of nonresidents. I was blown away to see this beautiful isolated area innundated with so many people! Needless to say, the chance for a quiet bowhunt in my home state was not possible. I have never run into so many bowhunters in one place in my life. At first I was surprised, but I realized very quickly that it made perfect sense....Unlimited over-the-counter tags and Limited public land....and Muleys!!.....OF COURSE they would all be there.....I sat in the bar that night in shock at all the juvenile forky muleys these guys were bragging about killing....this is a travesty for our state to put this kind of pressure on such a small area.....The commission must limit this impact to maintain the quality and experience that this area offers. I would argue that the access permit quota should be far less than the current proposal...this should be thought of as a trophy limited draw area...JUST LIKE IT IS FOR THE RIFLE HUNT! Please consider drastically limiting the non-resident archery quota to no more than 2-3 times the number of rifle tags.

Gordon Doyle

Madison SD

Comment:

Archry hunting. To also gav a limited number archry acess permits to sd blk hills.

Ronald Cizek

Wahpeton ND

rcizek46@hotmail.com

Comment:

I marked “other” because although I read the entire report I couldn’t find any proposed changes. I am 73 years old and regularly hunt SD & ND archery seasons and Mn for deer rifle. I enjoy my SD hunts immensely and hunt a combination of private, walk-in, BLM and school lands where permission is granted or open to public hunting. From the data I’ve seen and # of hunters both in state and out of state for archery Pronghorn season along with lower archery success rates and more days in the field versus the # of rifle hunters and their success rate of around 65% and fewer days in the field I would have a hard time understanding any changes for the archery season in the next several years if no severe winter kill is experienced. That, plus I come to SD and spend at least a week scouting, gaining permission, putting up blinds on the private land I hunt etc. which translates to more dollars for SD in terms of both my non-resident license/s and the amount of gas, food and other expenses for my hunt in your state. I enjoy SD immensely and spend up to a month there annually coming out to scout in mid July for a week and then coming to scout EO August early Sept. and then hunt mid to late Sept. Please consider the benefits those of us who may not have a lot of hunting seasons left and what we provide in terms of benefit to the state when making your final decision. If populations are to be managed I for certain would not propose more than one one license issued to any individual no matter what the zone. Thank You and most of all I trust you will manage first and foremost in favor of the magnificent Antelope as a resource for both resident & non-resident, Gun & Archery season’s in a fair and equitable manner. Kind Regards, Ron Cizek

Jarrett Perry

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I don't oppose anything I just want to let you know that you're still going to be a last resort state, if you make your deadline August 1st. Every state will be done with their draws and every hunter will know if they draw or not. You guys doing this way will just make every other public land out their more crowded.

Delwyn Newman

Lemmon SD

lindelnewman@gmail.com

Comment:

First I want to thank you for realizing the hunting quality of 35L has deteriorated to the point of not being enjoyable because of the numbers of hunters, Res. and NonRes. I do not think it is necessary to delay the start of archery for NonRes. hunters or make Aug. 1st. the dead line on public lands(This makes enforcement more difficult). Also the access permits required for 35L need to be eliminated. The study should be completed as to how many are using 35L(I do not want this to become a fee permit). My suggestion is that the point has been reached where SDGFP will have to institute a draw for archery similar to that used for firearms. If we want to keep our youth in the field we need to remember quality afield is as important as the tag itself. Thank You for letting me have input. Delwyn Newman Lemmon SD.

John Lien

West Fargo ND

john.lien@goldmark.com

Comment:

An application deadline of August 1st in not nearly enough time to make arrangements should you draw a tag. Assuming the drawing will take 1-2 weeks, that only allows 2-3 weeks to make arrangements. Some employers require weeks/months of notice to approve vacation time and paid time off. On top of work issues, there are hotels rooms to book, family matters to secure, etc etc. Why can't the drawing be held immediately after any spring population counts are done. Please move this deadline up as far as possible, ideally in the spring. Having it in August makes no sense and is simply not enough time to make adequate arrangements.

Josh Page

Buffalo SD

jgpage76@yahoo.com

Comment:

I am a big supporter of all the proposed changes, but especially the limited tags within Harding County. As a resident and active hunter within that county it is sad to see the number of mule deer being harvested from September to the end of December. These deer are being hunted hard for four full months. Tags need to be limited per proposal for archery and I believe the muzzleloader tags needs to be limited as well in these units. The quality of deer in the slim buttes especially will be impacted if something isn't done. No, it might not be popular among some hunters but it's common sense and what is best for herd health. I truly hope something is done.

Anthony Bradley

Deadwood SD

Comment:

Deer hunting in this area had become a yearly family hunting trip with brothers, sisters, children and grandchildren. Since limiting the rifle tags as drastically has it has been, the only way to have this family trip is by getting archery licenses and the access permits. By limiting these permits the family hunting trips will cease to happen and no more memories will be made. Please do not limit these permits.

Kurt Kastens

Palmyra NE

hunter24_7@hotmail.com

Comment:

I have been a nonresident archery deer hunter in your state since 2010, I not sure why I would be penalized for not buying my permit before August 1. As a business owner and family man you never know when and if you can hunt, and when and if weather will allow you to travel. I would just like to know what you have to gain by adding these rules to nonresidence

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Billy Houston

Louisville KY

Billyhouston162@gmail.com

Comment:

I hunted in the black hills last year. We hunted on sep 1 and stayed a week had a great time but did not get a deer. But I came back the week before gun season and killed a 8 point buck. I like that I can buy a tag over the counter. Me and two of me

---

Tony Larive

Rapid City SD

trlbhsd@exede.net

Comment:

there needs to be a preference point system also I also believe that the Black Hills needs to to be a separate unit with hunters being able two have two of the three tags East River West River or Black Hills or the one single tag that is good state wide

Zachary Treat

Saint Peters MO

ztreat55@gmail.com

Comment:

As a non-resident, I feel so privileged to hunt in South Dakota. West River has some of the prettiest country I've ever laid eyes on. The Custer National Forest lands in Harding Country are a true treasure to all Americans. We all hold stock in our federal public lands, and it is a real joy to witness the beauty in our land. I loved crawling up on the big plateau bluffs and chasing Mule Deer and Whitetail. I feel a connection with that land and the animals that occupy it. Clean air, open skies and plenty of game. A true hunters paradise. As a resident of the metroplex of St. Louis, I wonder how many of my neighbors understand the value of a place like the Custer National Forest in South Dakota? What about the abundance of BLM lands in West River? I wonder if limiting non-resident opportunity will help hold the value of that land? There are so many chunks of public land landlocked in western South Dakota. How long will your own residents be able to enjoy their rights to that land, as special interests, money, and resource extraction superseded our hunting and outdoor heritage? Your landowners are really receptive to the supplemental income earned by opening their lands to the walk-in program. If you have less hunters, how are you going to pay those landowners? We live in a value-based society, unfortunately. As America becomes more urban and less rural, I wonder who will enjoy spending time in little towns like Buffalo, Camp Crook, Belle Fourche or even Edgemont in southwestern SD? The answer to all these questions is simple: Regulating out non-resident hunters will hurt the value of your public lands, and harm rural economies. It's too easy to go to another state like Colorado and buy a Mule deer tag with better opportunity at virtually the same price. Do not make it harder for non-residents. South Dakota has too much to offer in the way of beauty and opportunity to risk alienating potential allies in the fight to continue our hunting and fishing traditions.

Jesse Kurtenbach

Spearfish SD

jessepkurt@icloud.com

Comment:

I don't think changing the start dates for archery season will do much of anything to mitigate pressure on public land and will only make enforcing more complicated for the C.O.'s

August 1st deadline still leaves SD as a last resort and should be closer to June 1 which will make NR decide as to which state they would like to hunt. I apply to every state west of SD and have to plan whether to buy preference or apply for a tag every year because all of the other deadlines are earlier.

I think putting a cap limit on LAUs should be accross the board. Only doing this for 35L will only increase the pressure on other areas such as the Black Hills. We need a quota for these areas based on past harvest statistics and biological carrying capacities like every other state handles their limited draw areas.

Dominic Wolf

Nemo SD

wolfie@775.net

Comment:

If the GFP Commission limits the number of resident access permits for Custer National Forest (Unit 35L), then nonresidents should NOT be allotted any access permits. If nonresidents are granted access to this public land, it would not be fair for those of us that live in South Dakota to be denied access to this same public land.

Dean Bortz

Woodruff WI

dean@outdoornews.com

Comment:

The South Dakota GFP has proposed three changes to the state's archery hunting season framework. I am opposed to two of the three changes: Requiring an Aug. 1 deadline for nonresidents to purchase an archery license, or be restricted to hunting private land if licenses are bought after that date; and delaying the start of the archery season on public lands to the first Saturday after Labor Day. I am not opposed to limiting the number of archery licenses issued for the Custer National Forest. Regarding the proposed Aug. 1 deadline: I have now bowhunted in SD during three seasons and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. During two of those three years I bought my license after Aug. 1 when I saw that my schedule would allow for me to hunt in SD. That's now I now approach my SD archery hunting. I hope to go every year, but because your state allows me the flexibility to buy the tag at any time, I can work that hunt in and around other fall travels. This is a very important consideration for me and I very much appreciate SD's current season framework. Your state has always made it convenient – when compared to other states – for me and my friends to plan hunting trips. Even down to your web site - it's much easier to use than those of other states. I can't imagine what advantage this archery license deadline would create for the state, other than pulling in more revenue earlier in the year. I wonder if making the move wouldn't cost you revenue. Although I've hunted SD for turkeys and deer since 2000, I could easily shift my bowhunting to ND if that becomes more convenient for me. Please do not set an Aug. 1 deadline for archery license purchases. My No. 2 objection is regarding the delayed opener for nonresidents on public lands. Why? It's PUBLIC LAND. South Dakota residents have no more right to using that land than anyone else in this country. If GFP wished to delay the archery opener on private land, no argument from me. There is no reason to consider that season framework change.

Ross Swedeen

Rapid City SD

reswedeen@yahoo.com

Comment:

I support all three of the current archery deer proposals. However, I believe it is not enough.

Archery hunting in this state is a free for all (both residents and NR). It makes absolutely no sense to me that anyone that wants to hunt a mule deer in the BH with a gun has to wait 10+ years, all the while, ANYONE with a bow is afforded that opportunity. There are many other areas in this state that have similar circumstances. It’s ludicrous!

If you’re going to limit one group of users, ALL users should be limited. I strongly believe NR should have an opportunity to hunt in SD (including ER rifle deer and BH elk). Why are NR restricted so much when it comes to ER rifle deer and elk? Yet we have zero restrictions when it comes to archery deer. This is a prime example of a governmental bureaucracy’s poor decision making capabilities. Common sense seems to get thrown right out the window!

Michael Fuhrmann

Shakopee MN

michael.fuhrmann23@gmail.com

Comment:

I love comming to sd for archery hunting for deer and i spend alot of money in you state to help out these smaller towns and you are makingit hatder and harder for people from out of state to get tags. The local guy arent spending the money for these smaller towns as the non residents are . These smaller towns relay on the hunters to spend local .

Andy Vandel

Pierre SD

andyvandel@gmail.com

Comment:

I encourage the commission to reconsider the option of setting a non-resident archery tag limit. An 8% limit has been excepted by resident hunters for west river rifle deer. With the recent increase in non-resident licence sales, this is the time to implement the 8% allocation based on resident licence sales. I was on the deer management plan taskforce and this topic was discussed many times and the majority of the group agreed on this method of limited non-resident archery deer licenses. Help keep quality deer hunting for South Dakota tax paying resident hunters.

Leonard Spomer

Pierre SD

lspom@mncomm.com

Comment:

Chairman Jensen, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Commission

Having reviewed the recently released additional information regarding the number of resident and nonresident archery hunters and the harvest statistics for 2018, I find it necessary to present additional comments. I commented first in early May.

Last year nonresidents made up over 14% of the total archery hunters in the State. Furthermore, in some of the limited access units, example 35L, nonresidents harvested 264% more mule deer bucks than residents. Mule deer bucks are the most sought after deer tag for our residents, and this excess harvest by nonresidents is crippling our South Dakota resident's chances at a big mule deer buck not only with a bow but rifle as well.

We cannot sustain that type of rapid growth in nonresident archery hunters, and there targeting of mule deer bucks.

The number of nonresident archery licenses available should be limited to 8% of the previous years total archery hunters. They need to be limited just like the nonresident rifle tags.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Leonard Spomer
20476 Browning Road
Pierre, SD 57501
605-222-1091

Bighorn Sheep Auction License

Justin Broughton

Sioux Falls SD

justin.broughton@premierbankcard.com

Comment:

I am firmly opposed to stealing money from the sale of the Bighorn auction tag from sheep and giving it to the Governor's pet habitat programs for private landowners. This is an egregious effort by the commission and the Governor's office to capitalize on a resource that is fragile at best when this species has only a limited source of funding. Pheasants and habitat programs can be funded through any of dozens of sources. Bighorn sheep have but a single source. Please do not steal these funds from our ongoing research and conservation of wild sheep in SD to fund programs which can be funded through numerous other channels. Thank you for your consideration.

Sam Stukel

Yanton SD

sstukel@hotmail.com

Comment:

Funds raised by the auction of bighorn sheep tags should be used to benefit wild sheep. This is unique species with very unique needs and the dollar amount raised by the tag can actually make a difference. Conversely, it is a drop in the bucket for "pheasant habitat" and should not be used as such. It would be especially disappointing see it spent on paying for raccoon tails. Please spend wild sheep dollars on wild sheep. Thanks.

Brian Renaud

Attica NY

blurr18us@gmail.com

Comment:

"Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration

Tim Deick

Pierre SD

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration

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Nick Daedlow

Independence IA

nick.daedlow@gmail.com

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration.

Christian Harrington

Johnstown CO

charrington@servprofortcollins.com

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorize

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Duane Zuverink

Holland MI

IDHUNT365@GMAIL.COM

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorize

Joseph Schmaedick

Richland Center WI

jschm581@gmail.com

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration.

Sam Kezar

Lennox SD

sam@aspenarbo.com

Comment:

I am strongly opposed and extremely upset and disappointed that we have gotten to a place where such a delicate, charismatic, native, and important animal with such a fantastic recovery conservation story are now in the eye of greed and potential destruction because it may fetch a high dollar at auction.
I will first say that I am in favor of an auction tag where all the funds raised are directly going back to that animals conservation, habitat, and management. However, this proposal to only have sheep get a portion of the funds and the rest be given to pheasant habitat is down right absurd and a disgrace to the state of South Dakota and it history in conservation.
Never before was there such interest in the sheep auction funds or otherwise until now where there is the potential for more record book rams.
We should be celebrating and bragging about how we have such a fabulous heard and management. In stead we are now going to use all that hard work and dedicated conservation to sell out and USE these animals for something else. And a non-native bird too.
Habitat for all animals in not inexpensive. The amount of money that the sheep auction tag would stretch far greater on sheep research, habitat improvements, and conservation versus what it will get to get some grasslands set aside for pheasant habitat.
There are real possibilities that with the proper funding, research at our great State Universities, that a solutions could be found to the pneumonia issue in wild sheep herds. But if we sell out on the sheep and use that money for the Second Century Initiative, the chances of that happening just got a whole lot more difficult.
I strongly urge the members of the commission to reject this proposal and amend it so that the one auction tag funds be given directly back to sheep. The same process should be true for elk, deer, pheasants, or any other animal that people wish to pursue and pay money for. No where else in North America are highly prized and sought after charismatic wildlife auctioned off to gain money for other causes. Please don't let South Dakota change that.
There are other ways to raise funds for pheasant conservation, but using sheep or other animals as a prize pig to get a little extra cash out of it is not the way it should be done.

Jacob Grimsrud

Elkton SD

jakegrimsrud34@yahoo.com

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Roghair

Kadoka SD

tallpaulr@hotmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose opening up the auction tag to the Badlands unit. If one is to look, how many years did the units in the Black Hills receive of resident only hunting? Why does this new unit only get now 2 at most before it turns into a rich mans game? I have heard stories about these wealthy groups or individuals that " might just buy the tag and not use it" if that was the case they can buy the one that is open now and pay ten times the amount it is going for, there is not a rule that says they can't. In addition, with the limited area in which to hunt the possible doubling (almost guaranteed with records on the line) of hunters in a small area do you not think that it will detract from the hunting experience and turn it into a competition hunt between a wealthy hunter and his group of guides and an average hunter from our state being bullied and harassed? I also have issue with the money being sucked off to improve pheasants east of the river or in paid hunting areas. Lastly I ask that you stop and think about what message you are sending to our states sportsmen and women when you say "oh we can get a record animal here, lets sell it to the ones with money because we can get it and the heck with the average guy getting it." That message comes through clear that South Dakota is all about making money on our hunting and not about managing animals for our resident hunters. In closing, I am sure you will ignore the pleas of our hunters and chase the money, when you do so give the resident a chance to say that when hunting the Badlands unit the auction tag cannot be used until after the resident hunter has harvested their sheep, thus showing that we do still value our resident hunters more than dollars. Thank you

---

Tavis Rogers

Oak Creek CO

tavisrogers@msn.com

Comment:

The allocation of proceeds from the auction of the South Dakota Bighorn Sheep Auction Tag should remain 100% dedicated to the restoration of wild sheep in South Dakota.

These funds should NOT be reallocated to non-native pheasant habitat improvements, particularly on private lands and commercial pheasant facilities.

Jeremy Welch

Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

I believe the money raised by the bighorn sheep tag being auctioned, should stay with improving bighorn sheep count in the state. It should not be used for anything else including pheasant numbers!

Jeremy Welch

Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration.

Crystal Kezar

Lennox SD

clkezar@gmail.com

Comment:

Do not exploit bighorn sheep to raise funds for pheasant habitat. This is wrong! Any funds raised from a Bighorn sheep auction tag should go directly to supporting sheep habitat ONLY! A more effective approach to raise funds for pheasant habitat would be a $5 pheasant stamp purchase requirement for small game hunters.

Gerald Shaw

Rapid City SD

photolab.gsp@gmail.com

Comment:

I feel as though the Sheep Tag money should stay with the sheep. I do understand that without pheasants we likely wouldnt have sheep or goats in our state. However, there needs to be more transparency on the amount the sheep get or dont get moreover, and a legitimate reason to allow the funds to go elsewhere. To give an average of what the sheep have typically got seems to be a pretty poor number in light of what it has potential to bring. More discussion needs to be had before this gets approved. And the amount of money the tag will bring will far benefit the sheep more than the pheasants. The amount of money that will be needed to bring SD back to the pheasant capitol of the world far exceeds the money the BHS Auction Tag will bring in. I personally feel the money should stay with the sheep. Raise all licenses by $5 and procure the funds that way.

Katie Wiederrich

Sioux Falls SD

Katie.wiederrich@gmail.com

Comment:

If South Dakota wants to continue to have an auction tag for big horn sheep, all of the funds need to go back to the sheep, sheep research, and sheep conservation.

Nathan Bachman

Sioux Falls SD

Nathan.bachman@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Justin Whitehead

Mitchell SD

jstnwhitehead@yahoo.com

Comment:

I support the Bighorn tag raffle IF the funds go to Big Horn sheep and habitat conservation. I do not support sheep tags for funding pheasants.

Wyatt Skelton

Bryant SD

wyattskelton@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose funds from the auction of the bighorn sheep tag being diverted from its intended sole purpose which it was originally started for on managing the bighorn sheep. Bighorn only. Also oppose opening badlands unit to being included in the auction areas.

Jeremy Timmermans

Chancellor SD

Timmyjat@yahoo.com

Comment:

It's as simple as any Sunday in church. They tell you before the collection plate gets passed exactly where your contribution is going. It allows people to give their hard earned money to where they believe it will do the most good. If the people of SD want to donate to to the SCH Initiative, then have a fundraiser and ask.

Laura Dressing

Sioux Falls SD

Lkhurley@live.com

Comment:

oppose

Greg Van Den Berg

Sioux Falls SD

gmknvdb@gmail.com

Comment:

I support of the proposed changes as it appears the biological data supports these changes. However, I very much oppose the use of the auction revenue for the Second Century Initiative. I am very saddened that the use of auction funds has seemingly been decided without input from all stakeholders. I can't help but feel like the State is trying to exploit a resource only because they can make a buck and spend it elsewhere. The idea of Tag Auctions seems to make many people uneasy as on the surface it seems to monetize our wildlife. History has shown our country has learned some hard lessons when it comes to monetizing wildlife. The only thing that makes an auction more palatable is that the species "pays its' own way" by removing an individual to help support a population. To take any money away and use it elsewhere tiptoes into the water of monetizing an animal and going against the Conservation model that has corrected many mistakes from our history.

Joel Wagner

Brookings SD

wagnerjw27@hotmail.com

Comment:

"Commissioners, I strongly oppose the use of ANY funds raised via the sale of an auction tag for bighorn sheep being utilized for ANY program that does not directly benefit wild sheep in South Dakota. The bighorn auction tag was specifically authorized to be utilized by the Midwest Chapter of the Wild Sheep Foundation to raise funds for wild sheep research and conservation in South Dakota. The funds raised by the sale of this tag should be solely dedicated to that purpose. Funds for the second century habitat initiative can be raised through habitat stamp programs, increases in small game hunting licenses for non-residents, and via conservation organizations which are strictly dedicated to that purpose. Thank you for your consideration."

Jared Pearson

Summerset SD

docjcpearson@gmail.com

Comment:

Bighorn sheep funds should be used solely for the use of bighorn sheep conservation.

Justin Inhofer

Sturgis SD

**Justin.
Inhofer@animalhealthinternational.
com**

Comment:

The profits from this tag need to spend on sheep, research, and the conversation of sheep. Which it was intended for not pheasants or pheasant habitat. This is the only reason I voted for the Auction tag

---

Derek Howard

Stickney SD

Comment:

Why do we keep trying to fix something that's isn't broke. Leave the stuff the way it is. Money is not everything and the future for our children to be able to enjoy hunting is dwindling away as this is becoming a full out money game. The money brought in from a auction needs to stay only for the bighorn sheep. Dont take money from one fund to pay for another.

Amy Miller

Canton SD

Amemiller11@gmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the big horn sheep auction tag money to be going anywhere but to the SD big horn sheep heard.

I would also like to see SD lottery tag winners get the opportunity to harvest their sheep before the auction tag winner as well.

100% of money goes to sheep conservation in SD.

-Amy

Sean Fulton

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I am In full support of auctioning off a South Dakota bighorn sheep tag to create funds for more opportunities for hunting bighorn sheep, But if any of these funds are allocated for anything other than bighorn sheep research or placement I am strongly opposed to that and the game and fish will not get any of my support in that matter. There are dozens of organizations in support of pheasants and other types of game in South Dakota. They don't need to be stealing funds from the big horn sheep which has very limited opportunity for anyone that is a resident. The odds of drawing a tag are so slim as it is why take that away from us as residence or take possible funding to create more opportunity for other people to have a chance to hunt big horn sheep in South Dakota.

My opinion is that the governor and other entities want hook up their friends and family who probably charge for pheasant hunting but cannot dedicate some of their properties to habitat without government funds as aid. If they want to charge people to hunt pheasants on their property then they can create and leave habitats for pheasants instead of plowing and cutting everything including the ditches.

The game and fish is already on a lot of people's radar and the general public is not really happy with some of the decisions being made. I myself believe most decisions are for the better but if this money is used for something other than bighorn research then you will be hurting the gfp and lose the little respect that most people have left. I don't know one person who feels this money should be used anyway other that put back into the bighorn sheep population.

Commissioners,
Thanks for your time and please be cautious of your decisions on the use of monies acquired. I repeat I am strongly opposed to use of bighorn sheep funds generated being used for anything other than bighorn sheep research and replacement.

Sean Fulton RC

Brendan Farrell

Tea SD

ashdan817@yahoo.com

Comment:

I support it only if all the funds go to research of rams and continue growth of ram population

---

Justin Allen

Pierre SD

Comment:

I don't support the current Big Horn Sheep Auction unless all proceed are used 100% for bighorn sheep management. The auctioned license was agreement between the sportsman and the sheep foundation several years ago only because the funds would used to manage sheep in SD. The funds should not used for other pet projects.

Jesse Kurtenbach

Spearfish SD

jessepkurt@hotmail.com

Comment:

Dear SDGFP Commission,

For historical reference I reached out to the former president of the Midwest WSF prior to the auction tag being initiated back in 2012. I have also reached out to several on the board of the current Midwest WSF but have not received a response, which seems rather odd to me.

The following is an email chain involving former Secretary Vonk and the working group whom spent so much time getting this auction tag implemented to help bighorn sheep in South Dakota. Feel free to read the whole email chain but I have copied the paragraph that talks specifics as to how the money will be handled. Of particular note is when former Secretary Vonk said the money would be given to the SDGFP and put into a separate account for the bighorn sheep and only spent on bighorn sheep projects.

Directly from 2012 Email that I sent a copy of to the full commission.---
4) Discuss the logistics of a potential Bighorn Sheep account:
It was discussed that Midwest is a federally non-profit 501 (c) 3 group. Also when an auction tag is purchased through Midwest, the check is written to Midwest. Curt said 100% of the sale price of the auction tag would be returned to help fund the South Dakota bighorn sheep. Midwest does charge a 5% convenience fee to the winning bidder, which they retain to fund bighorn sheep projects. Rip asked Sec. Vonk how he would like this money to be handled. Sec. Vonk said the auction tag money would be given to the SD GF&P and put into a separate account for the bighorn sheep and only spent on bighorn sheep projects. Rip asked if this money could ever be taken internally or any other way and Sec. Vonk said no. Curt (Midwest) and Tom Krafka (SCI Greater Dacotah Chapter) said they would retain their money until invoices came in from a project and then they would write a check for the invoice. Sec. Vonk asked how does everybody agree on what projects to fund. Rip said in talking to other states with auction tags, they have working groups setup that agree on what projects should be pursued. Everybody liked the working group idea. Tony Leif said that regardless if an auction tag happens or not, a working will be formed for the bighorn sheep.

Accepting a personal letter of guarantee from the current Secretary Hepler like he stated at the last meeting holds about as much weight as this email. At some point in the future the position of Secretary will be held by a different individual and the letter will become invalid, apparently just like the agreement former Secretary Vonk made in this email. The SDGFP does a lot of work with private citizens and I would be willing to bet a legal contract is signed before any of that work is done. A landowner wouldn't be able to write a personal letter of guarantee that they will allow public hunting or depredation in return for SDGFP help.

A specific dollar amount should be included in the current bighorn sheep auction tag proposal. I have heard the 5 yr rolling average thrown around as a number that both parties are willing to accept, I think that is fair.

I would like this to be included in Public comment and will be adding this myself via the website to ensure it makes it to the public record.

Thank you for taking the time to read this historical data

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Kurtenbach
Spearfish SD
605-380-5972

Eddie Childers

Interior SD

eddie_childers@nps.gov

Comment:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal to include the Bighorn Sheep Auction tag in the hunting area known as the Badlands Unit for the 2020 hunting season. This area encompasses both private and federally owned US Forest Service National Grasslands north and south of Badlands NP.
We commend your staff for being such a great partner in the restoration of Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep to the Badlands of South Dakota. Without your help and support Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep would not exist today as a thriving population throughout the Badlands/Conata Ecosystem.
As a valuable partner, we would like to suggest the following recommendations concerning the hunting of Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep in this unit.
1. A Buffer zone of "no hunting" of at least 100 meters adjacent to the Park Boundary. This would provide a safety zone for anyone photographing wildlife within or near the Park.
2. Changing the name of the unit from the “Badlands Unit” to the “Grasslands Unit.” Last year we received many phone calls from a confused public wondering why we were allowing hunting in our north unit when it is clearly forbidden by our enabling legislation.
3. If the proposal is approved to be available for the Auction Tag, there is the potential that 2 large rams could be harvested from the population. Our data indicate that at least 59 rams exit the park between November and December each year during the rut and 8-10 of these animals are in the ¾ curl or better age class. Sustained hunting of rams over several years could reduce the older age of rams substantially. Consequently, we recommend careful consideration as to how many mature rams may be taken each year. Our staff would like to be involved in this decision and will gladly share any data we may have to make an informed decision on harvest.
One last thought. We realize that harvesting 1-2 rams each year will not be detrimental to the population. In fact our data suggest the population could reach over 450 animals by 2024 barring any unforeseen disease outbreak. However we also recognize the high value of wildlife viewing opportunity of large Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep in a wild setting such as the Badlands. We average more than 1 million visitors per year along the 240 Loop road. Consequently, we believe that this value should also be considered when considering opening up this unit for an additional hunting tag and would also request that the NPS be invited to participate in discussions before a final decision is made.
Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Ross English

Spearfish SD

rossenglishod@gmail.com

Comment:

I wanted to make a brief comment on the commission proposal for administrative action for the bighorn sheep hunting season. Let me begin by saying I fully support allowing the auction license to be valid in both units. The auction winner will have spent a great deal of money for their license in support of South Dakota bighorn sheep. They should be offered the opportunity to hunt both units. With the recent record book ram taken in the Badlands unit, I believe this change also gives the state an opportunity to raise even more money than it has in recent years. My opposition revolves around the language "…to also raise funds to supplement the Second Century habitat initiative…". This is a vague statement that to my understanding doesn't even specify how much of the sheep auction license money will be used for the Second Century Initiative. In my opinion, any money not spent directly on sheep conservation and research is simply not fair. I would guess the auction winner would feel the same too. I believe the Second Century Initiative was a poorly thought out plan that lacks the science needed for sound wildlife management. Regardless of my opinion on the Second Century Initiative, I think we can all agree that money should not be stolen from an auctioned sheep license to help fund it (no matter how effective or popular the program is).

From the way I understand it, the current language allows the auctioned funds to be used for any big game although, I believe, the vast majority has been spent on sheep or goat conservation. When the auctioned license was first proposed, GF&P had a lot of residents that were opposed to it, and understandably so. It would be a slap in the face to them if the state now reneged on their selling point and started allowing these funds to support the Second Century Initiative (primarily small game). I understand that the Second Century Initiative is Governor Noem's pet project. I also understand that GF&P commissioners are appointed by the governor. This obviously puts the entire commission in a tight spot. As a concerned South Dakota citizen and lifelong South Dakota hunter, I am asking you to carefully consider this administrative action. Adding the Badlands unit provides a great fundraising opportunity for South Dakota sheep. Attempting to allocate some of those funds for small game is simply not fair to the license bidders, South Dakota big game hunters, and most importantly South Dakota Bighorn Sheep.

Matt Kane

Huron SD

Mattkane40@hotmail.com

Comment:

The use funds of the auction of bighorn sheep tag should in no way be used for other purposes. Keep the wild sheep funds for wild sheep.

Ethan Zakrzewski

Brandon SD

Comment:

We need to support keeping wildlife on the mountains especially bighorn sheep. The future of hunting and enjoying the outdoors depends on the animals and their accesible habitat.

Mathew Fetherhuff

Aberdeen SD

mathewfetherhuff@gmail.com

Comment:

I firmly believe that the funds generated from the sale of a bighorn sheep tag should go back into the bighorn sheep. It makes absolutely no sense to pull money from a sheep tag to this fund. If anything, there should be a different fund set aside directly for bighorn sheep and the betterment of the habitat and all money generated from sale of tag should go to that. You can not deny the fact that pheasants, which the habitat initiative seems to be really geared towards, are a invasive species. They did not naturally occur here, bighorn sheep did. Pheasants may thrive here now, but they are still not a native species. They contribute a huge amount to the economy but taking funds from this auction tag to help boost the pheasant population, which would then in return create more money for the state, is a line that should not be crossed. If you want to raise money for that initiative, impose a 5$ pheasant stamp or similar license required to hunt pheasants. 5 dollars won't stop someone from hunting, even if it did, it would be an extremely small percentage of people. If you can't afford 5$ for conservation towards pheasant habitat when you are the one who is pursuing them then you probably should be at work, not hunting.

Sean Newberg

Canton SD

newbergsean92@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Seth Mulvehill

Piedmont SD

Comment:

Using any money that is based around the bighorn sheep of SD for any other game/habitat that isn't a bighorn sheep is distasteful and politically aimed. KISS - Keep It Simple Stupid.

Sam Huewe

Brandon SD

Samhuewe@gmail.com

Comment:

All the money being raised for sheep, I hope is staying for the sheep. I hope someday to peruse one but with the shortage and the costs not sure of it will happen. Please help grow the sheep herd and lower the number of cats

Thad Nafziger

Pierre SD

Thadnafziger@yahoo.com

Comment:

Once again I find myself (a lifelong resident & license holder) on this page for comment. Frustrating that I disagree with direction/action/proposals & protocol of the Dept of gfp so frequently anymore. This particular branch/or department of govt. has become nothing short of an embarrassment,& is completely misguided & out of touch with its constituency. I really don't know if comment on this positions form is nothing but a waste of my time,as I suspect that comments made here to the Dept are merely shuffled on to?..who knows..possibly a seasonal summer helper, or (not to demean anyone's title) but possibly to a person in a strictly clerical role? This way the Dept can always say that comment was received and read.Surely feels as any comment made here is not being viewed or given any consideration by any Dept member in any position to address rational thoughts/ suggestions/ protests, or in general dishes of their constituents. That being said I will yet again comment on another issue brought forth by the Dept. I as a resident will on all likelihood never draw a sheep tag in the hills (yet will continue to try) & I was never in favor of auctioning off a sheep tag..giving one of the very precious few opportunities to the highest bidder vs. the everyday sportsman/woman to partake in what really must be considered a hunt of s lifetime. This being said, I realize this tag auction generates dollars..problem is these dollars need to stay in 100% support of the resource that has generated them. All funds received through sheep tag auction need to stay with all things sheep related. Be it research, equipment-radio collars-man hours spent on anything related to the species. This in a nutshell folks is one of bureaucracy's biggest problems..ribbing Peter to pay Paul mentality. In the end that does not work..as we are becoming so painfully aware of (ie social security going broke, etc.)...don't want to turn this into a rant on govt. inadequacies and shortcomings, but the money raised by selling that tag to the highest bidder needs to support its benefactor and only them. Please do not rob the coffers for a different program that obviously cannot support itself.

Joshua Hagemann

Mission Hill SD

Comment:

I think the current proposal could greatly benefit the state.

Jeff Grosdidier

Ethan SD

j_grosdidier@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the transfer of funds because the bighorn sheep have not reached the levels promised when this sale was approved. Until the sheep reach the promised levels then the money should stay with the sheep

---

Andrew Schmidt

Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

Please keep all monies affilliated with sheep auction allocated for sheep consevation.

Patrick O'Connell

Brandon SD

patrickoconnell428@gmail.com

Comment:

I think the money from the auctioned off bighorn tag should go to bighorn conservation within the state. Not for any secondary programs.

Joel Kanable

Harrisburg SD

Joel.kanable@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep the funds to protect the sheep, not used for anything else.

Brent Kastner

Rapid City SD

brentkphoto@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the use of big horn sheep revenue to be used for anything else but the preservation and support of big horn sheep habitat. I think it is a disservice to take funds from a relatively small funding area and pushing it to a different area.

Keith Pullins

Rapid City SD

Keith_pullins@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose allocation of the lottery funds for anything other than improving big horn sheep

---

Virgil Pfennig

Brookings SD

Virgilpfennig@gmail.com

Comment:

I support the use of the SD sheep hunting tag proceeds to be used for the preservation of sheep habitat only

Kris Weinberger

Piedmont SD

Comment:

The pheasants in eastern South Dakota have nothing to do with the big horn sheep in western South Dakota Leave the

---

Connor Miles

Hartford SD

Comment:

Keep big horn sheep dollars for big horn sheep only..

Jason Wolbrink

Stickney SD

wolbrinkey@gmail.com

Comment:

Money raised from the sale of that tag needs to stay within the big Horn sheep. No reason should it go anywhere else, just because it is possibly going to be a large amount of money doesn't need it needs to me moved to a different account. Look how well the state is doing on getting these animals established. Let's keep it going!!!

Riley Niewewhuis

Corsica SD

Comment:

Wild sheep are hard the keep healthy and growing well , if the financial support is not there to help stay on top of the Big horn sheep in SD , they may threatened.

Denny Tesch

Rapid City SD

Dwtesch71@gmail.com

Comment:

The money raised for sheep is raised For SHEEP!!

Chuck Point

Sioux Falls SD

cjpoint@sio.midco.net

Comment:

I hope that you will do all you can to repeal what the Governor has started and stop anything more. Predators are a necessary part of our Eco System. The Governor's Program is not supported by any serious science. Thanks.

Cade Berry

Sioux Falls SD

Cadecberry@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose the current proposal, and the only way it will gain my support is that it be guaranteed that all of the funds from the governors auction tag go directly back into the bighorn sheep program.

Marlin Dart

Brookings SD

Mdart90@yahoo.com

Comment:

Using bighorn funds for second century initiative

Steven Morgan Jr

Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

oppose

Samuel Jacobson

Castlewood SD

sam.jacobson@gmail.com

Comment:

The diversion of funds for other wildlife goals is a government over reach for the intended protection of the limited resource of big horn sheep. Please consider the potential cost of protection of this unique resource in South Dakota.

Jason Barbee

Hartford SD

Race8dad@yahoo.com

Comment:

It is ridiculous for this to even be on the table. These funds should be goin towards the better of sheep herds here in SD. I do understand that ringnecks bring in alot of money and revenue but at the same time does nothin for habitat for our public grounds. Pheasant hunting has gotten so out of hand that I havnt hunted them in a number of years, as for my son. My daughter has never hunted pheasants. I hate to put her thru the frustration of landowners and pay hunters being total jerks to us while road hunting or simply driving by on the way to walk right of ways or other public ground.....ok back on topic. These "guides" have plenty of money and habitat for "their" birds. Let's keep this money raised by big horn sheep for big horn sheep. Thank you for your time.

Trevor Reil

Sioux Falls SD

Trevor.m.reil@gmail.com

Comment:

The money raised by the wild sheep should be used to help conserve the wild sheep.

Ivan Visser

Brandon SD

Comment:

oppose

Michael Norton

Rapid City SD

nortonmichael1922@yahhoo.com

Comment:

Landowners already get bull elk tags yearly, don’t hunt there own land. When it’s elk deprevation tag- which should mean cow elk tags - which they deserve for destroying fence and eating crops- I know several that lie about elk on their land-
No big horn sheep- now way- this money needs to stay to maintaining the herds and not touch private land owners- money needs to preserve the public lands and help food plots and shelter belts west river for once-

Deerfield Boating Restrictions

Lamoyne Darnall

Rapid City SD

lamoynedarnall@yahoo.com

Comment:

With the drastic increase in the number of boats it only seems like common sense to open another lake for recreational boating and allow a boat to move from the south boat ramp to the inlet in a decent amount of time. Please approve this change .

Todd Mcrae

Rochford, SD

todd.mcrae@imacorp.com

Comment:

Removing the 5 mph restriction on Deerfield would greatly impact this lake in a negative way and would forever change the solitude that is now found on this lake. There are many fisherman, paddle boarders and kayakers that would no longer find this lake usable because of the number of boats that would be added to the lake, including all the water skiers. The people that want to drive their boat at those speeds can go to Pactola or Sheridan. The lake is too narrow to have boats speeding by and not cause a disruption to the fisherman, paddle boarders and kayakers.

Paul Nelson

Lead SD

pgnelson@vastbb.net

Comment:

Deerfield lake has had a no wake restriction for as long as I can remember and for me it is nice to go on with a canoe or kayak with out having to worry about some boat going way to fast close to me and pushing me around. I know it is only 25 mph but if this passes then they will ask for a faster speed until there is no wake zones! Just one point!!

Meldawn Nelson

Lead SD

Meldawn66@yahoo.com

Comment:

A beautiful lake will be destroyed if wake limit is raised.

Jason Schuldt

Spearfish SD

jasknx@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a very quiet, peaceful place. The camping is wonderful, as is the fishing, but to me, the best part of going there is the peace and quiet. There are lots of other places where people can go with big boats and jet skis, but it seems like Deerfield should be left to the trolling motors and kayaks. Thanks.

Michael Lees

Rapid City SD

mike@wescomm.com

Comment:

Deerfield is the only quiet safe lake in the Black Hills. Please don't disrupt the tranquil charm of this lake by increasing the boating speed limit.

Gene Wilts

Toronto SD

gwilts@itctel.com

Comment:

Leave it the way it is. This is a great lake for peace and quiet and fishing. The lake is too small to increase the speed limit without affecting the quality of fishing.

Martin Hunt

Hill City SD

hunt4martin@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a fishing lake. Changing to a 25mph limit will encourage tubing, wakeboarding, wake-surfing etc. All of which are done at under 25mph. The added disturbance will make Deerfield less of a peaceful fishing lake and increase shore damage from waves. With the increased popularity of Kayak fishing; Deerfield, as a No Wake Lake, is excellent for Kayaks, Kayak fishing and not dealing with large wakes.
The purposed change to make Deerfield Lake a 25mph limit seems unnecessary with Pactola and Sheridan just down the road for people wanting a lake to go above wake speed and water sports. My vote would be No on changing Deerfield Lake from a "No Wake Lake" to a 25mph limit. Thank You

Dave Halverson

Sturgis SD

halversondave00@gmail.com

Comment:

This lake has fragile banks that will be eroded with a senseless 25 mph speed limit. This lake's elevation is 5900 feet and it is currently a peaceful fishing and camping venue. No need to ruin this 435 acre jewel with wave runners that belong at Pactola, Orman or Angustora!

Harold Fenhaus

Rapid City SD

hjfenhaus@icloud.com

Comment:

Please consider the user who enjoys the peace and quiet.

Jarred Burleson

Lead SD

Jburleson13@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a good place for fishermen and kayaking. It’s a good lake to go relax and get away from the high speed lakes. Increasing the speed limit on this lake will only ruin a good lake.

Jeff Blankenfeld

Aurora SD

blankenj3@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a quiet retreat from a hectic life style most of us live in. Keep it simple, and quiet. No wake on the lake is working fine. Thank you

---

Tracy Cook

Summerset SD

trcook19@gmail.com

Comment:

One of the things that sets Deerfield Lake apart from so many of the other bodies of water in the Black Hills is the ambience. When you go there, you know that it will be quiet and peaceful. To lift the no-wake zone restriction would destroy that ambience. The idyllic atmosphere is the exact reason that so many of us want to go up to Deerfield Lake to begin with. Please, please do not ruin what makes that lake so special.

Rick Bradford

Rapid City SD

Rcb411@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield is the only nice lake to boat fish without having to deal with wake and jet ski headaches. This lake also has a wide variety of wildlife like Osprey and Bald Eagles that surround the area and use the lake as a source of food. They are at this lake mostly because of the quiet natural habitat that surrounds this area. You let boats and jetski's on this lake most of the wildlife will not be around. Leave one lake to the people that dont like being bothered by the speed boats and skiers there are 3 lakes that are large that they can do their thing! Thank you

---

Jennifer Keller-Bradford

Rapid City SD

Jen.keller29@hotmail.com

Comment:

There are plenty of lakes that allow a wake, this lake is a nice area to escape the chaos. Based on its size, allowing a wake increases danger, reduces trolling abilities and will prevent a lot of the world life from remaining in the area.

Marge Duprel

Sturgis SD

margedranchs@outlook.com

Comment:

As our family frequently camp and Deerfield, boat, canoe on the lake. It is a quiet lake for young people to canoe without the wake of boat roaring next to you. As we are elderly we enjoy the calmness of the lake . There are plenty of other lakes they can speed and water ski on. Please leave as a no wake lake.

Robert Koski

Spearfish SD

jstbkoz@spe.midco.net

Comment:

I have lived in Lawrence county for 63 years. (Lifetime) I have had numerous boats with bigger motors. When I fish Deerfield I use my float tubes and kayaks. I would hate to not be able to take my grandkids out fishing and touring in kayaks on Deerfield because of motorboats buzzing around. It would ruin the Deerfield experience! Leave speed on the bigger lakes only please! Bob Koski

Luke Rouns

Rapid City SD

hootowldesign@gmail.com

Comment:

Leaving one of the larger lakes at a no wake Lake is a good idea. If it were to change to a no wake this would attract the jet skis and people going much faster than 25 and not realizing it. It will also cause the lake to be much more rough because of the wakes and increased boat traffic. Sheridan and Pactola are very close and provide a larger body of water that is safer for water craft traveling at higher speeds. Deerfield is not ready for this, please reconsider changing the speed limit. Thank you.

Larry Smith

Rapid City SD

gofishy_mn@yahoo.com

Comment:

support

Mike Loeffen

Sturgis SD

mjloeffen@q.com

Comment:

oppose

Joseph Vandenberg

Spearfish SD

jwvdbjv@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is one of the few peaceful places left in the Black Hills. This change would absolutely destroy that peacefulness. There are many places to enjoy watersports in the area and this does not need to be added to that list. In addition to the loss of tranquility, this will also damage the natural state in which the lake has remained, including the fishing and overall ecology. I am highly opposed and think changing the ordinance is highly unnecessary and irresponsible.

Bhumi Baumberger

Lead SD

bhum7@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is the only lake of any size in the area that is still a serene environment for locals and tourists alike that want to be away from the chaos of the other larger lakes. Please consider this when making your decision.

Jeff Yennie

Summerset SD

jeff.yennie@gmail.com

Comment:

We don't need another Pactola or Sheridan. Deerfield is a quiet lake that is a great place for anglers, kayaks, and people that want to get away from the crowds of Pactola and Sheridan Lake in the summertime. Not to mention that this would likely have an impact on reproduction rates and success of the fishery. Shut this proposal down.

Bryce Borr

Rapid City SD

Comment:

oppose

Mark Geffre

Lead SD

mjgeffre@hughes.net

Comment:

deerfield lake is the only quiet lake left in the black hills and should be left the way it is now.

Greg Delzer

Rapid City, Formerly Lead. SD

Comment:

This is the last remaining lake in the Hills where you can go to relax and feel as though you are on a pristine mountain lake. The lake is small, and speed is not necessary. Erosion will occur. If you want to go fast, pick a different lake and leave this one alone!

Doug Geary

Lead SD

douggeary@allstate.com

Comment:

Deerfield should continue to be a no wake lake as the size of the lake cannot support ski boats in my opinion. Deerfield is one of few Black Hills lakes that are quiet and peaceful do to the no wake rule. Thank You.

Geri Hill

Deadwood SD

ger10456@hotmail.com

Comment:

I have lived in the Black hills all my life and seen many changes not always for the best.
I have been going to Deerfield for 60 years and one of the treasures of it is the peacefulness. There are many other places for the speedboats to go in the Hills... Please do not add this peaceful lake to that list.
Thank you. Geri Hill

Judy Geffre

Lead SD

mjgeffre@hughes.net

Comment:

Deerfield lake should be left the way it is now .we dont need fast moving boats out there . even if they going 25 mph.

Blaine Burleson

Deadwood SD

Comment:

Iv been going to Deerfield lake my entire life, as well as my parents and grandparents. The reason we love this lake is due to the no wake and being able to enjoy piece and quiet, turning it into a wake lake would not only completely ruin that enjoyment I get to spend with my family but for many others also.

David Hanna

Rapid City SD

davidhanna85@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do NOT change the No Wake Zone rule for Deerfield Reservoir. That reservoir is a peaceful GEM deep in the Black Hills. The no wake zone mandate, makes this an exceptional place for kayakers, canoes, row boats, and small watercraft, and allows bank fishers to not fight boat wakes with their bobbers. And, allowing wakes would only erode shoreline, increase sediment deposits and provide ZERO enhancement to the recreating use of the lake. Last, this is a headwater reservoir for City of Rapid City drinking water - keeping it clean is important! Leave it as is, please!

Steve Schacht

Rapid City SD

steves@ktllp.com

Comment:

There are already many lakes that power boat users can access in the black hills. I guarantee that next if this is allowed you will have pressure to allow boating at any speed. Deerfield Lake serves a great purpose in having a lake that can be enjoyed in peace and to be able to canoe and kayak safely and a place where fisherman do not need to deal with constant wakes and activity from people towing tubers and other power boat activities. I am really skeptical as to what purpose increasing the limit serves. please be sensible and leave Deerfield alone.

Dori Mcrae

Rochford SD

Dbellmcrae@msn.com

Comment:

This small lake is enjoyed by fishermen, kayaks and paddle boards. Lifting this no wake zone and allowing a 25mph will change this drastically. This lake is not big enough to increase this speed and will be dangerous for those that enjoy it as it is.

Chuck Klafka

Hill City SD

Klafka.chuck&gmail.com

Comment:

As an avid angler and user of Deerfield lake I think that lifting the no wake on Deerfield would increase the amount of users and degrade the overall ambiance of this lake. Please don’t lift the no wake restrictions Thanks Chuck Klafka.

Samantha Burleson

Lead SD

Samanthadburleson05@gmail.com

Comment:

We enjoy Pactola and Orman for our fast pace water sports. Deer field is a great lake to slow down and relax! There are alot of people who enjoy the lake for canoeing! We also need to take a look at the pollution that will hit Deer Field if the speed changes

Pat Urbaniak

Sturgis SD

urbaniakp2000@yahoo.como

Comment:

I have heard that there is a proposal to change the no wake rule on Deerfield to a 25 mph speed limit? If so, this would make this secluded lake less appealing and make it more like Pactola! I hope this is a rumor and will go away. I love hunting and fishing in the Black hills and this is where I live. Please don't ruin it!

Roger Hudson

Lead SD

rogerroanne@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the most peaceful areas in the Black Hills, also one of the prime breeding areas for bald eagles. Please do not change the speed limit on this lake.
Thank You

Anne Apodaca

Custer SD

annie.apodaca@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is the lake that kayaks and canoes, as well as float tubes go to to get away from the boat traffic on Pactola, Angostura, and Sheridan Lakes among others. Wakes from fast moving motor boats make it miserable to be on a small kayak due to the waves it causes sometimes big enough to capsize smaller craft. Please leave Deerfield as a no wake lake. It provides a different type of recreation opportunity for this type of boating which is not available elsewhere in the area except on little ponds.

Cody Warren

Rapid City SD

Clwarren94@yahoo.com

Comment:

support

Jenn Johnson

Rapid City SD

jennwhitney12@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is one of the last remaining lakes in the black hills that is truly safe to kayak. Being a no wake zone along with a lower speed limit makes Deerfield a destination for young families. Making the lake another recreational boating lake would be very unfortunate.

Kalen Dringman

Rapid City SD

Kalterdring@yahoo.com

Comment:

I'm strongly opposed to lifting the no wake zone on Deerfield reservoir. Deerfield is one of the few lakes I can use my canoe for fishing and not have to be concerned with jet skiers or fast moving water craft. Keep Deerfield calm and peaceful; Sheridan and Pactola no longer are. Thank you

---

Rod Colvin

Mitchell SD

karlac48@gmail.com

Comment:

I canoe and fish on Deerfield Lake. Please do not increase the boat speed limit. The lake is too small to support high speeds for boats.

Jessica Eggers

Rapid City SD

benchbud@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose raising the speed limit from 5mph to 25mph. Deerfield lake is the only large lake that is not overcrowded with speed boats and pwc's. It is quiet and great for fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and paddle boarding. Raising the speed limit will cause the lake to become overcrowded like Angustora, Pactola, and Sheridan Lakes.

Roanne Hudson

Lead SD

roannehudson@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a Lake that people can enjoy without loud boat motors fish without waves and kayak and just enjoy the peace and quite and wildlife

---

Lora Burleson

Rochford SD

LORA.BURLESON61@GMAIL.COM

Comment:

I am strongly against removing the no wake rule on deerfield. This lake is the perfect place to kayak, canoe, swim and just relax. I feel it would be dangerous to the people enjoying these activities if the speed limit was increased

Kevin Ryan

Rapid City SD

Wowphoto57703@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield as a fishing lake only. Leave no wake in force. No need for water skiers here or speed boats. Maybe a 10 mph limit or something. Leave it alone.

Jeff Hohle

Rochford SD

jhohle@earthlink.net

Comment:

I just heard about this proposal - obviously being pushed by speed boaters who are determined to spoil the last safe haven for fishermen and kayakers.

Brian Peacock

Rapid City SD

bjp04b@acu.edu

Comment:

I think the wake restrictions on Deerfield Reservoir should remain in place.

Don Cavanaugh

Rapid City SD

ds_cavanaugh@yahoo.com

Comment:

Why ruin a very peaceful lake with speedboats and wild boating? Your 25mph will not be obeyed, and no one around to enforce it until after the fact. Boaters have Pactola & Sheridan to speed on, why add another lake that needs a Sheriffs present on to be somewhat safe on. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE leave Deerfield alone. Thank You

---

Tom Carr

Lead SD

kcarr1@spe.midco.net

Comment:

Use lake for fishing & kayaking

Charles Loftis

Rapid City SD

chuckloftis@gmail.com

Comment:

At a mere 414 surface acres, and with the significant number of non-motorized users (wading anglers, canoes, kayakers, personal pontoons, and float tubers), SDGF&P will be facilitating hazardous conditions.

At 25 mph. for motorized craft, the reaction time to stop will increase so greatly. The risk of harm to users of non-motorized craft is too great, in my opinion.

Much larger reservoirs of Pactola, Sheridan, Angostura, and Orman are already availed to those who "feel the need for speed."

And let's be frank: the size of those impoundments facilitate it.

Small reservoirs do not.

Ross Sailor

Rapid City SD

rossdsailor@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not raise the no wake ruling on Deerfield lake. This is my family's favorite lake to canoe and fish on. A 25 mph rule will not be followed/enforced and it will completely ruin the experience of our favorite lake in the hills. It is the only good sized lake to enjoy peacefully.

Angela Thomas

Hill City SD

ATHOMAS57745@GMAIL.COM

Comment:

Deerfield Reservoir is one of the last remaining lakes in the Black Hills where a person can fish in peace. Because of the 5 mph speed limit, you can still hear the birds and experience peace and quiet when you are out enjoying Deerfield. Keeping Deerfield primitive by restricting wakes, keeping the gravel roads and having limited infrastructure is the best way to keep usage down and limit the number of speedboats and jetskis. There are already lakes that are designed for high use such as Pactola and Sheridan, and they have the infrastructure in place to deal with the thousands of people that flock there every summer. Can't we keep one large lake for nature and for people to experience the water and the woods in peace? The petitioner states that the Deerfield Reservoir is underutilized. How long will it take for it to be overutilized? Who will monitor utilization and carrying capacity? The argument about speed of vehicles during winter use is not valid. User groups during the winter and summer are completely different. The Deerfield trail is not open to motorcycles or ATVs because there are plenty of other trails for that. The same applies for the lake. Keep the 5 mph speed limit. If a fisherman can't stand the 20 minute boat ride to get across to a fishing hole, then he should go to a different lake.

Brian Jenner

Summerset SD

bubbamame@yahoo.com

Comment:

I think it should stay a no wake body of water. Much nicer for kayaks and shore fishing.

Samantha Weaver

Hot Springs SD

Weaver4@gwtc.net

Comment:

One of the big enjoyments of Deerfield Lake is the peacefulness it has. You can't hear motors of boats, no cell service, and it feels like a place where you can thoroughly relax and enjoy the outdoors. I don't understand the idea of a 25mph zone when there are other lakes in the area that boaters can go to. Keep this lake the way it is so we can continue to fish in peace and quiet. Thanks!

Shannon Horst

Black Hawk SD

jeepcj776@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake will be overrun with jet skis and boats. Deerfield is a great lake for fishing and a canoe as it is. Dont change this lake into what Sheridan has become. Overrun with people tubing and racing around the lake.

Patrick Wellner

Pierre SD

Pat.wellner@gmail.com

Comment:

It is my opinion that the GFP commission should not lift the ban on wake on Deerfield lake. The status quo provides a safe spot where paddlers do not have to deal with inconsiderate motorized boaters.

Martina Hartwell

Belle Fourche SD

martinaruz@yahoo.com

Comment:

There are few lakes in the BH that allow for a peaceful paddle where you don't have to be concerned about being run over by power boats or jet skis...it would be nice to keep Deerfield that way!

Justin Wills

Rapid City SD

Emisdad88@gmail.com

Comment:

Why change a great spot to get away and enjoy nature by making it a a motorized boating lake? Too many canoes and kayaks it would not only take a way from the beauty, but also be extremely unsafe conditions.

Eric Kloehn

Rapid City SD

kloehn88@hotmail.com

Comment:

Removing the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake has gotta be one of the dumbest things I've ever heard of. There are dozens of other lakes to take your boats on and cruise up and down on. I love Deerfield for the peace and quiet there. Please don't ruin that

---

Jon Holmgren

Rapid City SD

jholmgren@midco.net

Comment:

As an avid canoeist, I strongly oppose this change. Deerfield Lake is the only major body of water in the Black Hills I do not have worry about being swamped by the wake of motor boats, jet skis or worse yet, get hit by by a irresponsible boat operator.

In addition, Deerfield Lake provides a unique (and the only..) tranquil and peaceful outdoor lake experience for those who seek solitude in the hills. The increased speed limit will eliminate that. For those who seek to go faster than the wake restriction in their boats , they have already Pactola, Sheridan Lake, and Stockade to do so.

Martha Bohls

Rapid City SD

martie.bohls@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep it peaceful and quiet for stand up paddle, kayak, wading, campers and hikers. Leave no wake

---

Russell Denke

Rapid City SD

russden@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lyle Casteel

Keystone SD

Sdjeepguy@hotmail.com

Comment:

NO!!!!!

Daniel Warnke

Rapid City SD

Danwarnke@gmail.com

Comment:

I am in strong opposition of the proposal to lift the current no wake restriction on Deerfield Reservoir to a 25 mph restriction.

Carey Robley

Dakota Dunes SD

Rcbolindsey@aol.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the No Wake rule. Our family has vacationed at Deerfield Lake —it is so peaceful as it is and is a lovely relaxing location. It is nice to have a quiet place to visit and kayak. It would be a shame to change it. It is my son's favorite vacation spot in the Black Hills. There is no other Lake like it. The other no-wake lakes are more like large ponds.

Evan Walterman

Rapid City SD

bhonthefly@gmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose lifting the no wake zone in Deerfield Reservoir. That is what sets the Reservoir apart from many others in the Black Hills. There are plenty of other boating opportunities in the area and the thought that the no wake zone is "outdated" or "no longer practical" as described by Ken Edel in his request is simply not true. Please do NOT lift the no wake zone regulation. Thank you

---

Richard Burton

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Currently Deerfield lake is the only place fishermen can go over holiday weekends without being harassed by jetskis, water skiers, etc. There is no need for another place participate in these activities as all other lakes in the hills are open to them.

Selena Spring

Custer SD

selenann@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is one of the few lakes in the BH that still has the low speed. It’s perfect for families to kayak and paddle board on without having to worry about boats waking them. The 25 mph limit will be abused so unless you are going to have someone out there enforcing it 24-7 please leave it as is. Thank you!

Peggy Humbracht

Camp Crook SD

lena.loulou@hotmail.com

Comment:

Don't we have enough dams and lakes to use the larger and high speed boats on? I enjoy visiting Deerfield for it is quiet and secluded without the added noise from larger boats? Please reconsider your decision to remove the "no-wake" zone, and leave well enough alone.(not all changes are for the better)

Cory Winklepleck

Sioux Falls SD

corywinklepleck@gmail.com

Comment:

Me and my family are avid kayakers and we stay every year at least two weeks out of the year at whitetail loop campsite on Deerfield reservoir. the primary reasons we choose to stay here is the beautiful scenery and the fact that we can kayak without having to worry about motorized boats driving unsafely and posing a threat to us in our kayak unfortunately most motorized boaters are not on the lookout for low-lying craft and pose a severe threat to kayakers on both large and small bodies of water for example I can barely use lake Vermillion in the eastern part of the state due to recreational boaters who treat the main channel as there personal speed lane. Were as if I use lake Alvin that is also a no wake lake I can boat without worry of not being seen until it is to late. Please keep this bodies wake restrictions in place to allow everyone in all forms of water craft to be able to utilize these waters safely

Justin Beyer

Driscoll ND

justin.hockey@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the limit of archery access permits for the Custer National Forest (Unit 35L). I understand the need to reduce the pressure on the deer in the CNF, especially concerning the Mule deer. However, I have been Whitetail hunting for years in the CNF hills, mostly in the later part of the season. In all the years that I have been there, I could count on one hand the number of other archery hunters that were pursuing whitetails. It pains me to think that we may lose out on the opportunity to hunt whitetails there knowing that the majority of hunting pressure comes from just mule deer hunters.

Sincerely,
Justin Beyer
701-201-0153

Presston Gabel

Hot Springs SD

presstongabel@yahoo.com

Comment:

Leave Deerfield alone; Sheridan and Pactola in the area already allow for bigger motors and boats. Leave Deefield as a fishing lake.

Derek Ryan

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kelsey Terpening

Sturgis SD

otter_2001@hotmail.com

Comment:

It's nice to have a large lake to kayak on without having to worry about boats making wakes.

Summer Humbracht

Hot Springs SD

Comment:

Would love to see Deerfield remain a No Wake Lake.

Tiffany Trask

Rapid City SD

Comment:

There are many alternative lakes in the Black Hills for boat recreation, please leave the ban. Deerfield is the only decent-sized lake that boasts tranquility and clean water for kayakers, SUP, fishers, elderly folks who want a peaceful float on their boat, family canoeing, etc. Many people who camp there go for the peacefulness that can't be offered anywhere else in the Black Hills. Lifting the ban will have a direct effect on the number of staff needed in that area full-time to address the partying, danger to the land, overrun boat ramps, road damage, parking, etc.
Please keep the ban. Offer the unique experience of the no wake Lake in the Black Hills- it truly is an experience sought after by both locals and tourists!

Dwight Patterson

Rapid Acity SD

Dwight@spire4.com

Comment:

Deerfield is an excellent fishery that gives people the opportunity to fish and rec without having to deal with skiers, surfers and loud music. Don't destroy this valuably peaceful resource.

Dave Uehling

Hot Springs SD

mowerdave1@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the few places where you can kayak and enjoy the reservoir without wakes left by speeding boats

---

Cindi Kruse

Hill City SD

Cindiakruse@gmail.com

Comment:

Please, no. Who does this benefit? This will push out canoers, kayakers, wind surfers, paddle boards, swimmers, campers, etc. who use Deerfield because of it's no wake regulation. Not to mention it is clean and peaceful, unlike nearby Pactola, Sheridan and Angostura.

Jamie Romero

Rapid City SD

jrrmakin@gmail.com

Comment:

We own a boat and still don't want the wake restriction to be elevated. It's the one larger lake that is still peaceful and hopefully it remains that way. Thank you!

Karen Street

Hill City SD

Streettradersrep@gmail.com

Comment:

We kayak at Deerfield lake and appreciate that there are not speed boats in the lake. It is a peaceful place, please keep it that way.

Kortney Hall

Hot City SD

Kortnapier@gmail.com

Comment:

No wake at Deerfield is important because it provides families with children a lake that is safe for children to kayak and swim without fear of motorized vessels. We drive 2 hours just to camp and enjoy Deerfield because of the no wake zone! A lot of our neighbors friends enjoy camping and kayaking at Deerfield.

James Chastain

Rapid City SD

chastainjim@yahoo.com

Comment:

The peace and solitude in Deerfield Lake is priceless. It’s a large lake that allows canoes, kayaks and other smaller and slower boats to spread out and enjoy it beauty. The Black Hills doesn’t need another noisy high speed lake like Pactola, Sheridan and Angestora. These three are unsafe for kayakers and canoes to cross or try to enjoy open water. PLEASE leave Deerfield as a no wake lake.

Cory Lewis

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please do not make it 25mph, this is the only big lake we can kayak on without fear of being ran over!!!!

Larry Mills

Hermosa SD

Lvmills2@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not raise the boat speed limit on Deerfield. I have been fishing Deerfield for 50 years and is still my favorite. It is a gem and the last of the quiet family friendly lakes in the hills. A raised speed limit will bring big boats, loud stereos, and the boozers to a naturally beautiful place. Please no.

Ben Lewis

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Thomas Tolman

Rapid City SD

thomas.e.tolman@gmail.com

Comment:

Having been a former employee at the Outdoor Campus West I taught kids and members of the community about conservation. I always explained conservation was the wise use of natural resources.

Deerfield is praised as being one of the few lakes in the hills you can get away from everyone. You don't have to deal with wakeboarders blaring terrible music at Pactola and Sheridan. You don't have to fight through the crowds like at Custer State Park. It's just a good lake to enjoy nature.

This talk of lifting the wake zone, coupled with Noem's trapping program, is a pretty disheartening. We're suppose to be the stewards of the land. Instead it seems like we're actively mismanaging our resources.

It'd be a bummer if folks like me stopped fishing and hunting in protest, taking away money from the state, as well as small businesses that depend on the industry.

Roger Foote

Watertown SD

rfoote069@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield reservoir is a premere destination due in part to its currrent restrictions on wake. As an avid paddler, I can atttest that this reservoir is a paddling experience without equal. the safety component itself is great enough that paddlers seek out this place to enjoy the beauty and peacefullness without the fear of being overrun or harrrassed by jet skis and impaird boaters. As a fisherman i would like to remind you of the world class fly fishing opertunities here along with the long sought after lake trout. There is no need to change current practices, you would only be changing one set of users for another.
As a Lake shore professional, the damage in the riparian zone caused by excess wake will have an expensive and determential effect on areas near landings and picnic areas. unfortunatly recreational users will not disperse throughout the system but concentrate near the facilities, causing additonal damage. And of course there will be a few adventurous PWC users that will attempt to pliot their watercraft up the creek that feeds the lake, potentialy damaging delicate trout habitat.
thank you for this opertunity to comment, i will continue to bring my family and friends here to enjoy what Deerfield has to offer.

Arianne Mehlhaff

Rapid City SD

Pepperburton@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the few lakes in the hills that we can enjoy without the noise pollution from watercraft.

Kathleen Brown

Kadoka SD

kathy.brown@goldenwest.net

Comment:

This really comes down to a matter of public safety. Deerfield Lake is simply not big enough to warrant raising the speed limit above five miles per hour. Just look at Sheridan Lake in a sunny Sunday afternoon. It is chaos! Not only would raising the speed limit be dangerous to the paddlers, swimmers, and leisurely boaters, but with higher speeds comes erosion to the shoreline. Deerfield Lake simply cannot handle to pressure of more speed on its pristine shores. I strongly oppose raising the speed limit in Deerfield Lake. Thank you for your consideration.

Kimberly Pehrson

Rapid City SD

Kimberlyspehrson@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no-wake rule on Deerfield Lake. It should remain a peaceful lake where people can recreate without fear of being run over by a boat or a boat ruining their fishing and the serenity of the lake.

Jesse Mayer

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Can't wait for it to pass.

Becky Drury

Rapid City SD

Beckyjdrury@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep Deerfield as a no wake lake. Seriously, it is about the only place one can kayak without being hit by a speeding boat.

Susan Campo

Rapid City SD

susanlucillecampo@yahoo.com

Comment:

I need a place to boat where it not a speed race. I like peace and some level of quiet on at least some lakes nearby. Do NOT end the trolling speed limit of 5 mph.

Ryan Anderson

Sioux Falls SD

Randerson8@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kim Olsen

Rapid City SD

Kmolsen80@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Shelli Brandli

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave this peaceful lake as it is. There aren't many places to go to get away from speed boats, etc. Thank you

---

Kellie Stover

Hot Springs SD

Kstover@planetmail.com

Comment:

Please dont ruin this lake. Stockade is ruined by motor boats³ and we dont need to make every lake like that.

Kailey Lindstrom

Milaca MN

Kaileylindstrom@gmail.com

Comment:

It is so peaceful with no wakes. Please do not allow it!

Misty Bruce

Rapid City SD

mbruce1995@gmail.com

Comment:

It's about the only small peaceful lake you can go to without the boats going as fast as they can. Please don't change the rule at Deerfield.

Vicki Hasart

Saint Lawrence SD

vichofer@yahoo.com

Comment:

Our family camps at Deerfield lake multiple times through the summer. We have done this for many years. We select this area for the peacefulness and a safe place to take out kayaks without worrying about being ran over. We are going to select another location if the no-wake zone is lifted. Most likely we will have to select a different state all together. There are limited lakes with trail system also in the area.

Arland Bruce

Rapid City SD

arlandbrucr95@gmail.com

Comment:

It's about the only small peaceful lake you can go to without the boats going as fast as they can. Please don't change the wake rule at Deerfield.

Kristy Gonyer

Hot Springs SD

gonyerk@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the proposal to removing the wake zone on Deerfield Lake. I think that it is important, especially in an area that has relatively few lakes, to protect some of the lakes for those who prefer to recreate without disruption of noise and/or concern for their safety while on the water. Angostura, Sheridan and Pactola already provide locations for those who which to recreate at a faster pace. The atmosphere at these lakes is completely different than the other quieter lakes, and not something that want to see expanded further. Please don't take away our peaceful lake!

Geriann Headrick

Pierre SD

glh1966@hotmail.com

Comment:

Having young children it is nice to have a safe place to reach them water sports and recreation without the worry of boats and jet-skis.

Scott Christiansen

Nahant SD

Scott2Ray@sbcglobal.net

Comment:

No fast boats on Deerfield lake.

Don Martin

Rochford SD

Donmartinent@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep the No Wake rule!!

Kim Curtis

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Susan Beeman

Spearfish SD

Blkhills72@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Carrie Wellee

Marion SD

Carrieweller1@gmail.com

Comment:

This will ruin that peaceful area of the hills! I kayaked on Sheridan and I was scared to death. We have a cabin near Deerfield and I pay dearly in property taxes. . We have a canoe And kayaks. No way would I ever let my teen sons kayak on there if it is motorized! Leave well enough alone ! Please! That lake is for peace, not to make a buck on speed recreation. Leave it to those who want to quietly and slowly enjoy it.

My late uncle, once saw a whole herd of elk swim the Deerfield reservoir. What a blessed thing to be fortunate enough to see! Do you think that would happen on a motorized lake? You would also be disturbing the elk herds patterns.

Marlene Einrem

Rapid Cith SD

marleneeinrem@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please leave a no wake on Deer Field Lake. Removing it will just make it another Angastora which it nothing more than a bunch of drunken boaters flying across the lake. Keep that garbage out of Deer Field Lake!!

Teri Malam

Minneapolis MN

terimalam@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Julie Bybee

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave the no wake policy in effect at Deerfield Lake as it ensures a more peaceful experience and is safer for paddle boarding and kayaking.

Heidi Long-Lind

Hill City SD

heidi_lind@yahoo.com

Comment:

This is one of the last peaceful lakes left in the Hills. There are plenty of other lakes that noisy speeding boats can use. This is one of our favorite lakes because of its no wake rule. PLEASE keep it that way!

John Long

Hill City SD

john.long@kw.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake rule at Deerfield there are plenty of other lakes that the noisy speed boats can tear around. Deerfield is nice because it is peaceful and quiet and you can paddle and swim without dying.

Kevin Dorsman

Rapid City SD

Kevin.dorsman@k12.sd.us

Comment:

Deerfield lake should remain peaceful and free from loud, noisy boat enthusiasts. Preserving a serene lake is a necessity and makes little sense when there are plenty of other lakes all withing 30 minutes or so. Keep it as is for future generations and their ability to relax and enjoy the lake.

Elliott Warshaw

Rapid City SD

ewarshaw@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not abandon one of the last peaceful lakes in the area. It will ruin the atmosphere for fishing and peaceful gatherings.

Jeremy Garoutte

Sundance WY

Jrock750r@yahoo.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose this it is such a nice peaceful lake why ruin it

---

Teanna Aduddell

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave the no wake rule. It's really nice to have a SAFE place to take Kayaks/paddleboards and not have to worry about being run over by a boater who isnt paying attention or be tipped over

---

Amy Garoutte

Sundance WY

beautifysundance@yahoo.com

Comment:

As someone who's camped at Deerfield lake, I think the quiet calm atmosphere IS the draw.

Ty Brown

Rapid City SD

tabrown2013@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Neddie Hayes

Box Elder SD

Neddiehayes@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not remove the no wake lake. It's so nice to be able to go somewhere that's not a party on the water like Angostura. This nice, quiet, peaceful lake is my favorite in the area!

Debbie Muller

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Chris Moser

Rapid City SD

Moser_c1@hotmail.com

Comment:

I'd like to see this lake kept quiet and peaceful. Leave it alone. It is nice to go there and not have speedboats, jet skis and such cruising all over. There are other lakes that they can already do that at.

Jacob Krueger

Spearfish SD

Comment:

Deer Lake needs to remain no wake, to be one of the only peaceful lakes in the hills.

Hillary Lutter

Piedmont SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Janet Lindsey

Black Hawk SD

sdski4fun@aol.com

Comment:

PLEASE NO!! This is the only decent size lake to be able to paddle and not worry about getting swamped or run down by motor boats. Who's going to be out there every day to check speeds?????

Kathy Scott

Rapid City SD

chattykathywithak@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Augusta Mcmillin

Kadoka SD

Comment:

I support the standing of the no-wake rule.

Barbara Iwan

Rapid City SD

Biwan@outlook.com

Comment:

Do not ruin Deerfield. Keep the NO WAKE

Trenton Ellis

Spearfish SD

trenton.ellis1@gmail.com

Comment:

It's completely reasonable to leave this alone. If people wish to boat in this manner, then they have options in the Hills - e.g. Angostura, Pactola. This is one of the last larger lakes that has retained it's peace. We don't need Whitesnake blaring jet boats at Deerfield. Please. If it ain't broke...

Lisa Hanson

Brookings SD

lisamhanson14@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the Deerfield no wake zone.

Jill Lindstrom

Milaca MN

younglivingjill@gmail.com

Comment:

Taking away the no wake zone would devistate this lake. We spend the summer at deer field.

James Harens

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Maggie Melanson

Rapid City SD

maggiemelanson@msn.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brad Jones

Newcastle WY

Bradjones888@rtconnect.net

Comment:

I absolutely oppose removing the no wake law at Deerfield! There are gods plenty (read: almost all of them) lakes for the fast boats. Please keep Deerfield as it is for those of us who enjoy a calm, quiet experience.

Judie Stratman

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Amber Lenz

Moose Lake MN

Amber.lenz@hotmail.com

Comment:

It is a peaceful, beautiful area that I love to spend time at. Lifting then No-wake is just going to wreck the peacefulness of the lake by bringing big boats in going way to fast!

Robert Rowles

Rapid City SD

bobr549@yahoo.com

Comment:

I wholeheartedly oppose the removal of the no wake restriction on Deerfield. This lake is the only large lake in the hills that is quiet and peaceful enough to enjoy a day of fishing or kayaking on without being buzzed by bigger boats. There is no reason at all to allow 25 mph speeds on this lake.

Wade Wierenga

Hermosa SD

Wadewierenga@hotmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jaycee May

Eagle Butte SD

Jaycee.may.2012@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not switch this lake

Alexander Levy

Summerset SD

levyalex8500@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake a no wake lake.

Mark Friedel

Spearfish SD

Comment:

Please leave it is.

Kari Marlow

Watertown SD

Pckari2@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Devin Dennis

Piedmont SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Dusty Swanson

Rapid City SD

motorman2010@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not remove the no-wake from Deerfield Lake

Rex Caldwell

Rapid City SD

Rex@midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield lake has been a no wake to preserve the pristine environment and help with erosion of the banks. I have fished Deerfield for 44 years and was just there May 12, 2019. It's the nicest lake in the Black Hills just like it is. Please don't change anything about it.

Mickayla Willison

Rapid City SD

Mickayla.willison@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep this lake a peaceful lake. We need a place that is big enough to not be done kayaking or canoeing within an hour because it's to small. Deerfield is that lake and speed boats and large waves would make it difficult to enjoy a full day out.

Justin Herreman

Rapid City SD

Llamakeeper@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Reservoir is a gem of a lake and a very special and unique location. Changing the rules will damage the aesthetic and value of this lake in an irreparable manner. There are many large lakes in The Black Hills where motors and wakes are allowed and this is the only large lake where no wake rules apply and motor noise is not prevalent during the summer. Please do not change this rule.

Andra Swanson

Hill City SD

Andraswanson@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Nicole Skouge

Vale SD

Nskouge@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake restriction on Deerfield lake. It is one of the last lakes in this region where we can actually get a little bit of peace and quiet and enjoy kayaking or canoeing without the danger of speed boats and skiers racing around causing trouble. We all know that that creates a dangerous situation as we have seen by all of the injuries that have happened on lakes like Pactola and Angostura. The speed motors and skiers have plenty of other opportunities to enjoy what they like to do so please allow us to enjoy what we like to do

---

Kim Goldsberry

Hill City SD

kimbogoldsberry@gmail.com

Comment:

Are you crazy....be still..... lake....

Alex Ingalls

Rapid City SD

Alexingalls09@icloud.com

Comment:

We need to stop giving all our lakes away to the boaters. It’s already difficult finding good fishing spots and places to just relax with boats on the other lakes. Keep the wake zone in place

---

Brandi Ferguson

Rapid City SD

Brandi-renae7787@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Mary Fletcher

Rapid City SD

Mfletcher.srf@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jennifer Neubert

Hill City SD

Jennneubert@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Melanie Bond

Lead SD

bond9031@hotmail.con

Comment:

This is the last good-size lake in the Black Hills that I can kayak on and not have to worry about getting hit by big wake. They have Pactola, Sheridan, Orman and Angostura to go fast on.

Nicole Young

Pierre SD

Nicole.f.young15@gmail.com

Comment:

This is the peaceful family getaway in the state because it is a no wake lake. Please preserve this treasure!!!! There are plenty of other lakes to go fast on. Don't change it for the sake of those wanting quiet family getaways and great mountain fishing

---

Alexa Voorhees

Hill City SD

arvoorhees@live.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is one of the only lakes in this area with no wake. It is surrounded by forest service and cow permits, and this change would bring in an increased amount of traffic that this area cannot support.

Nicole Knuppe

Rapid City SD

Nicoleknuppe@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Priscilla Engen

Custer SD

pengen@ goldenwest.net

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield Lake a No Wake Lake. I enjoy canoeing and fishing there because it's so peaceful there, there are eagles there that come back every Fall, there are also mink there and wading birds. It's an ecosystem that should not be disturbed.

Sean Larson

Rapid City SD

sean.larson@mines.sdsmt.edu

Comment:

Dont remove the no wake rules on Deerfield Lake, plenty of other lakes for people to go speed around on

Renae Schaeffer

Belle Fourche SD

rsschaef@q.con

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lily Zahor

Spearfish SD

zahorlil@gmail.com

Comment:

A no-wake rule provides a safe environment for paddle boarding , canoeing, kayaking, etc. There are plenty of other places to go if you want high speed with your motor boats.

David Randolph

Rapid City SD

dv.rando@gmail.com

Comment:

Plenty other lakes for that .

Nick Ferguson

Rapid City SD

Nfergusonick@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Deb Kavanaugh

Rapid City SD

dannak2@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jordan Skiles

Hill City SD

jordan.skiles1993@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brad Baker

Hermosa SD

Brdbkr79@gmail.com

Comment:

Removing the no wake restrictions will allow wakeboard/wake surf boats to ruin fishing on yet another lake. They are a danger to small fishing boats, kayaks and paddle boarders. Deerfield is the last safe place we have to enjoy fishing and other recreational activities without fear of being run over by a huge wake.

David Swank

Rapid City SD

David.t.swank@gmail.com

Comment:

There are relatively few bodies of water in South Dakota that provide the serenity that Deerfield Lake provides. Several other large bodies of water - Angostura, Pactola, and Sheridan, just to name a few - already exist for the enjoyment of motorized boaters. Leave Deerfield as the lone haven from the incessant buzz of motorized watercraft.

Taylor Angel

Rapid City SD

T.nielsen0115@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Erica Van Pelt

Piedmont SD

Ericadvp@yahoo.com

Comment:

PLEASE keep Deer Field a NO WAKE lake.

Wayne Booze

Hartford SD

wbooze@gmail.com

Comment:

I've been going to Deerfield Reservoir since I was a kid. It's an amazingly peaceful place where I now can take my children to truly enjoy the wonders of our great Black Hills.

It's a place where I can rejuvenate and get away from the world.

Removing the no-wake restriction means it will be one more place for people to bring personal watercraft, glitter rockets, and other unsavory activity.

The Black Hills has Sheridan and Pactola where people can play.

Deerfield is for fishing. It's for peace and quiet. For primitive campsites, not racing motors.

Don't ruin Deerfield.

Michelle Hobart

Hill City SD

Michellesabino66@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep it peaceful, it's one of the last places that is!!

George Rehberg

Rapid City SD

grehberg5@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Please keep no wake rule - it is one of few lakes to enjoy, without competition from high traffic and motors. Stocking walleye in Deerfield and or Pactola would be something I would support.

Taylor Reber

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jessica Hessler

Rapid City SD

Myfriendinsd@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep this beautiful gem serene! Deerfield is one of the few lakes where you can still see wildlife around the lake trail. Fishing is great. Kayaking is perfect. Let the motorized boats zip around Pactola, Angostura and Sheridan

---

Stacy Smith

Rapid City SD

ssycats@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield as a no-wake lake.
As a kayaker, it is nice to be able to go to one lake in the hills and not get run over by speeding boats and jet skis.
Also love seeing the nesting eagles there and enjoy the peace and quite the lake had to offer.

Candy Allen

Hill City SD

candyclaire1960@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake a no wake lake. People with boats who want to ski and pull a tube have other lakes in the area to do that on. I appreciate the fact that Deerfield is a no wake lake. It is very peaceful to kayak or canoe on, and my friends and I don't have to worry about being swamped because of a boat. If I wanted to worry about being swamped, I'd kayak on Sheridan or Pactola lakes. Deerfield is also a beautiful lake to sit and watch the eagles fish. Please keep it a no wake lake.

Chris Matusiak

Blackhawk SD

Chrismppl@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Anna Quinn

Rapid City SD

Anna.e.quinn@hotmail.com

Comment:

There are so few places left in the hills that aren't ruined by drinking, noise, speed and rudeness. There is nothing wrong with allowing the hills to be the serene and peaceful place it was meant to be. Please do not allow wake at Deerfield. Give the hills back it's peace. Please.

Kristin Stephenson

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no wake law from Deerfield Lake. This is the only peaceful lake in the hills that is safe for canoeing and kayaking. Also it will disturb the great fishing.

Karl Stephenson

Rapid City SD

Karlstephenson@gmail.com

Comment:

Please don't remove the wake limits on Deerfield. It nice having a peaceful lake that you can fish from a small water craft and not have to worry about larger boats making large wake. Ive always enjoyed fishing and camping at this lake because it's so peaceful without bigger boats making tons of noise.

Tracy Anderson

Hill City SD

tracyleeanderson@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose removing the No-Wake restriction. I believe the 5 MPH speed limit should remain in place. Damage to shorelines can occur with higher speed limits.

Thayer Ronfeldt

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Thea Mccracken

Rapid City SD

Theadavis4@aol.com

Comment:

I believe that it would be cruel to the locals to remove the no wake rule. I have spent many hours on the lake in my kayak, and would be completely terrified if this rule were removed.

Patrick Brown

Kadoka SD

Patrickjamesbrown123@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jessica Oliveto

Rapid City SD

Advo.jess49@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep no wake at Deerfield in place

Richard Teeslink

Rapid City SD

dteeslink@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a favorite for so many people that want to enjoy peace and quiet. I won't even go to Pactola or Sheridan due to the stupid and noisy.

Joel Shoop

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jordan Hannon

Rapid City SD

jayhawkducks@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake rule! This is my favorite lake to fish because of the peace that comes with it and the eagles that fish along side you!

Cory Neubert
Hill City SD
Epiphine100.cn@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Cassidy Downen
Rapid City SD
ctrupe08@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jason Wright
Rapid City SD
jaydub076@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Phil Uecket

Hill City SD

Theueckers@gmail.com

Comment:

I agree with the position of the Black Hills Paddlers stayed here:

Dear Game Fish and Parks Commission:

We the 600+ members of the Black Hills Paddlers are writing this letter in opposition of the plan to remove the no wake restriction on Deerfield Reservoir. We are a regional organization of paddlesports enthusiasts in the Black Hills Region. We are composed of members who enjoy canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding and other human powered water sports. Many of our members enjoy fishing from our paddlecraft.

Deerfield Reservoir is the largest lake in the Black Hills where people can enjoy recreational opportunities without fear of boat wakes and without the noise of loud boat motors. There are plenty or other lakes in the region (Pactola Reservoir, Sheridan Lake, Angostura Reservoir, Stockade Lake) that are large and where motor sports enthusiasts can enjoy their recreational opportunities.

We the majority members of The Black Hills Paddlers feel it would be a disservice to the Black Hills outdoor recreation community and the tourism industry to change the atmosphere of this gem of a lake. We have assisted in Triathlons at this lake in the past and this venue was chosen because of the lack of motorized boat wakes.

We respect the rights of motorized boats and many of us are owners of motorized watercraft. Deerfield reservoir is also a haven for wildlife including nesting eagles and we believe this change will negatively impact this wildlife in multiple ways. We respectfully request this change not be made and the solitude and uniqueness of Deerfield Reservoir be preserved for the enjoyment of all South Dakotans.

Regards,

Justin Herreman - Vice President
Stacy Smith - Secretary & Treasurer
600+ additional members

Kiley Thorpe

Lincoln NE

Kileyann704@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is a beautiful and peaceful lake we visit when we travel!!

Bradley Allen

Black Hawk SD

brushfirebrad@gmail.com

Comment:

The lifting of the no wake zone at Deerfield will have a negative impact for recreation in the Black Hills. Paddlers, non motorized boaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts will loose one of the last remaining lakes in the Black Hills to enjoy a peaceful lake. There are several other larger lakes which already allow wakes and motorized boats that are much more condusive to the activity.

Chad Ronish

Hill City SD

Cronish88@gmail.com

Comment:

The lake is too small for high speed water craft. There will be a safety issue with high speed water craft in with all of th traditional low speed craft and activities.

Sheri Henry

Keystone SD

HalleysHouse@aol.com

Comment:

I oppose changing Deerfield Lake from a no wake lake.

Melissa Leuning

Stewartville MN

Msleuning@yahoo.com

Comment:

We own a cabin in the Black Hills and enjoy the peaceful attributes of spending time out there. There are plenty of option for folks who want to use their boats. It sounds like Deerfield is the last option for people who don't want to be around jet skis etc. Let's keep that one option for families who want to stay away from that activity.

Vicki Alexander

Rockerville SD

Ruvicki2003@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep this lake a no wake rule. Its one of the last peaceful lakes around. Plenty wildlife, a wonderful place for peace n quiet!

Randy Hartley

Rapid City SD

randy.hartley@state.sd.us

Comment:

As an avid kayaker Deerfield Lake is one of the few lakes, and the only large lake, in the Black Hills where you can kayak, fish, and enjoy being on the water without a constant stream of boats churning up the water. Fairness applies to all and not at the expense of the few. There is no reason to change the no wake rule. There are more than enough lakes for boating and providing them another one because they've over crowded or abused the existing boating lakes comes solely at the expense of others. It's fine the way it is.

Stephanie Lindsleh

Rapid City SD

Stephanie.lindsley@hotmail.com

Comment:

Allowing motorzed boats to have a wake on Deerfield lake will completely change the function of the lake. It is not necessary, as there are many other options for motorized boats at higher speeds in the area. Please leave Deerfield Lake as it is and a safe/peaceful option for the people who use it for the many non motorized summer activities.

Roy Hollon

Hill City SD

Comment:

oppose

Janice Helgeson

Rapid City SD

gerberdaisy202@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep Deerfield Lake a no wake!

Robert C Carr

Lead SD

leadh2o@hotmail.com

Comment:

This lake in the high mountains of the northern black hills is a place to camp and have perfect peace and quiet. There is no logical reason to change the classification. It would damage the shorelines and destroy the peace we all seek in this life. Dearfield is listed as a Pristene Kayaking lake in the South Dakota magazine, and is becoming more popular all the time for kayaking and paddle boards with the no wake classification.

Sharlene Chastain

Rapid City SD

Sharlene.chastain@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield a no wake area. Thank you.

Matea Hunsaker

Rapid City SD

matealexander@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is not just a place where the GFP collects money. It’s a place where humans and animals still have a peaceful environment. Removing the no wake status would not only hurt the atmosphere for humans but also for the cows that drink from that lake. The Canadian geese that come there and swim on the lake. The elk, deer and other sacred wild life depend on that lake. The country in Deerfield has already been taken over by atvs, please don’t let it be taken over by fast boats. There is ample opportunity in the hills to go drive your boat with a wake including Pactola, Sheridan and Angastora. Please do not take away the peacefulness and sustainability of Deerfield lake. For not only the humans that enjoy that kind of atmosphere but also for the animals and ranchers that depend on it.

Colton Medler

Rapid City SD

colton.medler@mines.sdsmt.edu

Comment:

Deerfield Reservoir should remain a no wake zone lake. Several other lakes in the Black Hills area have wake zones and they are unsafe for swimmers, kayakers, canoers, and people trying to stay away from boats.

James C Sorensen

Sioux Falls SD

Jcsorensen1937@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one lake we fish on. I want the shoreline to remain peaceful.

Ashley Luten

Hill City SD

aamcvey1374@gmail.com

Comment:

I grew up just miles from Deerfield lake and now live only about 8 miles from there now. By changing the lake from a no-wake to a wake allowed lake will greatly impact Deerfield Lake and the people that enjoy this lake. This lake is one of very few lake in the black hills that can be enjoyed because of it's peaceful nature. Paddle boarding, kayaking and just trolling around fishing would be greatly impacted by this proposed change. I am greatly against this proposal and hope to see this stopped.

Corinne Johnson

Kingston WA

CorinneJ33@live.com

Comment:

Deerfield is the only lake in the Hills that fishermen can go and not get run off the water by speed boats and jet skis. Please keep it that way. I realize I'm not a resident of SD, but I spend a large portion of summer there, and fishing at Deerfield is what I like to do.

Alex Cameron

Rapid City SD

a_cameron@outlook.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the lifting of the no wake restriction on Deerfield Reservior. This lake is a safe haven for small boats, fisherman, kayaks, and more. It is a go to destination to escape the summertime traffic of recreational boaters. A 25MPH speed limit would allow tubing, Skiing, Wakeboarding, pontoons, and the worst of them all wakesurfing. At a blazing 10MPH wakesurfers create 5 foot tall artificial waves in which they can actually surf with no tow rope. These wave destroy shorelines and everything that lives below them.

Take a look at these average speed for popular watersports:

Activity Boat Speed
Combo Skiing 25 mph
Slalom Skiing 19-36 mph
Shaped Skiing 20-30 mph
Wakeboarding 16-19 mph
Kneeboarding 16-19 mph
Barefooting 30-45 mph
Jump Skiing 24-35 mph
Ski Racing 60-130 mph
Trick Skiing 11-21 mph
Tubing 8-25 mph

There are more lakes in our area that offer boaters opportunities for watersports and recreational boating than there are for small boats, kayaks, fisherman. Please keep Deerfield a safehaven for natural habitat for the sake of preservation and conservation.

Joshua Sheets

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please do not remove the no wake zone rules for Deerfield lake.

David Booze

Black Hawk SD

Boozedmaverick6@aol.com

Comment:

Removing the "No Wake Restriction from Deerfield Lake" will adversely affect the peaceful serenity and safe watercraft operating environment that hundreds travel to Deerfield to enjoy. Allowing boaters and other watercraft to generate wakes will affect those fishing from kayaks, and other small vessels, plus boats trolling at slow speeds. The lake is insufficient in size to allow wake creating vessels to maneuver freely around the numerous people fishing and others enjoying the pleasure of just floating or kayaking around the lake. Additionally, the creation of wakes has an adverse on the shorelines creating erosion of soil and plants from the edges that will drift into the lake and settle to the bottom changing the nature of the lake. From a safety concern, although perhaps unintentional, skiers, speed boats, and jet ski and related vessels consistently under estimate the safe operating distance from slower moving vessels. In addition, the wake continues to travel well beyond the safety zone required for safe maneuvering by wake generating vessels around non-wake generating vessels.

Ken Fish

Custer SD

kenfish69@live.com

Comment:

oppose

Howard Schrier

Hill City SD

Schrierh@hotmail.com

Comment:

10 mph would be a sufficient change. Assistant Chief Hill City Fire Department. Have a nice day and good luck trying to satisfy everyone!??

Berniece Duprel

Sturgis SD

beany_d@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Stephanie Burleson

Hill City SD

stephburleson605@gmail.com

Comment:

This is one of the last big lakes around that is not over ran by speed boats and making it dangerous to those trying to relax and fish. Please don’t take the no wake from Deerfield lake.

Kari Kelting

Hill City SD

Kkelting63@gmail.com

Comment:

We've enjoyed the lake for over 20 years as a no-wake lake, please don't change it! It is so special....peaceful and quiet. We have a very small pontoon with a small electric motor and we bird watch and enjoy the beauty that is Deerfield.

Kaitlinn Verchio

Hill City SD

kaitlinn.verchio@hotmail.com

Comment:

Removing this rule would turn the peaceful lake into another Angostura. There's plenty of other lakes to rod boats up and down.

Gary Larson

Deadwood SD

glarson@sanfordlab.org

Comment:

This should stay as a fishing lake, as recreational boating would totally take over the lake if the No Wake Zone proposal passed. For Campers and fishermen that use the lake now, would be pretty much be ran off!

Jared Price

Rapid City SD

Manforhire12@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a place of Peace, a place where my friend passed away and I can go there to reminisce and be with him. Having people tearing it up with jet skiis and speed boats would be a tragedy in of itself.

Joe Leedom
Spearfish SD
jmleedom@sio.midco.net

Comment:

There needs to be a resource for those people that want canoe or kayak without fear of speedboats and jet ski.

Taryn Alexander
Hill City SD
Taryn.719@gmail.com

Comment:

I would like to keep Deerfield lake a no wake lake

Tiffany Carlson
Princeton SD

Comment:

Keep it the way it is!! So peaceful and relaxing

Karen Workman
Rapid City SD
Bhhiker68@gmail.com

Comment:

Oppose any change

Larry Cole
Newcastle WY
larryco@vcn.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake just as it is.

Gary Dahlin
Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

DC Trolling motors & small craft only should be alowed

Stephanie Weisenberger

Rapid City SD

stephanie.j.weisenberger@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep the no wake rule on Deerfield! It is very nice to have a quiet, peaceful place for those of us who enjoy paddling, fishing, etc.. All of the other lakes in the Black Hills allow wakes, so please let us keep one that doesn't and that can remain peaceful. I also worry about the eagles that like to nest there. If suddenly there's a lot of noise they may not want to return in the future. I know a lot of us love seeing them out there. Again, please keep the no wake rule.

Allen Gross

Rapid City SD

allengrosz@gmail.com

Comment:

This change would devastate what we love and have grown to cherish about Deerfield. I fly fish and kayak and would no longer be able to spend a whole day of my sport because of disruption caused by wake boats (10 mph) and jet skis who in the past at Pactola have run over my fly line.
Thank You

Sarah Hyde

Box Elder SD

Sarah01@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake should stay wake free

Natasha Welch-Gerbracht

Hill City SD

Comment:

oppose

Mike Sunich

Lead SD

MSunich@sanfordlab.org

Comment:

I can't believe you would even consider a speed increase for Deerfield. It is the only body of water left in the Black Hills with a no wake restriction. Deerfield is also a prime nesting area for the bald eagle as we all know. The introduction of the Lake Trout has improved the quality of fishing at Deerfield significantly. Do the right thing and keep the no wake restriction in place. It is the right thing to do for our beautiful Black Hills.

Lisa Hoffer

Chamberlain SD

sweetlisah@yahoo.com

Comment:

I believe we need to let some things remain natural, peaceful, enjoyed as they were meant to be, wild!!!

Stephen Beals

Rapid City SD

sdsbeals@gmail.com

Comment:

Let's have one larger reservoir that has slow traffic on it to enjoy fishing and kayaking.Keep it no wake.

Shirley Cole

Newcastle WY

larryco@vcn.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a relaxing, quiet place to fish from shore or from non motorized watercraft and also for canoes, kayaks, paddle boards. Any of these without noise or wake from motor boats and jet skis. Please leave it as is.

Cheryl Pruett

Platte SD

Comment:

Please, please leave one lake in the Black Hills untouched by noisy motors and gas fumes.
This lake is the most pristine, peaceful lake where a person can truly enjoy nature. Whether sitting on the shore, fishing, kayaking, bird and animal watching, canoeing, camping or hiking, it's one of the few places left to enjoy nature without being disturbed by motors and wakes.(Not to mention the increase in garbage this will bring to the area.)
I enjoyed observing a mink "fishing" along the shore the last time I was there. I sat quietly in my kayak for a long time with no fear of a boat coming along to disturb us with noise or a wake.
The peaceful feeling of solitude you get while at Deerfield Lake is one of the most healing experiences you can find in the Black Hills.

There are many places for larger motorized boats, and so few for those who enjoy a quieter, slower pace. Please do not change it.

Thank you.

Thomas Cameron

White River SD

tcambosox@gmail .com

Comment:

Please do not increase the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. There are plenty of other lakes for higher speed recreation. If the speed limit is increased it will create serious safety issues.

Andrew Hentz

Spearfish SD

ahentz63@gmail.com

Comment:

Do not allow motorized boats on ANY lakes or other bodies of water in the Black Hills. Let them go to Keyhole Lake or Orman. We don't need the noise, stink and oil and gas in the Rivers, Creeks and Lakes from which I catch and eat fish. AT ALL. If you need some extra cash in your pockets don't be taking it from the powerboat market....get a job mowing lawns or something honest. Legal minds are watching folks.

George Eccarius

Rapid City SD

georgeeccarius@aol.com

Comment:

I am a 21 year old college student who grew up in the Black Hills, and I strongly oppose removing the "No Wake" regulation on Deerfield. Since I was little, Deerfield has been a special place for me and my dad. In fact, I caught my very first trout there. We always enjoyed it because of the peace & quiet, remoteness, and quality fishing. I am worried about losing that if speedboats and wakeboarders take over the lake. Throughout high school, I saved up money to buy a small fishing boat with a low HP motor--perfect for Deerfield. I also enjoy fishing Pactola and Angostura, but I am not able to fish these lakes Memorial Day-Labor Day because they turn into "party lakes", and the wake created by the bigger boats makes it hard to use my small boat and enjoy the fishing. That is fine, but Deerfield is the biggest lake in the hills with a no wake regulation. I understand there are plenty of lakes in the Hills where these larger boats don't go, but they don't have Lake Trout (my favorite species!). Deerfield is known as a remote, peaceful environment perfect for owners of small boats, shore fisherman, people camping, hikers, kayakers, etc. Please keep the lake how it is and thank you for all the GFP does.

Nancy Halbur

Custer SD

Comment:

People who kayak or canoe need to have some lakes of some size they can go to and not have to worry about the big boats and their waves.

David Krantz

Rapid City SD

db1551@rushmore.com

Comment:

Please leave it as it is. No need to increase speed limit. We have enough lakes to water ski & use for that kind of recreation. Thank You

---

Scott Eccarius

Rapid City SD

sgeccarius@gmail.com

Comment:

Probably the only major Black Hills lake with no wake, no cell service, no jet skis, no speed boats, etc..
PLEASE do NOT remove the 'No Wake" regulation; it's one of the things that makes Deerfield special.
Thank you for your consideration.
Scott Eccarius

Jilll Murphy

Spearfish SD

sjaemurphy@hotmail.com

Comment:

There are few places left in the Hills that are not commercialized. Deerfield lake is magical. Please leave it alone!

Vicki Koebernick

Rapid City SD

Drvickik@hotmail.com

Comment:

Keep Deerfield a no wake lake! There are plenty of more suitable lakes for high speed boating. Deerfield is one of the few lakes that you can kayak in peace without fear of being run over!

Valerie Gross

Rapid City SD

vsgross@midco.net

Comment:

I love to take my grandchildren fishing in our kayaks on Deerfield Lake and this would be lost with a change of the no wake currently in place. If you do not turn the kayak into the wake created by a wake boat it will flip your boat and this would not be a pleasant experience. Please help me continue to provide my family with a positive and an out door enjoyment that they would long for throughout their life.

Mare Davis

Rapid City SD

Comment:

You dont need motors on deerfield lake..leave it alone

Lisa Christensen

Rapid City SD

lisachristensen11@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake as a no wake lake. Allowing motor boats, speed boats and jetskis will disturb the most pristine fishing in our state. You will not find any fresher water in the state. Motorized boats will cause more pollution to this area. It is a special place to see bald eagles as you peacefully paddle the shores of Deerfield Lake.

Albert Dominguez

Rapid City SD

Alberto.dgz@hotmail.com

Comment:

support

Christy Dunn

Black Hawk SD

Cdunn0921@yahoo.com

Comment:

oppose

Roy Kugler

Broomfield CO

r_n_kugler@comcast.net

Comment:

Allowing speeds of up to 25 mph will ruin the tranquility of this lake.

Marian Alderman

Spearfish SD

Walderman@rushmore.com

Comment:

Leave the no wake regulation enforce at Deerfield lake.

Mike Smith

Rapid City SD

Mjconan@q.com

Comment:

If you have been in a kayak when a wake boat goes by, speed is not the issue. Its wake is huge, and not a good place to be for a beginner kayaker. There are plenty of other lakes for that, leave one for the rest of us.

Sarah Lemon

Rapid City SD

Skryslpac@gmail.com

Comment:

I am writing to oppose lifting the “No Wake” restriction at Deerfield lake for the following reasons:
1) it offers a home to paddle sport enthusiasts as a place away from the turbulence created by motor boats.
2) changing the lake attendance, noise, and traffic would alter the ecosystem of Deerfield Lake.
3) this lake is a sanctuary to recreationalists seeking a quieter lake experience. Not everyone enjoys the colorful, energetic noise of a motor boat turbulent lake. This place is a refuge to many and changing the speed of lake life here may be a turn off to a number of people; myself included.

I petition for you to keep Deerfield quiet. Thank you.

Chris Quail

Rapid City SD

Clquail1880@hotmail.com

Comment:

This lake is used by many kayakers, SUP'er, swimmers, and fishermen who appreciate the no wake rule. Hikers, birders, and enthusiasts enjoy the nature and true "quiet" of Deerfield without the noise and commotion. There are plenty lakes in the hills that allow wake. Please do not pass this.

Monte Rohrbach

Rapid City SD

obimonte@yahoo.com

Comment:

The Black Hills used to have so many beautiful, peaceful places to go. It is already overrun with noisy boats and UTV's. And not just engine noise. These people have their stereos cranked constantly with no regard to anyone else. Just trying to have a quiet paddle on Deerfield is already tough due to UTV's revving their engines for extended periods at the campground . These people have more than enough places to go already. Please preserve what is left. I do not support removing the no wake restriction on Deerfield.

Cyndie Hamilton

Rapid City SD

RCHAMFAM@AOL.COM

Comment:

Please do not make changes in the laws regarding motorized boats on Deerfield. I love this lake, as a kayaker, because of its beauty and size, serenity and peace. It's great to be able to go to a larger lake in the Hills and not have to be concerned about speed boats, and whether or not they see me. Thank you.

Paulette Kirby

Rapid City SD

Comment:

oppose

Dan Bjerke

Rapid City SD

dlbjerke@midco.net

Comment:

Please keep the existing no wake speed of 5mph

Amanda Wilson

Summerset SD

amanda_f_wilson@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not remove the no wake rule from Deerfield Lake

Timothy Glidden

Rapid City SD

gliddentimothyw@yahoo.com

Comment:

This is a wonderful lake to kayak and camp and relax. We DO NOT need boats cruising around making wakes and a ton of noise. Even with the 25mph limit the atmosphere and tranquility will be ruined. Boats have plenty of other lakes they can enjoy. LEAVE DEERFIELD THE WAY IT IS!!!

Rebecca Glidden

Rapid City SD

Comment:

oppose

Alice Allen

Custer SD

allens@gwtc.net

Comment:

I enjoy kayaking on Deerfield Lake. It is peaceful and a great opportunity to view wildlife or fish. I feel safe on the lake because Motorboats are limited to 5 mph. At 420 acres, this lake is not a large lake. Mr. Edel claims the lake is underutilized by boaters...that's OK because the folks who like to canoe, kayak, paddleboard, or floattube fish can safely use the lake at the same time as folks fishing from motorboats at trolling speed. The current management accommodates everyone very nicely. Keep it the same....no one fishes at 25 mph! Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Samuel Greear

Whitewood SD

sjg@blackhillstrails.org

Comment:

Recreation is an important staple for us in the Black Hills, and the opportunities provided at Deerfield are unlike any other lake in the region due to the no wake zone enforced on the lake. Lifting this restriction would be a mistake as it would lessen the diversity of options available to area residents and visitors. Non motorized outdoor experiences are a growing segment of the recreation economy. Unfortunately, GFP has failed to survey these uses in the past, and major economic impact reports from GFP have failed to include such users as those that utilize major facilities like the Mickelson trail and Deerfield Lake. All other lakes in the area support wake-producing uses, let's maintain the status quo at Deerfield and support this growing segment of our recreation economy.

Emily Nelson

Rapid City SD

Comment:

This is my favorite lake to fish at. Its so peaceful to fish at because there aren't huge wakes hitting the shoreline. Please keep Deerfield as a no wake lake!

Desmond Keller

Rapid City SD

Desikeller@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is really the last gem of lakes in the northern Black Hills an opportunity to go somewhere and not have to be ousted by loudspeakers engines etc. is the lure of the lake like Deerfield. To be able to go canoeing fish and enjoy the perfect beauty and serenity of the lake is far too scarce anymore. Please don't fix what's not broken.

Beth Rovere

Rapid City SD

roveres13@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Corey Lewis

Custer SD

coreylew303@yahoo.com

Comment:

The lake should remane no wake. Eagles and other wildlife would be impacted negatively.

Jacob Jackson

Spearfish SD

Jhjackson@vastbb.net

Comment:

Vehemently opposed. Please preserve some solitude and a decent place to kayak

Shirlene Haas

Rapid City SD

SHIRLENE.HAAS@GMAIL.COM

Comment:

Deerfield Lake provides unique recreation opportunities for those seeking a slower, quieter experience. Pactola and Sheridan Lakes are crowded, noisy places during the summer when both lakes are filled with boaters. In addition, there is an occupied bald eagle nest at Deerfield Lake. Loud boat engines would undoubtable disturb the nesting eagles. I STRONGLY oppose this petition!!

Jesse Lewton

Lead SD

Comment:

oppose

Michael Swenson

Storden MN

Comment:

Lifting the wake zone would create erosion on the lake shore. It's certain to lead to more emergency calls due to high speed accidents involving human powered vessels and drunk motor boaters.

Jeremiah Thomas

Hill City SD

Jthomas57745@gmail.com

Comment:

Many individuals recreate at Deerfield because of no wake. I have lived 5 miles from the lake for 18 years and over the recent years more and more fisherman, kayakers and paddle boarders are using the lake because it’s safe. I spend plenty of time on Pactola have observed many unsafe senarios. Also doubtful people would obey 25mph, plus the extra forces needed to enforce the speed limit. Please keep Deerfield quiet and safe.

Jon Fleming

Rapid City SD

Jon.g.fleming@gmail.com

Comment:

This is of the last truly peaceful settings in the hills and would be over run with fishing and sport boats if this is lifted.

Kayla Herbener

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Deerfield should NOT become a wake lake. This is our favorite spot to go as a family to kayak and fish because we feel safe, and we love the peace and quiet.

Crystal Kryza

Spearfish SD

Ckkryza@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please consider leaving Deerfeild lake as it is.
Part of the beauty, charm and use of this outstanding resource is that it is a no wake lake.
Please do not change a blessing like Deerfeild. It would not make it a better place nor would it be a healthy choice for this wonderful lake.
Thank you for considering my opposition and for taking the time to read my view on the idea.
Sincerely and hoping you choose the health of the lake,
Crystal Kryza

Donna Savage

Rapid City SD

Donna. Dakotayogi@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield peaceful and safe for non-motorized watercraft and the non-wake fishing community.

Gage Skillingstad

Hill City SD

Comment:

oppose

Shana Merchant

Rapid City SD

shanamerchant78@gmail.com

Comment:

I adamently and profusely object to changing Deerfield Lake from a no wake lake. There are plenty of other lakes in the hills that already allow this for those that choose to terrorize with thier speedboats, skiis and loud music. This is one of the few places that people can fly fish, kayak , paddle board, and float tube without the constant threat of some drunk running them over. We have used this lake exclusivley for the last 20 years for these reasons and more. There should be some refuge from all of the obnoxios people for those that truly enjoy nature and all it has to offer. If you change the speed limit to increase to more than 5 miles an hour I will make it my lifes mission to reverse it. There is no reason those folks can't go to one of the many other lakes that accomadate this. Why ruin one of the last best places in the hills?? A TERRIBLE IDEA!!!!

Max Merchant

Rapid City SD

thetroutdoctor@gmail.com

Comment:

This is the worst idea I have ever heard. There are plenty of other places people can go if they want to speed around the lake and terrorize everyone and everything. This is a nice quiet fishing lake where you are actauly safe to float tube and kayak without worrying about idiots running you over. It is a remote quiet location that will most definitly be ruined if this change is made? All it will do is attract more people than the area can handle and ruin it for everyone. Who is going to police the area and enforce all the regulations that should accompany such a change? Are you going to personally kayak with my children to guarantee their safety? As someone who uses this lake for more than 6 months out of the year I implore to not make these changes!!!

Jordan Purdy

Rapid City SD

Jpurdy1@yahoo.com

Comment:

What an amazing and peaceful lake. It would be ruined if it was no longer be a no wake lake. There aren’t many places left for kayakers where it is calm and also safe. Boats often go far too fast and too close to kayakers and other lake goers

---

Alexander Dickman

Deadwood SD

Stihl605@gmail.com

Comment:

With lakes like Pactola overrun with water sport boaters there is not many quiet places to fish, canoe, kayak etc left. Let’s keep this special place the sanctuary it is for these activities. The UTV’s have taken over the trail system, don’t give out last quiet lake away too!

Monte Martell

Rapid City SD

bhjeep@gmail.com

Comment:

Do not remove the no-wake.

Josh Whitford

Sturgis SD

Comment:

support

Milishs Stevens

Rapid City SD

Milishas@gmail.com

Comment:

There are very few lakes in our area that are no wake for those of us that fish or leisure kayak it's s great place. Please don't change the current 5mph max

---

Scott Swenson

Rapid City SD

jangoscott@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not do this. It's a horrible idea. Deerfield is the one Black Hills jem that is far enough away from the city and provides a pristine experience without the sounds of jet skis and wake boarding motors, not to mention their loud stereos blasting tunes for the skiers, wake boarders, and the rest of the world to hear. Sound will travel across the lake and disrupt the peace that currently exists there. This will disrupt the tranquility that we experience when we go there to get away from modern annoyances. Wakes slamming against the shorelines is not welcomed there. Canoes, paddle boards, shore fishing, and swimming is all that belongs there. Don't turn this lake into another Pactola, Sheridan, Angostora, or Orman. Winter travel on the lake should be plenty enough to satisfy the folks in need of motorized lake travel (status quo). Don't destroy this beautiful landscape for a few dollars in state pockets. This day and age of unnecessary motorized expansion needs to stop. This is ridiculous.

Mary Jewett

Hill City SD

MaryOrumJewett@aol.com

Comment:

oppose

Brian Stambaugh

Newell SD

brian@nmrpetrophysics.com

Comment:

Keep it as it is, 5 mph max, thank you

Ashley Holtquist

Spearfish SD

ash.holtquist@gmail.com

Comment:

Lifting the no wake restriction is an unnecessary action that would drastically alter the peace the lake offers. It is a calm and secluded lake that people use to get away from the activity of most recreational lakes. There are several lakes within the Black Hills that currently accommodate water sports so to preserve the diversity of the area I oppose this action.

Vernon Ross

Sturgis SD

vsross@vastbb.net

Comment:

Deerfield is the only lake in the Hills that a fisherman can go and not get run off the water by jet skis and speed boats. Please leave the no wake limit in place.

Steve Johnson

Kingston WA

steveandcori@comcast.net

Comment:

Please leave the limit in place, this is the only place in the Hills to fish without getting blown off the water by speed boats and jet skis. I spend my summers fishing at Deerfield even though I am from out of state.

Roxanne Evans

Rapid City SD

Roxanneevans69@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Jim Smoragiewicz

Rapid City SD

Comment:

We have plenty of other lakes in the Black Hills without this rule for people looking to go fast. Please keep the Deerfield Lake speed limit as is. We need a lake for people looking for recreation away from waves and noise. Thanks.

Mark Farrand

Rapid City SD

markfarrand@hotmail.com

Comment:

I am against any change of the no wake zone currently in effect. Deeefield is the only large tranquil body of water remaining in the Black Hills. In our society that is constantly barraged by noise and social media, I believe it would be a travesty to lose that place of aolititde. Thank you.

Nance Teal

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Keep speed limit on Deerfield Lake as is

Ryan Baskerville

Box Elder SD

rb5501@aol.com

Comment:

Would like to see the rules remain the same with a no wake speed. As a kayak owner, it is nice to have a lake where my wife and I do not have to worry about boats speeding by or worse being hit by someone not paying attention. With the amount of activity that goes on in the Black Hills during the summer, it is nice to have a place that is free of motorized sounds so you can enjoy nature.

Mary Floto

Raoid City SD

Comment:

oppose

Jennifer Wildeman

Rapid City SD

wildemanjenn@yahoo.com

Comment:

I have been fishing at Deerfield lake since I was a little girl. My grandparents would take us camping up there with all the cousins. We would enjoy fishing off the shoreline of Lake Deerfield. And into my 20s I would go fishing there all by myself, just bobber fishing off the shore. This was the only lake, other than Bismarck Lake, that I wasn't harassed by boaters as I fished from the shore. As a single young girl safety was important to me. Lakes like Pactola and Sheridan, if I went fishing there I would be harassed by older man in boats, who would constantly parked their boats by my bobber to try to get my attention. Deerfield lake was a safe haven to go and just fish. Now that I am married and have a family I feel that Deerfield is the same quiet lake it was when I was single. I now take my three children there enjoy our time fishing off the shores of Deerfield. Boaters do take from the peace and quietness of shore fishing. Please, please, do not change the no wake laws. I would like to enjoy the no wake Deerfield Lake with my grand children, as I did with my grandparents! I will respect your decision but I had to say something since I have spent decades fishing off the shore of Deerfield.

Colette Swan

Rapid City SD

Collieswan@yahoo.com

Comment:

There are plenty other lakes for the boats to go to
Deerfield is a nice peaceful place and great for kayaking and bank fishing. Please leave it alone and keep it peaceful.

Terrill Hovet

Rockerville SD

terrill.hovet@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. My family and I camp and fish Deerfield many times throughout the summer. The main reason is for the peace and quiet.

Lonny Kracht

Sturgis SD

lonzo@rushmore.com

Comment:

I am a life long (60 yrs) resident of the Black Hills. I grew up fishing this lake year round. I haven't fished Deerfield much in the last 30 years but last year in June I did take my two grand kids there to fish. We shore fished and during the day we saw only two boats go by and this was on a Saturday. I couldn't believe that on a Saturday we saw only two boats using this lake! I agree with the comments that this fishery is much under utilized. I think there is a much better change that could be made that would make Deerfield Lake more appealing to anglers and that is to stock a few walleyes in this lake instead of just trout. The reason my family and several of my friends stopped fishing this lake years ago is we like to fish for Walleyes and Trout rather than just Trout. In my opinion the best change that could be made to improve this fishery for everyone is to leave the "no-wake" regulation in place and to stock a few walleyes to appeal to more anglers. Deerfield is loaded with tiny rock bass, perch, and crawdads and I can't see how a healthy population of walleyes and trout couldn't co-exist like they do in Canada. I would love to return to fishing no-wake Deerfield if I knew there was the possibility of catching a walleye or two.
Thank-you

Ryan Scarborough

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave Deefield lake as a no wake lake. Plenty of other option exist for people to use high(er) speed boats in the black hills.

Barbara And Willie Hasart

St.Lawrence SD

bhasart@hur.midco.net

Comment:

We would like to keep the No Wake Zone as is-we enjoy the peace and quiet of the canoes Etc.

Herb Teal

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I would request that the no wake restriction on Deerfield Lake stay as is. Keep it peaceful and quiet.

Brett Forman

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I own both a Kayak and inboard boat. The hills need a larger lake that allows Kayaks and Canoes to be used without fear of collisions or Powerboats creating large wakes close by. There are enough lakes that allow wakes, Deerfield should not be one of them.

Maryanne Rohrer

Rapid City SD

m71746@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep the boating speed at Deerfield Lake to the current 5 mph limit. Deerfield Lake is one of the few - or maybe only- good sized lakes in western South Dakota where kayaking, canoeing, and other activities can be enjoyed without the worry and noise of faster traveling boats. Sadly, boaters who travel at higher rates of speed often have disregard for those who enjoy water recreation without motors and come too close to the non-motorized traffic thus threatening their safety. Deerfield Lake is one lake where South Dakota citizens can experience quiet and serenity without the fear of speeding boats upsetting their craft. I am not knowledgeable about motorized personal watercraft machines but fear that this would become a problem at Deerfield. It's location may make enforcement difficult. Please keep Deerfield as is. Thank you.

Brian Mettler

Spearfish SD

bsmettler@hotmail.com

Comment:

please, please, do not remove the no wake zone from deerfield lake, i am 51 years old and started camping at deerfield (specifically ditch creek) when i was only 6 months old and have been up there evey summer since camping/fishing and canoeing

this is the one lake that we can take our canoe and actually enjoy ourselves without the fear of being swamped by all the boats flying around

is it really that much of a difference when someone is up there in a boat enjoying the day fishing and they can make it from one end of the lake in 5 minutes instead of 20 i really don't see that as any kind of legitimate reason to ruin the lake with all the increased noise and wake, there needs to still be some places in this world a person can go and the sound of nature is what you hear

i beg you, please don't remove the no wake zone

thank you
brian mettler
spearfish

Jamie Mutter

Piedmont SD

jmutter78@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep Deerfeild Lake as a No Wake Zone.

Brett Sutton

Rapid City SD

Ustawasser@aol.com

Comment:

I agree “some of us want a place without mechanismization! This is a quiet, peaceful place of slow pace and relaxation. If it takes time to “motor”, row or paddle across so be it. Enjoy it, and let me enjoy it! Can there not be some place for us technotards.....

Bill Lewis

Rapid City SD

Blew777@msn.com

Comment:

Keep the no wake lake or it will become another Sheridan or angostura party lake and drive all fishermen out of the hills

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Sandra Burns

Rapid City SD

sandy@projectsolutionsinc.com

Comment:

As a kayaker, Deerfield is the only larger lake that we can be on past 11am without the noise, smell and noise from motorboats. The beauty and solitude is the best part of the lake. Please keep it quiet and calm for kayakers and hikers.

John Rozell

Hill City SD

jrozell@tsf.com

Comment:

Raising the speed to 25mph from 5mph will turn Deerfield Lake into a recreational lake. It is certainly possible to water ski at 25 mph or under. The 25 mph limit will attract bigger boats and jet skis. It would be a shame to allow this. john rozell

John Mitchell

Rapid SD

JSKMITCH@RAP.MIDCO.NET

Comment:

I spend a lot of time on Sheridan Lake and Pactola. Both of these lakes get so busy with Jet personal watercraft and speed boats pulling tubes that the lakes become busy to the point of danger. There is little point in trying to take a fishing boat onto Sheridan or Pactola from July 1 to mid August. Deerfield should keep the no wake limit to allow for fishing without the risk of getting run over or swamped by the high speed boats.

Kim Weyer

Rapid City SD

kim_weyer@yahoo.com

Comment:

The Black Hills have recently been inundated by 4 wheelers other utvs. There is not a space that I hike or ski where I don't hear the whine of motors and the earthly damage done by wheels. Please let Deerfield be a place where we can still go play and not deal with motors and chaos. Please.

Scott Gamo

Cheyenne WY

gamowolk@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield's current and longstanding no-wake restriction provides a different fishing atmosphere than other regional lakes. Having fished there for over 50 years I support maintaining the no-wake restriction. If it can be demonstrated that a higher speed limit such as 10mph also minimizes any wake then perhaps it could be raised to a bit higher than 5mph for a compromise.

Olen Chambers

Rapid City SD

ocnk@vastbb.net

Comment:

I have been a resident in in the Deerfield area since 1987 and love to fish this beautiful lake. I do not want to see no wake go away.

Gary Johnson

Rapid City SD

garyj@enetis.net

Comment:

Please, please do not remove the no-wake rule on Deerfield Lake. This is a beautiful and serene place in the Hills and should be kept that way.

Ryan Jennings

Spearfish SD

ryanjjennings@gmail.com

Comment:

I have spent time canoeing on Deerfield and enjoy the peace on the lake with the current 5mph limit.

Todd Pechota

Custer SD

Shelly.1219@icloud.com

Comment:

I am opposed to the proposal to remove the no wake zone. Enforcing a speed limit has increased costs that are not discussed. The lake is one place that tranquility still exists for paddlers and float tubers

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Larry Chilstrom

Rapid City SD

bhillselk@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose any change in the proposed speed limit for boats on Deerfield Lake.

Laurice Johnson

Rapid City SD

lalejo22@hotmail.com

Comment:

I totally oppose the new proposal to raise the boat speed from the current 5 mph to 25 mph on Deerfield Lake this action will destroy the beauty and tranquility of the lake and will ruin it for all the kayakers and canoers and shore fishermen young and old alike ,I think they can go to Sheridan Lake and Pactola and rip around if they want instead of ruining the one beautiful lake that is left, I would bet that if its changed the trout fishing would be gone in 2 years and the lake full of Pike!! Please leave this the way it is and always has been a Very Beautiful Lake !!

Marla Sebade

Rapid City SD

mksebade@vastbb.net

Comment:

Please DO NOT change the wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. We enjoy kayaking there!

Doug Dobesh

Spearfish SD

caldo5691@hotmail.com

Comment:

I certainly hope that common sense is the determining factor that is used to decide this issue. We have plenty of other opportunities in the Black Hills to have our senses assaulted by the noise and chaos that permeate our daily lives. I am convinced that there are people who aren`t happy unless they are making noise. Is it so offensive to have one oasis of peace and solitude for people to enjoy. No one has their right to access this lake infringed upon by having a no wake zone, but plenty of people would have their right to peace and quiet infringed upon if the No Wake Zone restriction is removed. Please do the right thing and LEAVE DEERFIELD THE WAY IT IS.

Thank you,
Doug Dobesh

Kari Marx

Hill City SD

Kmmarx27@gmail.com

Comment:

I support Deerfield being a no wake lake. Much more peaceful and so many people kayak and canoe. It should be no wake as it has always been.

Allen Heakin

Rapid City SD

Waterbuff1@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I have been an avid sportsman and outdoors person since moving to Rapid City in 1992 when I transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey's Water Resources office. I am increasingly concerned about changes in land-use for recreational vehicles and now I feel compelled to write you about the potential for changing the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. There are only a handful of lakes in western South Dakota where people can still enjoy our beautiful natural surroundings in peace and solitude. There are plenty of lakes where people can enjoy going fast on the water. Let's retain a few lakes for the people who enjoy the tranquility that Deerfield provides for residents and visitors alike.

Craig Oyler

Rapid City SD

Oyleroutdoors@hotmail.com

Comment:

The Black Hills offer a variety of opportunities for all of our outdoorsmen, and one of the opportunities is going to a quiet peaceful lake and not having to listen and deal with jet skis, surf boats, and the loud music. We only have one such opportunity for that, and it’s Deerfield lake. It would be a shame to take away the very reason why so many people go to Deerfield. There are plenty of lakes for the recreational boaters to go to, let us outdoorsmen keep just one for us to go to and fish in peace and quiet.

Gregory Johnson

Lead SD

wefish50@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please see that Deer Field lake remains a no wake zone. I am a long time fisherman and love to fish the lake just because of the peace and quiet. There are are lakes already available for the speedsters.

Mark Ruddeforth

Rapid City SD

mark@sheridanlakemarina.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose increasing the speed limit on Deerfield Lake from the current 5mph to the proposed 25mph. We should preserve one of the few remaining slow speed and/or non-motorized water recreation areas that remain in the state. There are more than enough lakes that allow unrestricted speeds and we should preserve Deerfield as a paddle sports destination lake.

Arlie Nelson

Newcastle WY

Comment:

We are frequent visitors at Deerfield and oppose raising the boat speed limit of 5 MPH. It is a beautiful lake as is and that would definitely change with the increase in boat speed. Please keep the serene, peaceful quiet of the lake!

Joel Petersen

Rapid City SD

joelpetersen61@gmail.com

Comment:

My family and I often enjoy the peace and calm of Deerfield Lake. We canoe/kayak, camp, hike, fish and birdwatch. I'm concerned that raising the speed limit would negatively impact all the activities we have enjoyed over the years.

When guest from out of state visit we take them to Deerfield they usually comment about how peaceful and relaxing the lake is.

Deerfield Lake is perfect as is, please don't raise the speed limit.

Robbi Buller

Parker SD

rbuller@iw.net

Comment:

There’s plenty of recreational opportunities in the Hills . Deerfield is a quiet precious resource . There needs to be a place protected from noise and speed . Deerfield is a sanctuary for those seeking quiet and solitude . Please keep it that way !

Raymond Gellerman

Cust SD

jannrayg@gwtc.net

Comment:

PLEASE LEAVE Deerfield Lake as a no-wake lake. We do not need the noise nor speed of motorboats ruining the peacefulness of this beautiful lake. My wife and I appreciate being able to kayak here without having to deal with thew wakes from motor boats.

Bruce Evans

Rapid City SD

bse36@hotmail.com

Comment:

I've lived in the Hills area for 36 years and Deerfield is where I go to hike, fish and boat when I want peace and quiet. Ken Edel should not be allowed to influence a rule change simply because he wants to fly around the lake using electronics to locate fish. He needs to slow down and have some respect for those of us who appreciate the lack of wakes and motor noise unique to Deerfield. Finally, I own a boat and it does not take "25 minutes" to get anywhere on Deerfield, that is a gross exaggeration in my opinion.

Michael Stoner

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I strongly oppose changing Deerfield’s no wake rule. We go to Deerfield often because it is a no wake lake and is a safe, peaceful area to fish and canoe.

Eric Reisenweber

Sioux Falls SD

Ereiser13@hotmail.com

Comment:

As an avid outdoorsman, I relish the peace and quiet while enjoying both hunting and fishing. Deerfield is an awesome example of a great lake that one can enjoy a day of relaxation on the water. I ask that you strongly consider leaving the 5mph speed limit on the lake.

Kelli Shaw

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Most lakes are already fine for boaters, Deerfield will become a party spot due to its remote location. We have a large community of people who value the few quiet lakes we still have.

James Theis

Rapid City SD

wjtjm@centurylink.net

Comment:

This is a ridiculous proposal for a beautiful, serene lake that EVERYONE I know personally wants to stay as such. If anyone can't travel fast enough on Deerfield, they can boat elsewhere!

Craig Mickelson

Spearfish SD

Comment:

I strongly Oppose the proposal to eliminate the no wake rules at Deerfield. I am a 66 yr. old fisherman and appreciate having a calm fishable lake with no waves destroying shoreline and creating unneeded noise. I would love to leave it as is.

Bruce Gefvert

Spearfish SD

mileaminute@live.com

Comment:

A goal of our state parks should be to address the wide range of most common interests held by our state's residents. Adequate provisions are already in place for recreational boating. Appropriating an elite lake for no wake traffic is imperative. Recreational motor boating infringes on wildlife and those who prefer a more natural environment. Please leave Deerfield a no wake lake. As a user of the BWCA, I know this is not an easy call, but its a call we need to make. Thank you

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Craig Mickelson

Spearfish SD

Comment:

I am not sure if I have the correct agency to comment to but I strongly oppose a proposal to lift the no wake zone at Orman Dam. We are already seeing shoreline deteriorating and it is not funj to sit in a violently rocking fishing boat or kayak and try to fish.