

Public Comments

Other

Jim Shurts

Madision WI

Position: other

Comment:

Thank you for sharing the Tourism/GFP marketing plan; the proposed marketing plan looks good. Increasing hunter numbers is very important for many reasons and is a problem nation-wide. I am one of those traditionalists, though it seems I've aged out of the listed age group. :-) I am concerned, however, with the decision to discontinue the annual brood count. It may not be used to manage pheasant populations or to set the season structure and bag limits, but it does provide important information to out-of-state hunters like me. Poor brood counts factor in to whether or not my hunting partner (who lives in Massachusetts) and I will make the trip. He and I have certainly long reached the point in our hunting lives where the number of birds bagged is low on the list defining success. But that being said we do want to know that putting in our efforts of walking/hunting the land with the dogs will have a good chance of putting up birds. Brood counts is one of the pieces of information we use to determine that. Obviously weather and the price of ethanol corn are major factors in pheasant populations, and those don't need brood counts to be ascertained. But we still like our brood counts.

Thanks for listening and stay well.

Greg Compson

Sioux Falls SD

Position: other

Comment:

In response to the news story that pheasant numbers will no longer be released, one has to wonder why. I know why. I have been hunting and fishing in South Dakota since the late 60's. The last 10 or more years have been dismal for your average pheasant hunter in South Dakota. As well as waterfowling. Habitat is mostly gone. Commercial hunting is now the norm. Average folks cannot afford booked hunting trips. Permission to access private land is hard to come by. Land owners are looking to maximise their incomes from guided hunts. I can't blame them for that. However, public lands are vast in some cases prohibiting reasonable access unless you are young and fit for major trekking. Others are so small that there is no point putting in an effort. Young people have little or no interest in hunting. Political correctness, lack of parental enthusiasm, cost, are surely the demise of this great sport. How sad. The experiences my dad and I had, along with those times I enjoyed with my sons and family are distant memories. Times are changing I guess. Ditches are mowed down, land is tilled and planted from fenceline to fenceline. Rural folks give you the stink eye or confront you when trying to hunt right of ways. Who needs it? It's pretty much a big hassle hunting anymore. It's done for the average guy in my opinion.

William Miller

Brandon SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I would like to write in opposition to the ban on the use of high power rifles to hunt spring, west river turkey on private land. Since the last fatal incident was in 1999 in the black hills and not on the wide open prairie it would seem you're trying to fix something that isn't broken. As a senior citizen I have appreciated the commission's efforts to make hunting more pleasurable for us. Two rulings come to mind. Allowing lighted sight pins on bows and lowering the poundage to hunt big game to 30lbs. Reinstating the use of high power rifles would be another way to increase success when hunting west river turkeys on private land. A sentence in red on the license application reminding hunters to be sure of their target would go a long way toward promoting safety. Please reconsider your ban on the use of high power rifles to hunt west river turkey on private land.

Randy Thaler

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

I would like my free access permit to the Missouri River also. As a resident of Charles Mix County which Yankton Sioux Tribal Members are residents of also, I do not have access to the Missouri River and should not have to purchase a permit to use the boat ramps. Actually the Tribe has more access than I as they own land that borders the river and could put in their own boat ramp.

Jennifer Swanson

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am very opposed to the nest predator bounty program. What is going to control the pests that these animals naturally control, i.e. wood ticks..?

Ethel Cournoyer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the approval to waive the required pass for members of the Yankton Sioux Tribe around the area of the Fort Randall Dam. The river is necessary to Indigenous culture and wellbeing in all areas.

Gregg Yonkovich

Aberdeen SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Extremely disappointed to learn GF&P is discontinuing brood survey's. We've consistently had this data for nearly 100 years, and now we've decided to stop? I'd understand if it were a budgetary issue, but we're stopping because we don't want people to know if bird numbers are down? Instead we're intending to hope folks come to our State with no information, and hope they aren't pissed if they don't find birds? Also, how will we know if habitat and other programs are making a difference? If you're relying on hunter surveys, you're making a huge mistake. Please consider reinstating the brood survey, and figure out a better way to disseminate the information.

Use of Parks and Public lands

Irene Provost

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I think this will be a great opportunity for everyone.

Michael Holly

Belden NE

Position: oppose

Comment:

You need to open the area below Gavins Point dam to non resident archery paddlefish i.e. the same are all others get to use. The few non resident tags that you do give out surely are not going to be detrimental to the fishery. I will no longer apply for an archery tag in SD, because during "normal" summer flow your area open to archers is almost void of paddlefish. I would like to hear the reasoning behind you closing this area.

Valerie Habben

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

Yankton Sioux tribal members should b waived fees and fort Randall dam rec areas in my opinion. Thank you

Dawn Hope

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

Yankton Sioux Tribal member

Gayle Hayward

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I'm in full support of members of the Yankton Sioux Tribe being able to access the parks without paying admission.

Kip Spotted Eagle

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

My name is Kip Spotted Eagle and I am in support of the State of South Dakota adhering to the 1851 and 1858 treaties between the Yankton Sioux and the United States Government. Our people never gave up their treaty rights to the use of the River. I believe other tribes exercise There usufructuary fishing and hunting rights as well as uninhibited access to the rivers. Please understand the Tribes are nations that do not need you to recognize their rights to the river but to adhere to the treaty rights we are promised.

Greg Hayward

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the proposal for YST members to have free access to the river through the parks.

Jason Dion

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I think we as a sovereign nation should have free camping

Spiritdreamer French

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.