

# Public Comments

## Fall Turkey

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**Aaron Punt**

**Armour SD**

**Position:** other

**Comment:**

There should not be a fall turkey season with the numbers as low as they are...especially in the black hills

## Other

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**Andy Vandel**

**Pierre SD**

**Position:** other

**Comment:**

I support changing the spring turkey shotgun season opening day to the 3rd Saturday in April. I oppose doing the same for archery. I would support shifting both seasons one week later making the archery opener the 2nd Saturday. This will continue to give archery hunters an additional weekend while also keeping the harvest on mature gobblers low until later in April like the research recommends. This will be a good compromise to Dr. Lehman's recommendations.

Thanks,

Andy Vandel  
Pierre, SD

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**L Anderson**

**Rapid City SD**

**Position:** other

**Comment:**

I feel it is discrimination that only disabled Vets with 100% disability can receive a Lifetime Pass to Custer State Park. ??

My husband served our country and WAS injured!! IT SHOULD BE ALL VETS!! Shame that it isn't!! He's a injured VET

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**Tom Melick**

**Sioux Falls SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

Starting a turkey season that late in the Black Hills is poor thinking. Based on your studies your using is like comparing apple tree blossoms in Alabama to South Dakota. First of all weather is the biggest factor we can and will get snow in the hills and South Dakota in April and May. 2022 a tom turkey was shot April 10 they were very active strutting and we saw young and old birds active. Snow came into the hills that day. If your making the season shorter WHY? Revenue is revenue when there are unlimited tags. If your looking at population increases cut back on tags. GFP is in a funk right now get the website fixed so a 12 year old and a 62 year old can apply for a tag. Make small changes to seasons that need it. When George W. Bush was Governor of Texas he got a ticket for possession of too small of a bass. He crossed the county line on the same lake had a different bass size. He paid his fine but overhauled the GFP department and got simple rules and seasons to follow not based on another states findings 1000 miles away.

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**Darvin Dickhaut**

**Redfield SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

I strongly oppose the closing of cottonwood lake that Robert Rober is suggesting. It's a great recreation lake that a lot of people use. It's a great fishery. Thank you for listening. Darvin Dickhaut

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**Scott Olson**

**Mission Hill SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

Spring Turkey proposal dates for Black Hills and CSP are too late. Some of the best gobbling and hunting is two weeks prior to the proposed opening date. Leave the season dates correspondingly the way they were the last several years. I'm an archery hunter. We don't need an earlier start date, and let us hunt with a crossbow.

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**Lisa Hagemann**

**Mission Hill SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

In the July 2022 Commission Meeting a proposal was brought forth to modify the Turkey season by decreasing it by one week. The reasoning behind this is supported by low reproduction levels in the Black Hills. The comments at the bottom of the proposal state, "Turkey populations are thriving across most of South Dakota", so why are we looking to decrease the season statewide instead of supporting a change in a very specific area. Adjusting the season state wide could lead to turkey over burden in areas that are currently thriving. South Dakota has many topographical variations and more than one variety of turkey. Managing the entire turkey population across the state in the same manner is like managing the lakes in South Dakota the same with out regard to the variance of what each body of water can support. Rejecting this proposal offers SD GFP the opportunity to come back with hard numbers to support change in both license numbers and season dates within a location instead. South Dakota has a variety of turkeys and the turkey burden from one area to the next can vary significantly. Proposing license restrictions may be necessary at times, but it is detrimental to make changes to an entire season state wide without regard to the topographical variation, game volume, and subspecies variation in South Dakota. The identification of separating out seasons (Black Hills Season and Split Prairie Units) shows that the season should have some variation in regard to game management itself.

Regards,  
Lisa Hagemann

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**Leslie Dake**

**North Sioux City SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

Mr. Chiquine has submitted plans to dig a canal from McCook Lake, SD (North Sioux City) in order to develop property for homes. An environmental study has not been done regarding the affect this would have on McCook Lake and the fish and water fowl

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**John Hauge**

**Deadwood SD**

**Position:** oppose

**Comment:**

I am in complete opposition to:

1. Your nest predator bounty program. This program has no basis in fact or science, only in the mind of a misguided Governor.
2. Your hound hunting of lions (This is not hunting in any sense of the word.
3. Beaver trapping in the Black Hills. There aren't any. There needs to be a moratorium so they can recover
4. Your lead management plan for the shooting range. Just not adequate.