

SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS  
MARCH 2023 COMMISSION BOOK  
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# COMMISSION AGENDA

## South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission

March 9-10, 2023

Matthews Training Center | Pierre, SD

### General Meeting Information

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This meeting will be held in person, via zoom/conference call, and Livestream. Listen to the meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m. CST via Livestream at <https://www.sd.net/remotestream> or join via zoom by clicking on the link below. Depending on your application, you may be required to enter the meeting ID and password. Remember to **enter your display name and mute your microphone**. To help keep background noise and distractions to a minimum, make sure you **mute your microphone and turn off your video** when you are not speaking.

**THURSDAY – March 9, 2023, at 1 pm CST / 12 pm MT and FRIDAY – March 10, 2023, at 8 am CST / 7 am MT**

Zoom Meeting Link <https://state-sd.zoom.us/j/93912915359?pwd=K2FVZzdQSXJTY0NwWG5mSWpSazUwdz09>

or join via conference call      Dial 1-669-444-9171      Meeting ID: 939 1291 5359      Passcode: 0565645

**Public Input:** To provide comments, join the meeting in person, via zoom, or via conference call per the info above. To conduct the public hearing and/or open forum as efficiently as possible, we ask those wishing to testify to **register by 1:00 pm CST the day of the meeting by email to [Liz.Kierl@state.sd.us](mailto:Liz.Kierl@state.sd.us)**. **Testifiers should provide their full names, whom they represent, their city of residence, and which proposed topic they will address.**

**Written comments** can be submitted at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record, comments must include the complete name and city of residence and meet the **submission deadline of seventy-two hours before the meeting (not including the day of the meeting)**.

Call meeting to order at 1:00 pm CST / 12:00 pm MT

### Division of Administration

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#### Action Items

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
2. Approve Minutes of the January 2023 Meeting available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/>
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days

#### Information Items

4. Legislative Update
5. South Dakota Go Outdoors Update
6. New Staff Introductions

### Public Hearing – 2:00 pm CST / 1:00 pm MT

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*The portion of the meeting is designated for public comment on finalizations.*

### Open Forum – following the Public Hearing

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*The portion of the meeting is designated for public comment on other items of interest.*

### Petitions

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7. Perch Limit: Ten Fish per Day
8. Deer Draw Structure
9. Elk Preference Points
10. Elk Draw Structure
11. Corson County Deer Unit
12. Paddlefish Snagging

## Proposals

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13. Waterfowl Hunting Season
14. Deer Hunting Seasons (CSP, BH, WR, ER, RFD, MZ, Youth, Mentor)

## Finalizations

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15. Firearms Changes to State Parks and Recreation Areas
16. Public Lands and Waters
17. Mountain Goat Season
18. Archery Antelope
19. Archery Deer

## Division of Parks & Recreation

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### Information Items

20. Regional Technical Education Center Training
21. 2023 DOT Funding Proposals
22. 2023 Parks Promotion - The Trails are Calling
23. Camping, Visitation, and Revenue Report

## Division of Wildlife

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### Information Items

24. Deer Populations Objectives
25. Bass and Walleye Regulation Toolboxes
26. 2023 AIS Field Operations Plan
27. Grouse Action Plan
28. Wintering Wildlife Update
29. License Sales Update

## Solicitation of Agenda Items for Commissioners

## Adjourn

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Next meeting information: April 13-14, 2023, at McCrory Gardens in Brookings, SD.



# COMMISSION MINUTES

Item #2

## South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission

January 12-13, 2023

Matthews Training Center | Pierre, SD

### CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:00 PM CST/12:00 PM

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Vice chairman Whitmyre called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm CST at the Matthews Training Center in the Joe Foss Building located in Pierre, SD. Commissioners Julie Bartling, Jon Locken, Robert Whitmyre, Stephanie Rissler, and Charles Spring were present, with Travis Bies joining the meeting remotely. The public and staff could listen via SDPB Livestream, participate via video conference, or in person, with approximately 105 total participants via Zoom or in person.

### DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

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#### 1. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Vice chairman Whitmyre called for a conflict of interest to be disclosed. *None were present.*

#### 2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Vice chairman Whitmyre called for any additions or corrections to the regular minutes of December 2022 meeting. Minutes are available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/>. *Motion by Locken with a second by Rissler to APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8-9, 2022, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 3. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER SALARY DAYS

Vice chair Whitmyre called for any additional salary day from the commissioners. *No additional salary days were requested by the commissioners.*

#### 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice Chair Whitmyre opened the floor for officer elections.

Motion by Locken with a second by Bartling to elect Stephanie Rissler as Chair of the Commission. Motioned by Locken, seconded by Bartling to cease nominations. *Motion to CEASE NOMINATIONS carried unanimously. Motion to ELECT STEPHANIE RISSLER TO COMMISSION CHAIR carried unanimously.*

Motion by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to elect Travis Bies as Vice-Chair of the Commission. *Motion to ELECT TRAVIS BIES AS COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR carried unanimously.*

#### 5. FY2024 BUDGET UPDATE

Chris Petersen, Director of Administration, presented the commission with the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

#### 6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jon Kotilnek, Senior Staff Attorney, gave a legislative update to the commission.

#### 7. WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX

John Kanta, Terrestrial Section Chief, reported that the department has made excellent progress on the South Dakota Shooting Sports Complex. The environmental assessment has been completed with a finding of no significant impact by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The department has obtained all permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and has worked with the Meade County Commission to relocate a section line on the property, receiving a 5-0 vote and will continue to work with the Meade County Commission into the future. The department is finalizing design plans and will meet February 15 with the project building committee for final approval. The project will go out for bid on February 23, 2023, and construction will begin in May of 2023 with a projected completion date of October 2024. To date, the department has raised about \$2.8 million for the project. Supporters of the project includes non-government organizations such as Safari Club International,

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wild Sheep Foundation, Youth Hunting Adventures, local business owners such as Pizza Ranch and Kommando Store, and a number of individuals from across the state.

#### 8. GO OUTDOORS SOUTH DAKOTA UPDATE

Scott Simpson, Deputy Secretary, updated the commission on the Go Outdoors South Dakota program.

#### 9. NEW STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioners were introduced to new staff.

### OPEN FORUM

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Jon Kotilnek, senior staff attorney, opened the floor for discussion from those in attendance on matters of importance to them that may not be on the agenda. The open forum started at 2:01 pm CST.

- Dana Rogers of Pierre, SD
- Justin Broughton of Sioux Falls, SD
- Ronald Kolbeck of Salem, SD
- Mitch Richter of Rapid City, SD
- Jake Leibke of Garden City, SD
- Jamie Al-Haj of Rapid City, SD
- Nancy Hilding of Black Hawk, SD
- Clint Hay of Brookings, SD
- Julie Anderson of Rapid City, SD

The open forum concluded at 2:34 pm CST.

### PETITIONS

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#### 10. BUTTE COUNTY CANADA GOOSE SEASON EXTENSION

Ian Williams of Whitewood, SD filed petition #153 to the commission to consider a rule change to extend the Butte County Canada goose season.

Department Position: The department recommended denying the petition.

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to DENY THE PETITION EXTEND THE BUTTE COUNTY CANADA GOOSE SEASON. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Locken, seconded by Bartling to ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-02 TO DENY THE PETITION TO EXTEND THE BUTTE COUNTY CANADA GOOSE SEASON. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 11. RETRIEVAL OF BIG GAME IN WALK-IN AREAS

Ian Williams of Whitewood, SD filed petition #154 to the commission to allow the retrieval of big game on walk-in areas.

Department Position: The department recommended denying the petition.

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to DENY THE PETITION TO ALLOW THE RETRIEVAL OF BIG GAME ON WALK-IN AREAS. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-03 TO DENY THE PETITION TO ALLOW THE RETRIEVAL OF BIG GAME ON WALK-IN AREAS. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 12. CHANGE PERCH LIMIT TO TEN FISH PER DAY

Nick Mauris of Sioux Falls, SD filed petition #156 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Jesse Christianson of Astoria, SD filed petition #157 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Mike Collins of Brookings, SD filed petition #158 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Caleb Cohrs of Aurora, SD filed petition #159 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Sterling Gerhke of Castlewood, SD filed petition #160 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Mike Dallagar of Webster, SD filed petition #161 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Ryan Busche of Webster, SD filed petition #162 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Mike Zell of Huron, SD filed petition #163 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Marcus Quam of Webster, SD filed petition #164 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Peter Rogers of White, SD filed petition #165 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Eric Kracke of Hartford, SD filed petition #166 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Brock Nothem of Arlington, SD filed petition #167 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Chad Schoffelman of Sioux Falls, SD filed petition #168 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Adam Porter of Brookings, SD filed petition #169 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Josh Hansen of Arlington, SD filed petition #170 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Jake Arlt of Brookings, SD filed petition #171 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Jeff Trapp of Milbank, SD filed petition #172 to the commission to consider limited the limit of perch to ten per day.

Department Position: The department recommended denying petitions #156-172.

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to DENY THE PETITIONS 156-172 DUE TO REDUNDANCY. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Spring to ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-04 TO DENY PETITIONS 156-172 DUE TO REDUNDANCY. The motion carried unanimously.*

Clint Hay of Brookings, SD filed petition #155 to the commission to consider limiting the limit of perch to ten per day.

Department Position: The department recommended denying the petition.

*Motioned by Locken, seconded by Bartling to DENY THE PETITION TO LIMIT YELLOW PERCH TO TEN PER DAY. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-05 TO DENY THE PETITION TO LIMIT YELLOW PERCH TO TEN PER DAY. The motion carried unanimously.*

## PROPOSALS

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### 13. FIREARMS CHANGES TO STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS – CHAPTERS 41:03:01:16, 41:06:40:05, AND 41:06:20:02

Al Nedved, Deputy Director of the Parks and Recreation Division informed the commission of the proposed firearms changes to the state parks and recreation areas. (1) These changes would provide the Department the option to open up portions of state parks and recreation areas to hunting during the months of September and May by means of posting, signage and other designations. (2) Current administrative rule does not allow for hunting in any form on Oahe Downstream recreation area park lands west of SD Hwy 1806 and north of Fort Pierre. (3) The proposed rule change would allow for hunters to legally hunt park lands west of SD Hwy 1806. This would clear up the rule to coincide with what is currently enforced. Park lands include: OHV and land outside the fenced shooting complex perimeter. (4) This proposal would restrict or clarify Revheim Bay Recreation Area as archery only. (5) This proposal would clarify Newtown Hills State Park, Rocky Point Recreation Area, Lake Poinsett Recreation Area and North Point Recreation Area to archery hunting and shotgun only, but with options to post certain areas for open hunting.

The following are proposed draft changes that are intended to incorporate the recommended changes adopted by the Commission.

41:03:01:16. Restrictions on use of firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows in the state park system -- Exceptions. Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are prohibited in the state park system with the following exceptions:

1. Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are permitted on designated rifle and archery ranges year-round and may be transported or carried uncased to and from ranges and boat ramps from designated parking areas;
2. A firearm, air gun, crossbow, or bow legally transported in a motor vehicle, trailer camper, or boat, pursuant to state law, is considered cased for purposes of this section;
3. Hunters licensed for the special Custer State Park hunting seasons may have uncased firearms, crossbows, and bows in Custer State Park during the season for which they are licensed;
4. From September 1 through May 31, uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows and bows are authorized for licensed hunters in all lakeside use areas, and Shadehill Recreation Area, and Oahe Downstream Recreation Area west of highway 1806, or any portion of a state park or recreation area that is designated open to hunting.
5. From October 1 through April 30, uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are authorized for licensed hunters in the state park system during established hunting seasons with the following restrictions:
  - a. Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are prohibited year-round in all established campgrounds, designated day-use areas, and at Beaver Creek Nature Area, Lake Herman State Park, Spring Creek Recreation Area, Spirit Mound Historic Prairie, Bear Butte State Park east of State Highway 79, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area east of SD Highway 1806 except for a hunter who possesses a valid deer license for Unit WRD-58D, as described in chapter 41:06:20, or a valid turkey license for Unit PST-58B, as described in chapter 41:06:13, and Adams Homestead and Nature

Preserve and Good Earth State Park, except for a resident hunter who possesses a valid archery deer license and an access permit, as described in chapter 41:06:22, or except for a resident hunter or a mentored hunter who possesses a valid archery spring turkey license and an access permit, as described in chapter 41:06:13;

- b. Only bows and crossbows are permitted in Big Sioux Recreation Area, the Forest Drive Unit of Richmond Lake Recreation Area, Palisades State Park, LaFramboise Island Nature Area, Chief White Crane Recreation Area, Clay County Recreation Area, Revheim Bay Recreation Area, and the mouth of Spearfish Canyon;
  - c. Only shotguns using shot shells, crossbows, and bows are permitted in West Whitlock Recreation Area, West Pickerel Recreation Area, Mina Recreation Area, Okobojo Recreation Area, Farm Island Recreation Area, Angostura Recreation Area, Cow Creek State Recreation Area, Oakwood Lakes State Park, Newton Hills State Park, Rocky Point Recreation Area, Lake Poinsett Recreation Area, and the portions of North Point State Recreation Area that are situated to the west of 381<sup>st</sup> Street and north of 297<sup>th</sup> Avenue, west of 382<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and north of 297<sup>th</sup> Street, and south of 297<sup>th</sup> Street, and west of Prairie Dog Bay; and
  - d. A person who possesses a valid turkey license for Unit PST-48A, as described in chapter 41:06:13, is permitted to have an uncased shotgun using shotshells, a crossbow, a bow, or a muzzleloading shotgun within the boundary of Sica Hollow State Park from the first Saturday of April through May 31; and
6. A person who is allowed to legally carry a concealed pistol pursuant to state law may carry a concealed pistol at any time.

41:06:20:02. Open units -- Exceptions. The following is a description of the open units:

(34) Unit WRD-58D: Stanley County, except the portions included in Units WRD-45C and WRD-45D, but including the portions of department campground Oahe Downstream RA below Oahe Dam east of Highway 1806. Licenses are only available to persons who use a wheelchair. Additional licenses may be issued to nonresident hunters who use a wheelchair;

41:06:40:05. Restrictions. Mourning dove hunting restrictions are as follows:

1. Doves may be shot only in flight; and
2. All state parks and state recreation areas are closed to dove hunting except Angostura State Recreation Area excluding that portion of the area lying east of the dam, and Shadehill State Recreation Area, the portions of Oahe Downstream Recreation Area located west of SD Highway 1806 or any portion of a state park or recreation area posted as open as described in chapter 41:03:01.

*Motioned by Locken, seconded by Whitmyre to REMOVE SECTION NOTH POINT RECREATION AREA FROM THE PROPOSAL. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to APPROVE THE PROPOSAL AS AMENDED. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### 14. PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS – CHAPTER 41:04:02:23

Law Enforcement Chief, Sam Schelhaas, brought forth a proposal to amend 41:04:02:23 which would extend the no boating zone from 100 feet to 300 feet to better align the rule with existing buoy placement. This amendment would continue to provide for adequate use of the lake while protecting boaters.

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Locken to APPROVE THE PROPOSAL. The motion carried unanimously.*



## 15. MOUNTAIN GOAT SEASON – CHAPTER 41:06:29

Andrew Norton, Wildlife Program Administrator, presented the commission with the Mountain Goat Hunting Season proposal. This proposal would close the mountain goat hunting season and discontinue the sale of preference points.

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to APPROVE THE PROPOSAL. The motion carried unanimously.*

## 16. ARCHERY ANTELOPE HUNTING SEASON – CHAPTER 41:06:24

Department proposed changes:

1. Modify ARSD 41:06:24:01 (Archery antelope hunting season established -- Open area -- Number and type of licenses available) as follows:

- a. The archery antelope hunting season is open in those areas of the state with a firearm antelope season and in the portions of Custer and Pennington Counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District, except Custer State Park, with access permits from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day beginning on the third Saturday of August through October 31, except during the firearm antelope season.

~~An unlimited~~ number of resident one-tag antelope licenses for this season valid on public and private land may be issued.

Unlimited number of nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on private land not leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for public hunting may be issued.

No more than four hundred and fifty nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on public and private land may be issued by lottery drawing.

~~The~~ Access permits may be issued by lottery drawing.

*No action was taken.*

## 17. ARCHERY DEER HUNTING SEASON – CHAPTERS 41:06:22 AND 41:06:01:17

Department proposed changes:

1. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:01 (Archery deer hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses -- Access permits) as follows:

1. a. The archery deer hunting season is open statewide from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day beginning September 1 through January 1, except as otherwise provided in § 41:06:22:02.
2. Unlimited resident "any deer" licenses may be issued for units ARD-ST1, ARD-ER1, and ARD-WR1, and unlimited resident and nonresident antlerless whitetail deer licenses may be issued for unit ARD-LM1.
3. Unlimited nonresident "any deer" licenses valid on private land not leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for public hunting may be issued for unit ARD-ST1.
4. Two thousand and two hundred nonresident "any deer" licenses may be issued valid for unit ARD-ST1 on public and private lands.
5. One thousand single-tag "any antlerless deer" licenses may be issued for use in ARD-MP1, ARD-MP2, and ARD-MP3.
6. No more than ten "any deer" and 50 antlerless whitetail deer access permits may be issued to residents for Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve.
7. No more than ten "any deer" and 25 "antlerless whitetail deer" access permits may be issued to residents for Good Earth State Park.

8. No more than 500 "any deer" access permits may be issued to residents, and no more than 125 "any deer" access permits may be issued to nonresidents for unit WRD-35L described in § 41:06:20:02.
9. No more than 20 "any deer" access permits may be issued to residents, and no more than five "any deer" access permits may be issued to nonresidents for Unit WRD-274L, described in § 41:06:20:02.
2. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:01.02 (Nonresident archery deer hunting season restrictions) as follows:
  1. A nonresident may not hunt deer on private lands leased for public access by the department or public lands prior to October 1. ~~A license obtained by a nonresident on or after the first day of April is valid only on private lands not leased for public access by the department.~~
3. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:03.01 (License purchase restrictions) as follows:
  - a. ~~A person resident~~ may purchase one statewide "any deer" license valid on public and private land. In lieu of a statewide "any deer" license, a resident person may purchase one East River "any deer" license and one West River "any deer" license valid on public and private land. A nonresident may purchase one statewide "any deer" license valid on private land only or apply for one "any deer" license valid statewide on public and private land made available through a lottery draw. A nonresident may not purchase more than one archery any deer license. No person may purchase more than one "antlerless whitetail deer" archery license.
4. Modify ARSD 41:06:01:17 (Access permits required for specific deer hunting units and public lands) as follows:
  - a. Any resident or nonresident deer hunter possessing an archery deer license valid for public land shall obtain and possess a free limited access permit to hunt hunting units or public lands described in § 41:06:22:01.

*No action was taken.*

## DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION

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### 18. FIRST-DAY HIKES

April Larson, Marketing Coordinator, gave a report to the commissioners on the first-day hikes that happened on January 1, 2023, across the state.

### 19. 2022 VOLUNTEER SEASON SUMMARY

Rachel Comes, Volunteer Coordinator, provided the commission information on the state park volunteer program. In 2022, volunteers working in the state park system provided over 95,500 hours of service, contributed by 336 individual volunteers. This equates to 45.95 FTE and an estimated fiscal impact of \$1,242,000. Typical-park volunteers include campground hosts and maintenance volunteers, who stay at the park during their service. These on-site volunteers are provided a full hook-up (electricity, water, and sewer) campsite during their service in exchange for 24 hours of service per person per week. There are also commuter and group volunteers, who volunteer at their local park for a one-day improvement project or special event.

### 20. CHECKOUT SOUTH DAKOTA PARKS PROGRAM

Rachel Comes, Volunteer Coordinator, informed the Commission on a new statewide partner program with the South Dakota State Library. Through this service, library patrons will be able to check out a 3-day state park vehicle pass, free of charge to enjoy our state parks. There are currently 200 passes distributed among 76 participating public libraries. This program is made possible with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding available to the State Library through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

## 21. CUSTER COUNTY STATE PARK RESORT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE RESERVE UPDATE

Josh Schmaltz, CSP Resort Company and Matt Snyder West Regional Supervisor, shared with the commission the proposed repair and maintenance projects planned for calendar year 2023. They also recapped the completed projects for calendar year 2022. The Repair and Maintenance Fund consist of 3% of Resort Companies gross annual revenue to be used solely for the repair and maintenance of the state-owned buildings managed by the concessionaire.

## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

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### 22. NEST PREDATOR BOUNTY PROGRAM

*Tom Kirschenmann, Wildlife Director and Emmett Keyser, Region 3 Supervisor, reported on the Nest Predator Bounty Program.*

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Spring to ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-01 TO CONDUCT THE NEST PREDATOR BOUNTY PROGRAM FROM 2023 THROUGH 2026. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to RENAME THE YOUTH TRAP GIVEAWAY TO THE BENTON HOWE YOUTH TRAP GIVEAWAY. The motion carried unanimously.*

### 23. AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION

Jake Davis, Fisheries Program Manager, and John Lott, Fisheries Section Chief reported on the Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan.

*Motioned by Bartlings, Seconded by Whitmyre to ADOPT THE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN. The motion carried unanimously.*

### 24. BIGHORN SHEEP AUCTION LICENSE

John Kanta, Terrestrial Section Chief, presented the action item to approve the areas valid for the Bighorn Sheep Auction License. For the 2023 bighorn sheep hunting season, include Units 2, 4, and Custer State Park to the area valid to hunt with the bighorn sheep auction license.

*Motioned by Locken, seconded by Spring to APPROVE THE UNITS 2, 4, AND CUSTER STATE PARK TO THE AREA VALID TO HUNT WITH THE BIGHORN SHEEP AUCTION LICENSE. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to APPROVE THE WILD SHEEP FOUNDATION – MIDWEST CHAPTERS APPLICATION TO AUCTION A BIGHORN SHEEP TAG. The motion carried unanimously.*

### 25. TURKEY HUNTING RECRUITMENT LICENSES

John Kanta, Terrestrial Section Chief, presented three separate applications for the Turkey Hunting Recruitment Licenses: (1) Delta Waterfowl Foundation of Aberdeen, SD; (2) Wild Sheep Foundation – Midwest Chapter of Northfield, MN; and (3) South Dakota Freedom Hunts, Inc of Flandreau, SD.

*Motioned by Whitmyre, seconded by Bartling to APPROVE ALL APPLICANTS OF THE TURKEY HUNTING RECRUITMENT LICENSES. The motion carried unanimously.*

### 26. OAHE FISHERY UPDATE

Mark Fincel, Fisheries Supervisor, provided an update on the Lake Oahe Walleye fishery. He discussed the past walleye and prey fish stockings, stocking plans going forward, and the path to present this information to anglers through various public meetings and videos.

### 27. HABITAT STAMP THREE-YEAR PLAN

Ryan Wendinger, Habitat Program Administrator, and Jake Davis, Fisheries Program Manager, presented the 3-year habitat stamp plan that was recently developed as an information item to the commission. This document

outlines the plan for the next three years as to how we will be spending habitat stamp dollars collected under SB 75. This includes what types of projects will be funded, how GFP will report out to the public and GOAC on accomplishments, and a projected financial plan for the next three years.

#### 28. RIVER OTTER SEASON SUMMARY

Alex Solem, Senior Upland Game Biologist, informed the commission that the 2022 river otter hunting/trapping season began November 1 with a harvest limit of 20 river otters. This harvest limit was reached on November 13 and the season officially closed November 14 with a total of 21 river otters harvested. River otters were harvested in Brookings (2), Deuel (4), Moody (4), Roberts (5), Hamlin (2), Lake (1), Union (1), and Codington counties (2) within the designated open season boundary. Harvest trends and population demographics are continually being collected for population monitoring efforts.

#### 29. LICENSE SALES UPDATE

Director Kirschenmann, Wildlife Director, provided a summary of license sales and described that license sales remain good and a little ahead of last year. Resident small game license sales have gone up from last year, and the department is conducting a survey to better understand why fishing license sales have dropped. Nonresident license sales are comparable to last year. Kirschenmann also provided a brief field report on how small game, waterfowl, and big games seasons have gone.

### ADJOURN

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*Motioned by Bartling, seconded by Whitmyre to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.*

Meeting ADJOURNED ON JANUARY 13, 2023 AT 10:54 AM CT.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Robling, Department Secretary

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [clint\\_hay@live.com](mailto:clint_hay@live.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Sunday, February 12, 2023 11:19:51 AM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 179

**Petitioner Name:** Clint Hay

**Address:** 1815 23rd street south  
Brookings, SD 57006

**Email:** [clint\\_hay@live.com](mailto:clint_hay@live.com)

**Phone:** 605-251-7482

**Rule Identification:** Rule 41:07:03:01 sub section 8

**Describe Change:** Change of yellow perch limit to 10 east river, and keep the limit 15 west river

**Reason for Change:** This petition letter is regarding a change in yellow perch limits. Currently, the yellow perch limit is 15 per day, no size limit statewide. I propose a change to the yellow perch limit to 10 per day east river, and keep the limit 15 west river, no size limit. With the influx of people ice fishing, social media sharing, bait shop reports, guiding operations and live imaging sonar our yellow perch populations are decreasing at a steady rate. There have been multiple small sloughs/lakes in Clark County specifically that have been over harvested... examples are Lamb Slough NW of Dry Lake #2, Christopherson WPA north of Dry Lake #2 and Cottonwood Lake NW of the town of Bradley. All those small lakes are prime examples of an over harvest of yellow perch to the point there isn't a sustainable population to support angling. When there's a hot bite on a lake, the word spreads so much faster these days with social media. Anglers flock to that lake and harvest literally thousands of fish out of the lake in a short period of time, to the point where there isn't enough of a sustainable population for the lake to re-populate naturally. Since there is no stocking of yellow perch into our public waters, my concern is there will be no perch left to catch in the future. Anglers from all around the surrounding states come to Northeast South Dakota to target yellow perch specifically in the wintertime. Those anglers don't only bring non-resident license & habitat stamp dollars to our state but bring revenue to small communities. If there's no perch to catch, the state will miss out on a lot of money. The anglers today are not the same as the anglers years ago... with new technology, social media, more people fishing, there's a lot more pressure on our small lakes/sloughs. Fishery management needs to consider adapting and change to accommodate the changes of fisherman today versus what's been done in the past. We need to protect our resources before there is no resource. In summary, I would like to see the daily perch limit be changed to 10 fish per day east river, and keep the limit 15 west river. Our small lakes are very special in terms of being very fertile and grow fish big & fast.

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [nicholasjmauris@gmail.com](mailto:nicholasjmauris@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Friday, February 17, 2023 12:37:32 PM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 181  
**Petitioner Name:** Nicholas mauris  
**Address:** 7412 s heatherridge ave  
sioux falls , SD 57108  
**Email:** nicholasjmauris@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 605-496-5666  
**Rule Identification:** Yellow Perch Limit  
**Decribe Change:** I am seeking a change in the Perch limit for East river fishing. I am seeking West river stays at 15 daily limit of perch. East river to 10  
**Reason for Change:** I am seeking Yellow perch limit for East river to Change from 15 daily limit to 10. The reasoning behind this change is to help preserve our natural producing perch in the waters of south dakota. Due to the increase of extreme fishing pressure, social media and other tools I think South dakota is in a great pro active stage where we can still preserve the Perch without doing some additional stocking. The reasoning behind east versus west daily possession is the size difference the two locations provide anglers. Its no secret in todays society that social media is playing a huge roll in how and where anglers fish. The electronics are not going away, anglers are finding ways to get out and I beleive our waters are struggling because of it. I think trying the new perch limit to " East River" would help buy time on preserving the way perch reproduce, naturally. I think the state should use that time to study them more. There was a time in society where 15" perch was very common. I beleive your lucky to have an age class to ever reach that in the waters of eastern south dakota today. Yes, the age on perch is not long and these lakes always seem to go in cycles. But there is not a bite that goes by that is producing good harvestable perch and no one knows about it. Lakes like Dry 1, Marsh by Hayti, stink by Eden had their time this year to shine and the anglers did too. This really did not help the land owners with anglers blocking roads etc. These 3 lakes where hit VERY HARD. I Think this is a great approach to try and help reduce the amount of yellow perch being harvested to allow lakes to cycle correctly and preserve the natural reproducing they do to keep the lakes strong and healthy throughout all bodies in eastern half. dividing the two sides of the state would help our CO officers to be efficient and contiune to do their job without confusion.

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [ddfuxa@gmail.com](mailto:ddfuxa@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Thursday, February 9, 2023 4:04:35 PM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 175

**Petitioner Name:** Daniel Fuxa

**Address:** 1825 Aster Road  
Spearfish, SD 57783

**Email:** [ddfuxa@gmail.com](mailto:ddfuxa@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 712-251-6570

**Rule Identification:** Deer draw structure

**Decribe Change:** Change the deer draw structure back to the original form which It has been my whole life until 2019. This means any applicant can put in as many first choice deer applications as desired.

**Reason for Change:** The recently implemented draw structure has not been beneficial to any resident deer hunter that I know or have talked to about this topic. It is simply made it harder to hunt deer in South Dakota. Now we have to take tags that are over allotted due to low harvest rates or poor quality hunts to try and get more people a first choice license. It has changed that. Now I have to find different hunts or worse hunts just to get deer tags to fill my freezer. Before I could get plenty of deer on just a couple hunts because of the quality I knew where to hunt and I had permission on places that I had worked since I was a kid to get on. It's not everyone else's fault that people don't try to get permission to hunt land. Even the people trying to get first choice applications have to apply to different draws now because of the difficulty of drawing any deer tags. This has resulted in poor satisfaction for myself and all the hunters I know. I have only talked to one couple that prefers the way the draw has changed and they were people that were new to getting into hunting. I have spoken with plenty of GFP workers that do not support this newer draw process either. For years I had talked to game fishing parks on when and how to put in a petition to change the draw process back to its original form where you could apply to as many first choice applications as you wanted and then to find out it was voted on or reassessed during the fall while I was gone hunting anyways and didn't pay attention to emails. I would be more than happy to get a large petition together to change the draw structure back to its original form with unlimited first applications. I now have to buy out of state licenses every year to fill my freezer instead of driving all over South Dakota with poor quality leftover tags. I appreciate your consideration of my petition

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [sila8705@yahoo.com](mailto:sila8705@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 8:01:56 PM

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## **South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks**

### **Petition for Rule Change**

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 180  
**Petitioner Name:** Bob Brandt  
**Address:** 8705 SILA PL  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
**Email:** [sila8705@yahoo.com](mailto:sila8705@yahoo.com)  
**Phone:** 605-209-8030  
**Rule Identification:** Elk drawing preference points  
**Decribe Change:** Double the preference points in all elk and sheep drawings for any applicant that will reach the age of 70 before the start of the season  
**Reason for Change:** I have been applying for elk and sheep tags since the mid 1980's, I drew my rifle elk tag in 1998 after applying for 14 years, drew my archery elk tag in 2016(?) with 14 years preference. I now have 12 preference points for my 2nd rifle tag, but with the average wait of over 20 years I will be over 80 before I draw another tag. Many of us have been contributing \$15 to \$20 a year for over 20 years and while this will not guarantee us a tag while we are able to hunt it will increase our chances.



**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [ddfuxa@gmail.com](mailto:ddfuxa@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Thursday, February 9, 2023 4:10:01 PM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 176

**Petitioner Name:** Daniel Fuxa

**Address:** 1825 Aster Road  
Spearfish, SD 57783

**Email:** [ddfuxa@gmail.com](mailto:ddfuxa@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 712-251-6570

**Rule Identification:** I'm not sure which rule this is or if it is a rule, but I would like to see the elk draw results finalized much earlier in the year.

**Describe Change:** The elk draw process to be completed earlier in the year

**Reason for Change:** Myself and most my friends have to buy out of state elk licenses every year because it's simply once in a lifetime license anymore to get an elk tag in South Dakota. Many of us have double digit numbers of preference points and each year have to hold off on other out of state licenses along with having a hard time requesting time off in September or October because we're not sure where or when will be able to hunt elk. It would be very helpful and beneficial to myself and friends that I've talked to about this to have the elk draw process completed by March. Many of us apply to multiple other states and would have to waste thousands of dollars if we did draw the South Dakota license to be able to hunt in our own state. This seems like it should be a simple thing that way people would know if they're having a once in a lifetime license in South Dakota and make plans well ahead of time instead of spending lots of money on out-of-state licenses and then having to skip those hunts due to the once in a lifetime license in South Dakota. It's small odds to get a license obviously, but when we have double digit preference points it could happen anytime to draw a license. The elk licenses have to be one of the smallest draw categories that are run and would hopefully be simple to speed up the process to early spring. I appreciate your consideration of my petition.

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [skjoldal24@gmail.com](mailto:skjoldal24@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Saturday, March 4, 2023 2:04:07 PM

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## South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

### Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

**ID:** 185  
**Petitioner Name:** Matthew Skjoldal  
**Address:** 12760 212th Ave  
Meadow, SD 57644  
**Email:** skjoldal24@gmail.com  
**Phone:** 605-788-2941  
**Rule Identification:** 41:06:20:02  
**Describe Change:** I would like to see Corson County spit into two different units. The units would be divided east and west dividing at highway 65.  
**Reason for Change:** As a resident of western Corson County, I can see firsthand see the problem with mule and white tail doe. The problem with having Corson County as one large unit is that there is hardly anyone hunting the western side. I have been working for Black Horse Ranch for a few years now and they have land in walk in for hunters to utilize. I take the time to visit with the hunters from time to time but not once have I seen or have, they said that they were after a doe, it was always a buck that they were packing out or were going after. As many of you know you need hay to feed the cows through the winter, well the doe is always in our hay yards. We do however take precautions and put-up deer fence and also deer panels around our hay but one thing we cannot protect is our hay ground and spring grazing. The deer will graze off all of our spring grazing before our cows even have the chance to utilize the grass. Within a mile of the headquarters of the ranch there are between 100-150 doe. They will come up and will be standing in our yard, tearing up the grass. Our neighbors all have the same problem with doe taking over their yards and eating hay and grazing. You can only imagine how it would feel to have 40 deer standing in your yard and tearing it up. I can only assume that you would want something done about that and that is what we are asking you to do is help us get the population of white tail and mule doe under control by allowing hunters to help us. We have been working with game and fish to start some depredation hunts, but this is a short-term fix for a long-term problem. Please consider splitting Corson County for the betterment of all the ranchers in our area.

**From:** [info@gfp.sd.us](mailto:info@gfp.sd.us)  
**To:** [a.olson42@gmail.com](mailto:a.olson42@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Kierl, Liz](#); [Harrington, Nick](#)  
**Subject:** Petition for Rule Change Form  
**Date:** Saturday, March 4, 2023 8:10:12 PM

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## **South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks**

### **Petition for Rule Change**

A new form was just submitted from the <http://gfp.sd.gov/> website with the following information:

ID: 186  
Petitioner Name: Aaron Olson  
Address: 3632 E Brewster St  
Sioux Falls , SD 5708  
Email: a.olson42@gmail.com  
Phone: 402-340-3935  
Rule Identification: 41:07:05:02  
Describe Change: Paddlefish snagging and/or archery tags available below Ft. Randall dam  
Reason for Change: Fish the river quite a bit and seems to me like there are just as many if not more paddlefish here as in others that have open seasons.

**GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL**

**Mourning Dove Hunting Season**  
Chapter 41:06:40:01

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 1, 2023 – Nov 9, 2023  
September 1, 2024 – Nov 9, 2024

**Open Area:** Statewide

**Daily Limit:** 15 mourning doves

**Possession Limit:** 45 mourning doves

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Summary comparison of the 2012 - 2021 mourning dove seasons

Year	Residents					Nonresidents				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2012	5,984	88,036	4.16	14.71	4.99	366	7,071	3.19	19.78	5.78
2013	6,752	113,367	4.56	16.79	5.06	210	2,061	2.67	9.80	5.27
2014	8,345	167,407	4.67	20.06	5.05	316	3,991	2.95	12.62	5.71
2015	7,255	127,217	4.66	17.53	5.07	396	7,705	3.29	19.46	5.83
2016	7,131	122,876	4.19	17.23	4.89	318	3,601	2.79	11.32	5.59
2017	6,828	124,052	4.11	18.17	5.12	275	3,463	3.79	12.58	4.63
2018	6,531	120,835	4.16	18.50	5.12	275	3,571	3.22	13.00	5.72
2019	6,003	102,771	3.92	17.12	5.14	290	3,827	3.15	13.20	4.85
2020	6,844	122,464	4.45	17.89	5.21	416	7,158	3.55	17.23	6.06
2021	6,298	107,736	4.04	17.11	5.15	393	6,923	3.35	17.62	5.38

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?

- NA
2. Historical Considerations
    - NA
  3. Biological Considerations
    - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
    - NA
  4. Social Considerations
    - NA
  5. Financial considerations
    - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Duck Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023/24 hunting season

**Season Dates and Open Areas:**

High Plains Zone:	October 7, 2023 – January 11, 2024
Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle Zone:	September 23, 2023 – December 5, 2023
Low Plains South Zone:	October 21, 2023 – January 2, 2024

**Daily Limits:**

**Tier 1 Option (Traditional Daily Bag Limit)**

- Ducks: 6     The duck daily limit (including mergansers) may be comprised of no more than: 5 mallards (which may include no more than 2 hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 1 pintail and 1 scaup.
- 2     Bonus blue-winged teal (first 16 days of the season only)  
 Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle Zones: September 23 – October 8, 2023  
 Low Plains South Zone: October 21 – November 5, 2023  
 High Plains Zone: October 7 – 22, 2023

Coots: 15

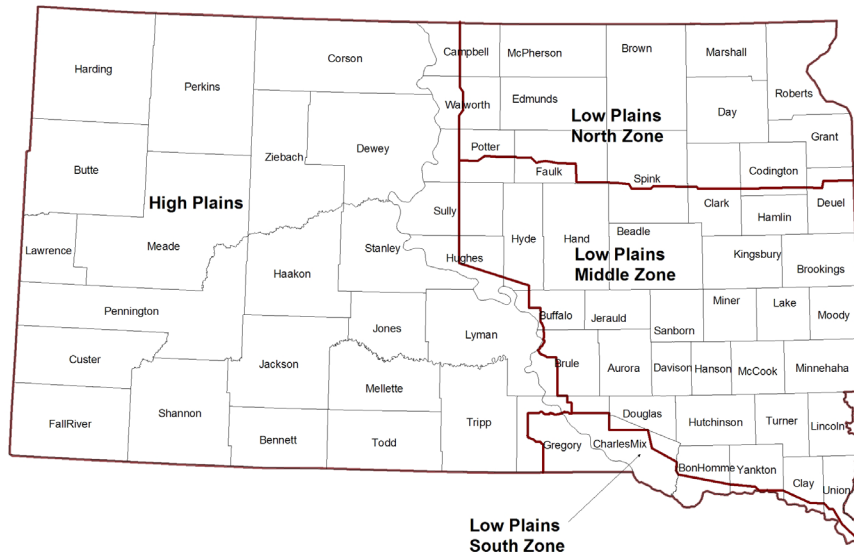
**Tier 2 Option (3-Splash Daily Bag Limit)**

Ducks: 3     The duck daily limit (including mergansers) may be comprised of three of any species or gender.

Coots: 15

**Possession Limits:** Three times the daily bag limits.

### Duck Hunting Zones



**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

The recommended change is simply a clean-up to administrative rules for the implementation of the experimental options available to duck hunters.

**Comparison of the 2016 - 2021 duck season statistics**

Year	Resident Hunters					Nonresident Hunters				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2016	10,533	143,749	7.18	13.65	4.81	3,832	41,356	4.70	10.79	4.75
2017	10,557	143,976	6.90	13.64	5.05	4,159	45,344	4.31	10.90	5.14
2018	10,271	134,307	6.88	13.08	4.99	4,051	41,515	4.31	10.25	5.11
2019	11,295	176,885	7.30	15.66	5.17	4,423	52,225	4.47	11.81	5.38
2020	12,285	190,515	7.75	15.51	5.15	4,274	51,169	4.36	11.97	5.38
2021	10,634	151,207	7.37	14.22	5.10	4,442	47,802	4.28	10.76	5.18

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_**MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_**REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_**NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Early Fall Canada Goose

Chapters 41:06:50

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 hunting season

**Season Dates:** September 1 - 30, 2023      **Open Area:** Unit 1 (see map below)

**Daily Limit:** 15 Canada Geese      **Possession Limit:** 45 Canada Geese

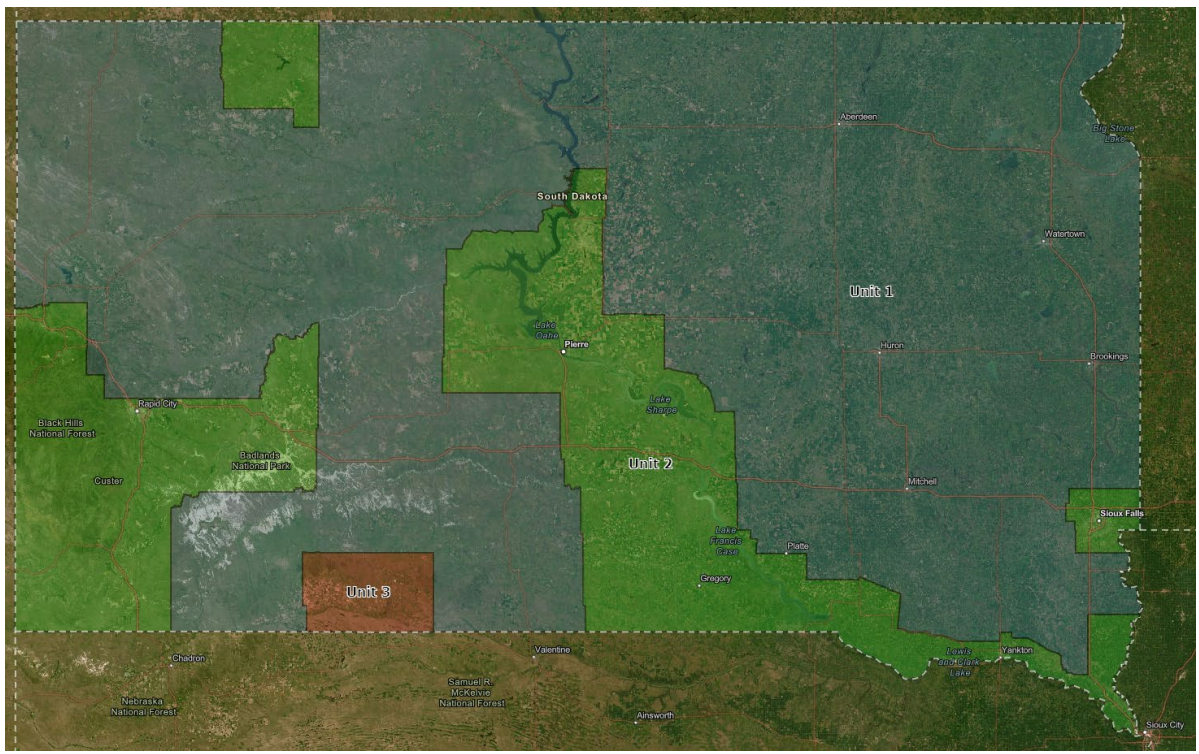
#### Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION





Comparison of the 2012 - 2021 Early Fall Canada goose harvest statistics

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number Hunters</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Average Season Bag</i>
2012	3,636	28,788	7.92
2013	4,528	29,887	6.60
2014	5,106	28,814	5.64
2015	3,883	20,735	5.34
2016	3,366	27,660	8.22
2017	3,226	25,808	8.00
2018	2,716	17,904	6.59
2019	3,000	21,054	7.02
2020	3,857	33,769	8.76
2021	3,671	33,179	9.04

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - Canada goose populations are currently above management objectives.
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

<b>APPROVE</b> _____	<b>MODIFY</b> _____	<b>REJECT</b> _____	<b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Sandhill Crane Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:18

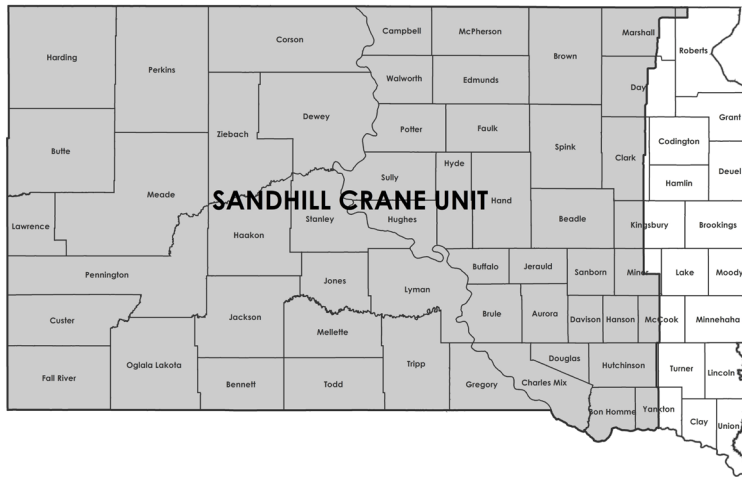
<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 hunting season

**Season Dates:** September 23 – November 19, 2023

**Open Area:** That portion of the state lying west of a line beginning at the South Dakota-North Dakota border and State Highway 25, south on State Highway 25 to its junction with State Highway 34, east on State Highway 34 to its junction with U.S. Highway 81, then south on U.S. Highway 81 to the South Dakota-Nebraska border.



**Daily Limit:** 3 Sandhill cranes

**Possession Limit:** 9 Sandhill cranes

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
2. Nontoxic shot rules apply to Sandhill crane hunting.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA

2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

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

## Common Snipe Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:17

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023/2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023  
September 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024

**Open Area:** Statewide

**Daily Limit:** 5 snipe

**Possession Limit:** 15 snipe

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.
2. Nontoxic shot rules apply to snipe hunting.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA

4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Tundra Swan Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023/2024 hunting season

**Season Dates:** September 30, 2023 – January 5, 2024

**Open Area:** All counties east of the Missouri River except, for Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay, Douglas, Hutchinson, Lincoln, Turner, Union, and Yankton counties.

**Licenses:** 1,100 resident and 200 nonresident single tag licenses

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Each resident and nonresident hunter may apply for and receive only one permit from the respective resident and nonresident permit pools in the first drawing. Nonresident permits are issued only in conjunction with a prerequisite nonresident waterfowl license and must be applied for at the same time.
2. For the second drawing, if permits remain unsold, only those residents and nonresidents who do not have a permit may submit one application for a permit remaining in the respective resident and nonresident pools.
3. For the third drawing, if any resident or nonresident permits remain unsold, any resident or nonresident may apply for a first or second permit but, in total, may only have up to two permits.
4. Licenses required include all licenses needed for waterfowl hunting.
5. One tag will be issued with each permit and each swan must be tagged immediately upon retrieval.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Comparison of the 2012 – 2021 Tundra Swan seasons

Year	Licenses Sold			Harvest (w/o cripples)	Avg Days Hunted	Percent Success	Average Satisfaction
	Resident	Nonres	Total				
2012	1,064	202	1,266	157	2.85	12%	4.97
2013	1,081	178	1,259	306	3.01	24%	5.31
2014	1,018	198	1,216	280	3.27	23%	5.11
2015	1,088	211	1,299	229	3.07	18%	5.09
2016	938	145	1,083	82	2.96	8%	4.81
2017	888	180	1,068	232	5.17	22%	5.10
2018	973	216	1,189	179	4.71	15%	4.85
2019	972	213	1,185	214	4.18	18%	5.11
2020	919	247	1,166	189	4.76	16%	4.76
2021	982	215	1,197	86	3.36	7%	4.49

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Goose Hunting Season

Chapters 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

### AUGUST MANAGEMENT TAKE

**Duration of Proposal:** 2023 hunting season

**Season Dates:** August 19-31, 2023

**Open Area:** Meade County south of South Dakota Highway 34, Pennington County west of the Cheyenne River and the counties of Aurora, Beadle, Bon Homme, Brookings, Brown, Clark, Clay, Codington, Davison, Day, Deuel, Edmunds, Faulk, Hamlin, Hanson, Hutchinson, Grant, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, Marshall, McCook, McPherson, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Turner, Union and Yankton.

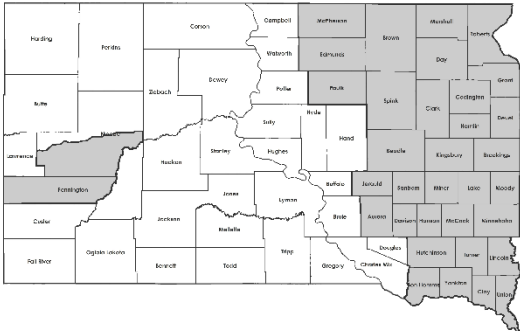
**Daily Bag Limit:** 15 Canada geese

**Possession Limit:** None

**Licenses:** Residents only

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Annual small game or combination license and state migratory bird certification. Federal waterfowl stamp is not required.
2. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.
3. All other restrictions are the same as during the Early Fall and Regular Canada Goose Season.



**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Summary comparison of the 2010-21 August Management Take Canada goose seasons

Year	Hunters	Harvest	Average Days Hunted	Average Season Bag
2010	3,538	29,047	2.99	8.21
2011	3,211	30,300	2.74	9.44
2012	3,581	36,757	3.08	10.26
2013	2,345	18,592	3.42	7.93
2014	2,302	20,671	3.24	8.98
2015	1,686	10,221	3.03	6.06
2016-20*	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk
2021	2,463	24,942	2.33	10.13

\*The 2016-20 seasons were open only west of the Cheyenne River in Pennington County.



**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - Locally breeding Giant Canada geese are currently above management objectives and can cause considerable agricultural damage and human safety concerns. The August Management Take is designed to put increased harvest pressure on these birds prior to an influx of migrating geese.
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

<b>APPROVE</b> _____	<b>MODIFY</b> _____	<b>REJECT</b> _____	<b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:49

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 hunting season

**Season Dates:** September 9-10, 2023

**Open Area:** Statewide

**Daily Limit:** Same as for regular duck and goose seasons

**Possession Limit:** Same as for regular duck and goose seasons

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Residents and nonresidents who have not reached the age of 18 by the first day of the season may hunt in the youth waterfowl hunting season.
2. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
3. The youth hunter must be properly licensed to hunt waterfowl in the state, unless participating under a Mentored Hunt scenario as described in "Mentored Youth Hunting".
4. All other hunting restrictions will be the same as during the regular waterfowl seasons.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA

3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Goose Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

## COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023/2024 waterfowl hunting seasons

**Season Dates:**

Canada Geese (and Brant)

- Unit 1: October 1 – December 16, 2023
- Unit 2: November 6, 2022 – February 18, 2024
- Unit 3: Oct 21-Dec 24 and January 13-21, 2024

Light Geese

Statewide: September 23, 2022 – January 5, 2024

White-fronted Geese

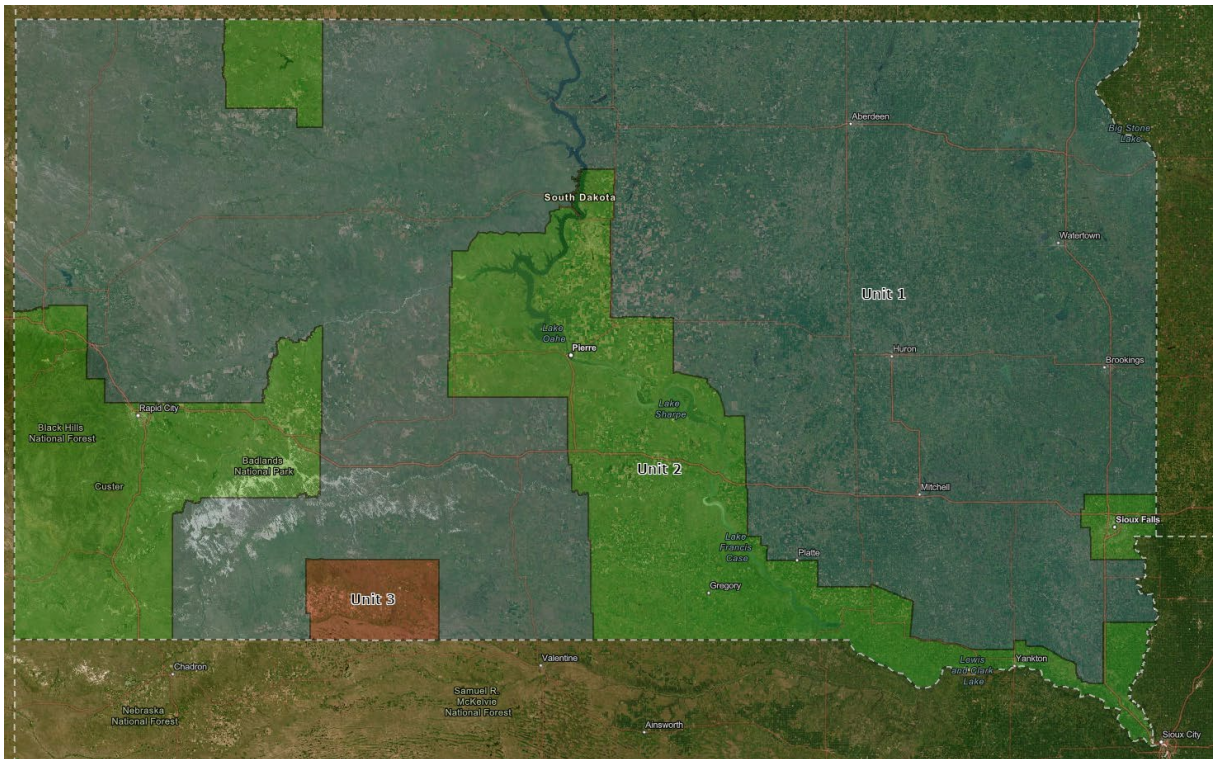
Statewide: September 23, 2023 – December 5, 2023

**Daily Limits:**

- Canada geese
  - Unit 1: 8
  - Unit 2: 4
  - Unit 3: 4
- Light geese: 50
- White-fronted goose: 3

**Possession Limits:**

- Light geese: Unlimited
- All other geese: Three times the daily limit



## DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Add 65 days (Oct 21-Dec 24) to the Goose Hunting Season Unit 3 season dates (74 days total) and remove language in rule regarding the Special Canada Goose Hunting Season and tagging requirements.

## SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

With the removal of the Special Canada Goose Hunting Season, those 65 days (Oct 21-Dec 24) will be added to the Goose Hunting Season Unit 3 season dates.

Comparison of the 2012 - 2021 Canada goose harvest statistics

Year	Resident Hunters					Nonresident Hunters				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2012	13,725	157,363	7.61	11.47	5.19	2,277	7,054	4.37	3.10	5.44
2013	12,004	117,846	7.54	9.82	5.06	2,160	6,310	4.24	2.92	5.37
2014	12,130	97,956	6.92	8.08	4.96	1,969	5,193	4.31	2.76	5.22
2015	10,228	73,471	7.00	7.18	4.78	2,104	5,482	4.30	2.70	4.98
2016	9,964	85,809	6.98	8.61	4.87	2,046	5,485	4.51	2.77	4.86
2017	9,762	76,827	6.95	7.87	5.06	2,428	6,601	4.19	2.74	5.18
2018	8,633	63,848	6.67	7.40	4.93	2,289	5,638	4.17	2.52	5.11
2019	9,264	78,143	6.85	8.44	5.09	2,209	5,995	4.05	2.82	5.41
2020	10,356	93,682	6.96	9.05	5.07	2,199	6,924	3.96	3.15	5.38
2021	9,997	104,693	7.20	10.47	5.14	2,357	6,736	4.14	2.89	5.27

Comparison of the 2012 - 2021 regular season light goose harvests

Year	Residents					Nonresidents				
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Day Hunted	Ave Bag	Satisfaction
2012	4,113	49,788	5.66	12.10	5.19	726	5,383	4.81	7.41	5.49
2013	3,747	46,871	5.25	12.51	5.01	641	6,451	4.85	10.06	5.48
2014	3,572	49,460	5.34	13.85	4.92	514	4,355	4.58	8.47	5.02
2015	3,096	37,266	5.66	12.04	4.78	519	3,492	4.71	6.72	4.83
2016	3,206	39,841	5.41	12.43	4.85	515	5,263	5.40	10.22	4.77
2017	4,159	70,772	6.05	17.02	5.09	1,013	13,972	4.27	13.80	5.22
2018	3,099	39,624	5.40	12.79	4.93	883	6,644	4.39	7.53	4.85
2019	3,060	41,524	4.85	13.57	5.18	774	5,714	4.61	7.38	5.55
2020	3,415	43,499	5.61	12.74	5.17	761	5,473	3.92	7.20	5.27
2021	2,799	50,282	5.51	17.97	5.26	788	8,980	4.15	11.40	5.38

Comparison of the 2012 - 2021 white-fronted goose harvests

Year	Residents				Nonresidents			
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag, Season	Number Hunters	Harvest	Ave Days Hunted	Ave Bag, Season
2012	1,685	3,114	6.96	1.85	440	371	4.88	0.84
2013	1,098	1,694	5.83	1.54	224	197	5.13	0.88
2014	951	1,378	6.13	1.45	244	151	4.80	0.62
2015	1,097	1,618	5.93	1.47	275	201	5.20	0.73
2016	992	1,707	6.43	1.72	295	176	5.52	0.60
2017	1,185	2,286	6.30	1.93	354	292	5.00	0.83
2018	1,262	2,428	5.67	1.92	426	293	4.83	0.69
2019	1,015	2,176	4.60	2.14	358	601	4.78	1.68
2020	1,256	2,804	7.05	2.23	283	359	4.26	1.27
2021	1,358	3,748	5.61	2.76	466	1,071	4.33	2.30

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:16:07. Goose hunting season, Conservation Order, and August Management Take established -- Shooting hours -- Exceptions -- Open units -- Closed areas. The light goose hunting season is open statewide for 105 consecutive days beginning on the last Saturday of September. A Conservation Order is open statewide from the day after Unit 2 dark goose season ends to May 15. Only light geese, as defined in § 41:06:16:06.01, may be taken during a Conservation Order. As used in this article, a Conservation Order is a Congressional Order which amends the Fish and Wildlife Service regulations based on a 1999 Congressional action (Pub. L. No. 106-108,) effectively reinstating regulations intended to reduce the population of mid-continent light geese (MCLG). The law authorizes the use of additional hunting methods (electronic calls and unplugged guns) to increase the take of MCLG. As a result, a Conservation Order for the reduction of the MCLG population was authorized.

Additionally, an August Management Take for the taking of Canada geese is open to South Dakota residents beginning on the third Saturday of August through August 31 in Meade County south of South Dakota Highway 34, Pennington County west of the Cheyenne River, and the counties of Aurora, Beadle, Bon Homme, Brookings, Brown, Clark, Clay, Codington, Davison, Day, Deuel, Edmunds, Faulk, Hamlin, Hanson, Hutchinson, Grant, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, Marshall, McCook, McPherson, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Turner, Union and Yankton.

The white-fronted goose season is open statewide for 74 consecutive days beginning on the last Saturday of September.

The dark goose season is open statewide as specifically provided for in this section ~~and the special Canada goose hunting units in § 41:06:16:08:~~

(1) Unit 1: the counties of Aurora, Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Butte, Campbell, Clark, Codington, Corson, Davison, Day, Deuel, Douglas, Edmunds, Faulk, Grant, Haakon, Hamlin, Hand, Hanson, Harding, Hutchinson, Jackson, Jerauld, Jones, Kingsbury, Lake, McCook, McPherson, Marshall, Meade, Mellette, Moody, Miner, Oglala Lakota, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Todd, Turner, Walworth, and Ziebach, that portion of Dewey County north of Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Road 9, and the section of U.S. Highway 212 east of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8 junction, that portion of Potter County east of U.S. Highway 83, that portion of Sully County east of U.S. Highway 83, portions of Hyde, Buffalo, Brule, Charles Mix, and Bon Homme counties north and east of a line beginning at the Hughes-Hyde county line on State Highway 34, east to Lees Boulevard, southeast to the State Highway 34, east 7 miles to 350<sup>th</sup> Avenue, south to Interstate 90 on 350<sup>th</sup> Avenue, south and east on State Highway 50 to Geddes, east on 285<sup>th</sup> Street to U.S. Highway 281, north on U.S. Highway 281 to the Charles Mix-Douglas county boundary, the portion of Bon Homme County north of State Highway 50, the portions of Yankton and Clay counties north of County Highway 585 (306<sup>th</sup> Street) to U.S. Highway 81, then north on U.S. Highway 81 to 303<sup>rd</sup> Street, then east on 303<sup>rd</sup> Street to 444<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then south on 444<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 305<sup>th</sup> Street, then east on Bluff Road (305<sup>th</sup> Street) to County Highway 19, south to State Highway 50 and east to the Clay/Union County line, and the portion of Perkins County west of State Highway 75 and south of State Highway 20, that portion of Lincoln County west of State Highway 17 and south of County Highway 116 (Klondike Road), and the portion of Minnehaha County north of a line beginning at the junction of the South Dakota-Minnesota state line and County Highway 122 (254<sup>th</sup> Street) west to its junction with County Highway 149 (464<sup>th</sup> Avenue), the portion west of County Highway 149 (464<sup>th</sup> Avenue) to Hartford, the portion west of County Highway 151 (463<sup>rd</sup> Avenue) to State Highway 42, the portion south of State Highway 42 to State Highway 17, and the portion west of State Highway 17 to the Minnehaha-Lincoln county boundary. The season is open for 107 consecutive days, less the number of days set aside for the Early Fall Canada Goose season established in chapter 41:06:50 that begins on October 1;

(2) Unit 2: those portions of the state not described in Unit 1 and Unit 3. The season is open for 105 consecutive days preceding and including the Sunday closest to February 15; and

(3) Unit 3: Bennett County. The season is open for 65 consecutive days beginning on the third Saturday of October and nine consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday of January.

Except for the light goose Conservation Order, shooting hours for geese are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset daily. The shooting hours for the light goose Conservation Order are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset daily.

~~41:06:16:09. Bag and possession limits on geese. The daily bag limit in the special Canada goose hunting unit established in § 41:06:16:08 may include no more than 50 light geese, three geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and three white-fronted geese.~~

The daily bag limit in Unit 1 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 50 light geese, eight geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and three white-fronted geese. The daily bag limit in Unit 2 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 50 light geese, four geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and three white-fronted geese. The daily bag limit in Unit 3 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 50 light geese, and four geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and three white-fronted geese. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit, except there is no possession limit for light geese.

There is no daily bag or possession limit for light geese taken during a Conservation Order.

During the August Management Take, the daily bag limit is 15 Canada geese. There is no possession limit for Canada geese during the August Management Take.

#### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
    - Simplification of hunting units and aligning resident opportunity with nonresident opportunity.
2. Historical Considerations
  - Historically, the Special Canada Goose Season was created to limit goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County. There is no evidence of either a biological or social concern of resident goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County.
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?

There is no evidence of either a biological or social concern of resident goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County.
4. Social Considerations
  - This will align hunter opportunity among resident and nonresidents, but nonresidents will still be limited.
5. Financial considerations
  - No resident hunters will be required to purchase a Special Canada Goose permit.

#### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, it simplifies regulations and increases resident hunter opportunity.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Increases opportunity and decreases complexity.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

<b>APPROVE</b> _____	<b>MODIFY</b> _____	<b>REJECT</b> _____	<b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Spring Light Goose Conservation Order.**

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2024 hunting season

**Season Dates:** February 19 – May 15, 2024

**Open Area:** Statewide

**Daily Limit:** None

**Possession Limit:** None

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. With the exception of items 2-5, requirements and restrictions for the Conservation Order are the same as fall waterfowl hunting seasons.
2. The Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation stamp is not required.
3. The use of electronic calls is allowed.
4. Shotguns may be capable of holding more than three shells.
5. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Comparison of the 2013 - 2022 Conservation Order light goose statistics

Year	Residents			Nonresidents		
	Number Hunters	Harvest	Total Days Hunted	Number Hunters	Harvest	Total Days Hunted
2013	3,166	53,571	15,502	4,142	114,926	15,856
2014	2,159	41,386	11,832	4,514	107,730	17,949
2015	2,147	53,046	12,402	4,277	112,285	16,569
2016	1,866	36,572	9,485	3,843	89,627	15,076
2017	2,672	56,683	16,068	4,448	124,777	17,559
2018	2,736	51,260	14,029	4,643	114,819	18,548
2019	1,413	31,475	6,976	2,700	49,219	9,490
2020	2,078	31,164	11,197	2,830	65,682	11,498
2021	1,755	32,553	9,144	4,446	95,776	17,870
2022	2,101	51,071	10,856	4,329	118,576	17,610

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA



2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

#### **RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Special Canada Goose Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16:08

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2023 hunting season

**Season Dates:** 65 consecutive days beginning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of October

**Open Area:** Bennett County (Unit 3)

**Licenses:** 800 permits with 3-tags per permit

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Repeal the Special Canada Goose Hunting Season which regulates resident hunters in Bennett County to 800 licenses with a 3-tags. This will effectively allow an unlimited number of residents in Bennett with a daily bag limit rather than a 3-tag limit.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

With the proposed changes to the nonresident waterfowl units, this change would remove the 800-permit cap and 3-tag limit on residents to align resident daily bag limits with nonresidents. Resident licenses would remain unlimited whereas nonresidents would be limited. The Special Canada Goose Hunting Season was implemented in Bennett County to limit the biological impact of goose harvest and the number of resident hunters. Historical data (table below) suggest a biologically minimal goose harvest and there have been no concerns of hunter crowing in Bennett County.

Year	Licenses Available	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Applicants	Licenses Sold	Geese Harvested
2005	800	754	797	884
2006	800	799	800	1,136
2007	800	828	800	1,016
2008	800	740	800	720
2009	800	665	800	589
2010	800	524	800	810
2011	800	429	800	952
2012	800	406	800	1,139
2013	800	468	799	671
2014	800	412	800	585
2015	800	390	801	635
2016	800	370	799	410
2017	800	289	800	933
2018	800	241	799	598
2019	800	241	789	676
2020	800	188	754	731
2021	800	169	799	779

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

**Recommended changes from last year:**

Repeal 41:06:16:08

**~~41:06:16:08. Special Canada goose hunting unit established -- Limited permits~~**

**~~Application.~~** Unit CGW-11A: Bennett County, including tribal trust lands, is open for the special Canada goose hunting season for 65 consecutive days beginning on the third Saturday of October; 800 permits with three tags per permit.

-

~~— A person may not hunt Canada geese unless the person has been issued a special permit and tags. Each tag is valid for taking one Canada goose consistent with the provisions of § 41:06:16:09. Each goose must be tagged immediately upon retrieval.~~

-

~~— Half of the permits are available to persons with land occupant preference. If licenses remain unsold following an initial first-come, first-served period, a person already holding a license may apply for up to two additional licenses.~~

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
    - Simplification of hunting units and aligning resident opportunity with nonresident opportunity.
2. Historical Considerations
  - Historically, the Special Canada Goose Season was created to limit goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County. There is no evidence of either a biological or social concern of resident goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County.
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
 

There is no evidence of either a biological or social concern of resident goose hunters and harvest in Bennett County.
4. Social Considerations
  - This will align hunter opportunity among resident and nonresidents, but nonresidents will still be limited.
5. Financial considerations
  - No resident hunters will be required to purchase a Special Canada Goose permit.

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, it simplifies regulations and increases resident hunter opportunity.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Increases opportunity and decreases complexity.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Reduced revenue because about 800 fewer licenses would be sold.

<b>APPROVE</b> _____	<b>MODIFY</b> _____	<b>REJECT</b> _____	<b>NO ACTION</b> _____
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# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Waterfowl Hunting Seasons Chapter 41:06:16

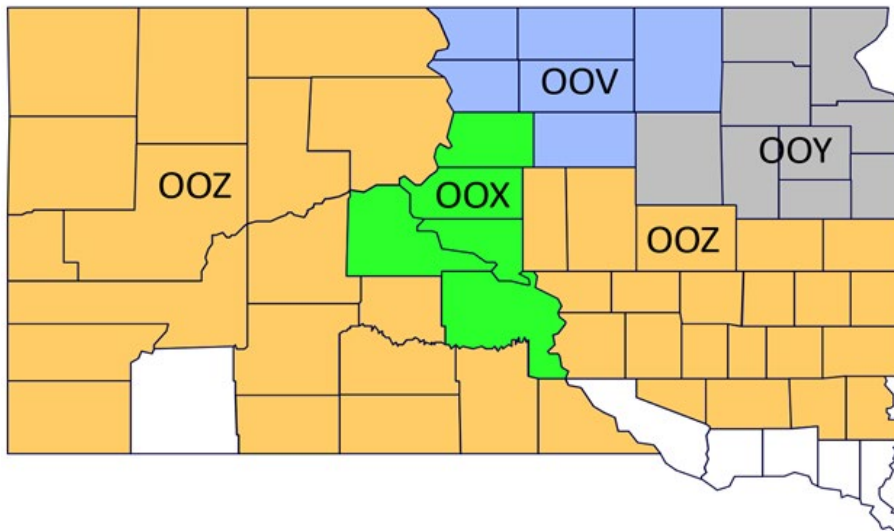
<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

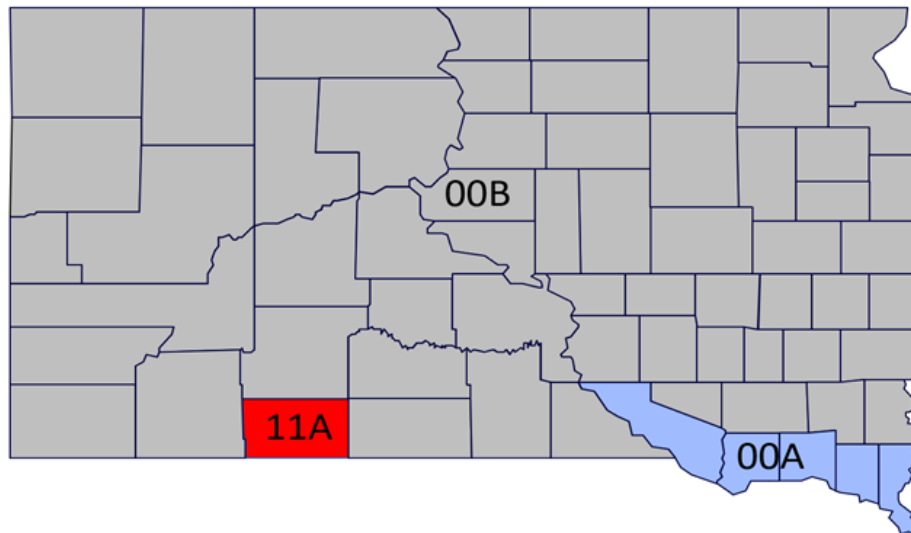
**Duration of Proposal:** 2023/2024 waterfowl hunting seasons

**Licenses:** Nonresidents: Limited in most units and seasons (proposed 6,300)

Current 3-day Nonresident Waterfowl Units



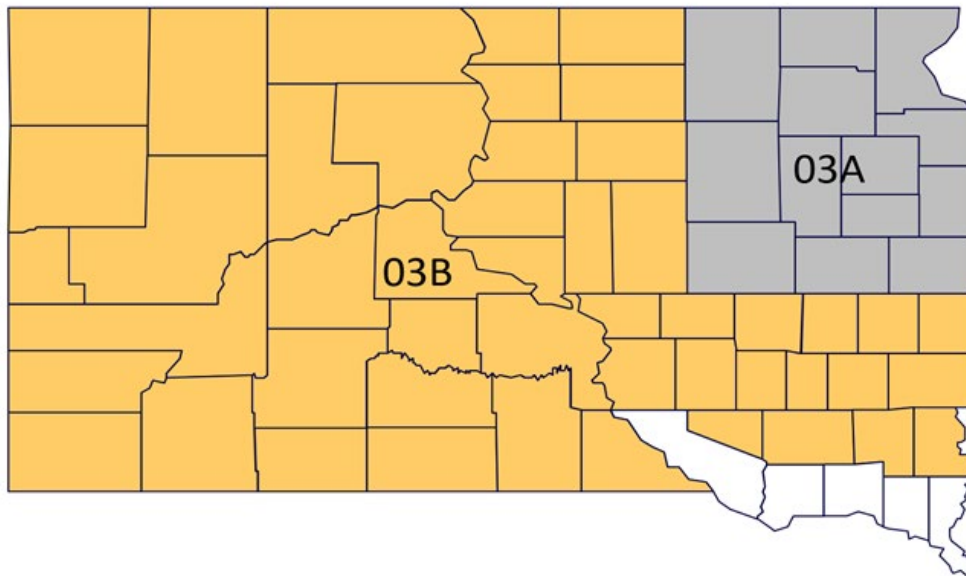
Current 10-day and Season-long Nonresident Waterfowl Units



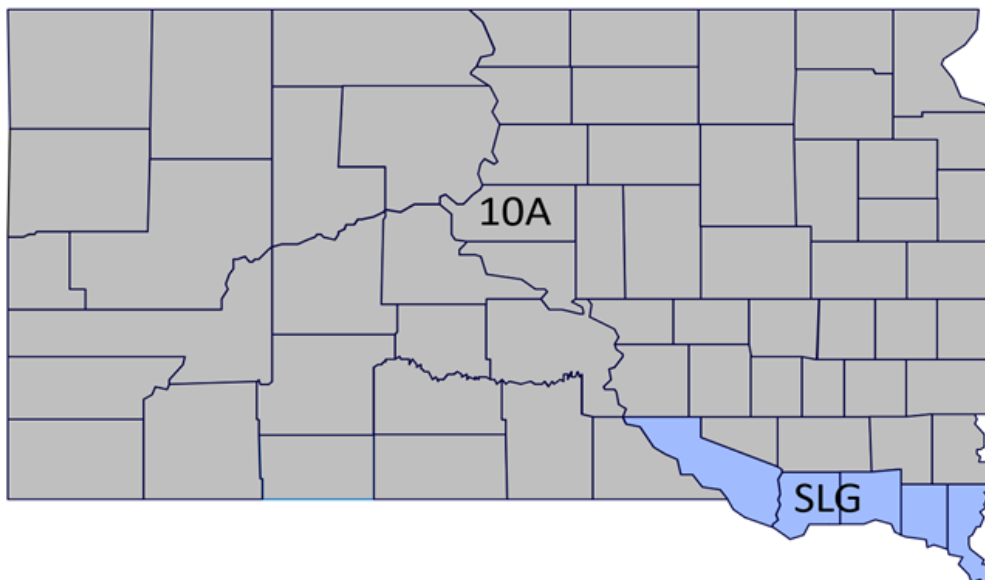
## DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Eliminate Special Canada Goose Hunting Season and tagging requirements for Bennett County.
2. Retain Goose Hunting Season Unit 3 in current form and add the 65 days from Special Canada Goose Hunting Season to Unit 3 Goose Hunting Season.
3. Eliminate Bennett County nonresident duck hunting Unit 11A and include Bennett County into the 03B And 10A units.
4. Eliminate the 4 current nonresident hunting units for 3-day temporary licenses and create 2 hunting units for the 3-day nonresident licenses valid on public and private lands.
5. Retain statewide nonresident unit (excluding 5-county hunting unit in SE SD) for two 5-day licenses.
6. Increase the 2,000 3-day temporary nonresident licenses to 2,050.
7. Increase the 3,750 two 5-day nonresident licenses to 4,000.

Recommended 3-day Nonresident Waterfowl Units



Recommended 10-day and Season-long Nonresident Waterfowl Units



### Current Nonresident Waterfowl System

Season/Unit	Private/Public	Length	Description	2022 Licenses
<b>NRW-00V</b>	Private	3 day	Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson, and Walworth counties	500
<b>NRW-00X</b>	Private	3 day	Hughes, Lyman, Potter, Stanley, and Sully counties	750
<b>NRW-00Y</b>	Public and Private	3 day	Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Marshall, Roberts, and Spink counties	500
<b>NRW-00Z</b>	Private	3 day	Statewide except for Units 00A, 00X, 00V, 00Y, and 11A	250
<b>NRW-00B</b>	Public and Private	Two 5-day periods	Statewide except for Units 00A and 11A	3,725
<b>NRW-11A</b>	Public and Private	Two 5-day periods	Bennett County	25
<b>NRW-00A</b>	Public and Private	Season Long	Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay, and Union counties	250

**Total 6,000**

### Recommended Nonresident Waterfowl License System

Season/Unit	Private/Public	Length	Description	2023 Licenses
<b>NRW-03A</b>	Public and Private	3 day	Beadle, Brown, Brookings, Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Marshall, Roberts, and Spink counties	600
<b>NRW-03B</b>	Public and Private	3 day	Statewide except for Unit 03A and Unit SLG	1,450
<b>NRW-10A</b>	Public and Private	Two 5-day periods	Statewide except for Unit SLG	4,000
<b>NRW-SLG</b>	Public and Private	Season Long	Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay, and Union counties	250

**Total 6,300**

## SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Nonresident Waterfowl regulations are overly complex. There are currently 4 units for 3-day licenses, some for private and public land and some for private land only. There are 3 public and private land units for 10-day and season long licenses. Aggregating unit boundaries and making all licenses valid on both private and public lands will simplify regulations. The proposal would simplify the 3-day licenses from 4 to 2 units and the 10-day and season long licenses from 3 to 2 units.

Based on 2022 licensing data, there was a 64% chance to draw a 00Y, 91% chance to draw a 00Z license, and a 74% chance to draw a 00B license with no preference in the first draw. The 00X and 00V licenses went to the 2<sup>nd</sup> draw where 00V applicants had a 50% draw success and there were leftover 00X licenses.

A 5% license increase to nonresident waterfowl type 86 licenses would result in 300 additional licenses. The Recommended Nonresident Waterfowl License System table above indicates proposed 5% nonresident license increase for proposed unit boundaries. In addition to simplifying Nonresident Waterfowl regulations, the recommendations will provide more opportunity in areas where it is more difficult to draw licenses while still limiting licenses in the highest hunter density areas.

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:16:11. Maximum number of nonresident waterfowl licenses -- Open units -- Dates -- License restrictions. The maximum number of nonresident waterfowl licenses to be issued by lottery is ~~4,000~~ 4,250 special nonresident waterfowl licenses, 2,000 early fall Canada goose temporary nonresident licenses, ~~2,000~~ 2,050 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses, 100 nonresident youth waterfowl licenses, and 10,000 spring snow goose temporary nonresident licenses divided for administrative purposes as follows:

(1) Unit ~~NRW-00ASLG~~: the counties of Union, Clay, Yankton, Bon Homme, and Charles Mix. No more than 250 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;

(2) Unit ~~NRW-00B10A~~: all open counties not in Units ~~NRW-00ASLG~~ or ~~NRW-11A~~. No more than ~~3,725~~ 4,000 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;

(3) Unit ~~NRW-00C~~: those counties as described in § 41:06:50:02. No more than 2,000 early fall Canada goose temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;

~~—(4) Unit ~~NRW-11A~~: Bennett County. No more than 25 special nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. The season in this unit is open for 65 consecutive days beginning on the third Saturday of October and during any period that Bennett County is open in January as described in subdivision 41:06:16:07(3);~~

~~—(5) Unit ~~NRW-00X~~: the counties of Potter, Stanley, Sully, Hughes, and Lyman. No more than 750 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. The licenses issued pursuant to this subdivision are valid only on private property;~~

~~—(6) Unit ~~NRW-00V~~: the counties of Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson, and Walworth. No more than 500 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. The licenses issued pursuant to this subdivision are valid only on private property;~~

(7) Unit ~~NRW-00Y03A~~: the counties of ~~Spink, Marshall, Roberts, Day, Grant, Clark, Codington, Deuel, and Hamlin~~ Beadle, Brown, Brookings, Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Grant, Hamlin, Kingsbury, Marshall, Roberts and Spink. No more than ~~500~~ 600 three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued;

(8) Unit ~~NRW-00Z03B~~: statewide except the counties in Units ~~NRW-00A03A~~ and ~~NRW-SLG~~, ~~NRW-11A~~, ~~NRW-00V~~, ~~NRW-00X~~ and ~~NRW-00Y~~. No more than ~~250~~ 1,450 fall three-day temporary nonresident waterfowl licenses may be issued. The licenses issued pursuant to this subdivision are valid only on private property;

(9) Unit NRW-ST1: statewide. No more than 10,000 spring snow goose temporary nonresident licenses may be issued. The licenses issued pursuant to this subdivision are valid only during a Conservation Order;

(10) Unit NYW-YW1: statewide. No more than 100 nonresident youth waterfowl licenses may be issued for the youth waterfowl season established in Chapter 41:06:49. A nonresident youth may also hunt during the youth waterfowl season with a valid waterfowl hunting license as provided for in this section.

Licenses issued under this section are valid only in the unit for which they are issued. ~~Licenses for Unit NRW-11A include two tags for Canada geese. Each tag is valid for taking one Canada goose consistent with the provisions of § 41:06:16:09. Each goose shall be tagged immediately upon retrieval.~~

## RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

### 1. The Issue

- Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - Simplification of hunting regulations is a priority for SDGFP. Over the years for a variety of reasons, unnecessary levels of complexity have developed. These recommended changes will reduce regulatory complexity for nonresident hunters. With the current number of resident hunters participating, increased opportunity for nonresident waterfowl hunting exists without undue impact to hunters or the resource. Standard public input through the commission process will be solicited regarding these proposed changes. Changes can be evaluated through harvest surveys to gauge participation and satisfaction levels of both resident and nonresident hunters.

### 2. Historical Considerations

- Historically, regulatory complexity in nonresident waterfowl regulations was largely driven by a desire to spread pressure across the landscape and to reduce competition with resident hunters. Through time, an ever more complex system of nonresident hunting units has developed.
- The Special Canada Goose Hunting Season was established at a time during restoration that required restricted harvest in certain areas. Intense management for the Canada goose population in South Dakota is no longer necessary.

### 3. Biological Considerations

- What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - Waterfowl populations are generally strong in South Dakota and the Central Flyway. While breeding conditions across the prairie pothole region are constantly changing, current wetland habitat conditions in South Dakota are expected to be good to excellent. Duck harvest increases from the proposed changes to nonresident waterfowl will be minimal.
  - Resident giant Canada goose populations are currently above management objective with increases likely for the foreseeable future. Increased harvest rates will be needed to manage the population at desired levels across the Central Flyway. Removing tagging restrictions and associated hunter quotas with the Special Canada goose season will increase hunter opportunity and likely harvest rates on giant Canada geese staging and wintering in Bennett County.

### 4. Social Considerations

- The nonresident waterfowl issue is and will continue to be contentious issue. Resident Canada Goose numbers remain low in Bennett County, but numbers increase as migrant



geese stage on and around Lacreek Refuge. The increase in Canada Goose numbers late in the season has caused some issues and concerns with residents trying to grow winter grains as the geese seek this food source in the winter months.

5. Financial considerations

- As with most hunting activities, declining participation threatens funding for conservation, monitoring and management. While increases in financial return will be nominal, increased revenue through license sales is expected. Financial returns of the sporting goods and hospitality industry may also increase through these proposed changes.

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, it simplifies the unit structure for waterfowl hunting and slightly increases the number of licenses available for the season.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? This regulation would provide a slight increase in opportunity for current and new waterfowl hunters.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

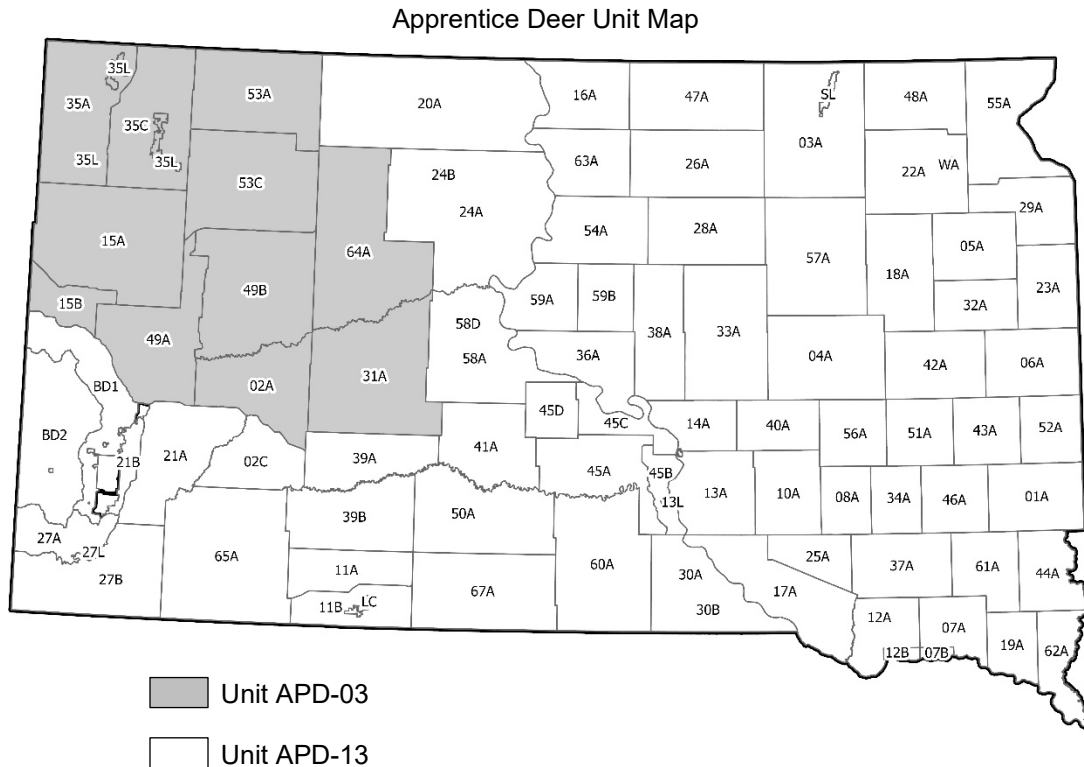
**FISCAL IMPACT**

There will be an increase in revenue from additional nonresident licenses and a decrease from removing resident license requirements for Bennett County.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

### Apprentice Hunter Deer Season 2023-2024 “Antlerless License” Restrictions

1. Unit APD-03: West River Units 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C and 64A. Single tag “any antlerless deer” license.
2. Unit APD-13: That portion of the state not included in Unit APD-03 and excluding Custer State Park. Single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license.
3. Apprentice deer hunters may purchase one (1) deer license.



# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Apprentice Hunter Deer Season Chapter 41:06:44

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 9, 2023 – January 1, 2024  
September 14, 2024 – January 1, 2025

**Open Areas:** Unit APD-03: West River Units 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C and 64A (See map for open area)  
Unit APD-13: That portion of the state not included in Unit APD-03 (See map for open area)

**Licenses:** Unit APD-03: Single tag “any antlerless deer” license  
Unit APD-13: Single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Any resident hunter who has not held a license to hunt deer during the previous 10 years may purchase an Apprentice Hunter Deer License. Receipt of an Apprentice Hunter Deer License does not affect eligibility for a license in any other season.
2. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
3. Hunters may purchase one (1) Apprentice Hunter Deer License valid for either Unit APD-03 or Unit APD-13.
4. Custer State Park is closed to those with Apprentice Hunter Deer License and National Wildlife Refuges are closed unless specified by the refuge.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Recommended change:** Remove closed area specifications to Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property.

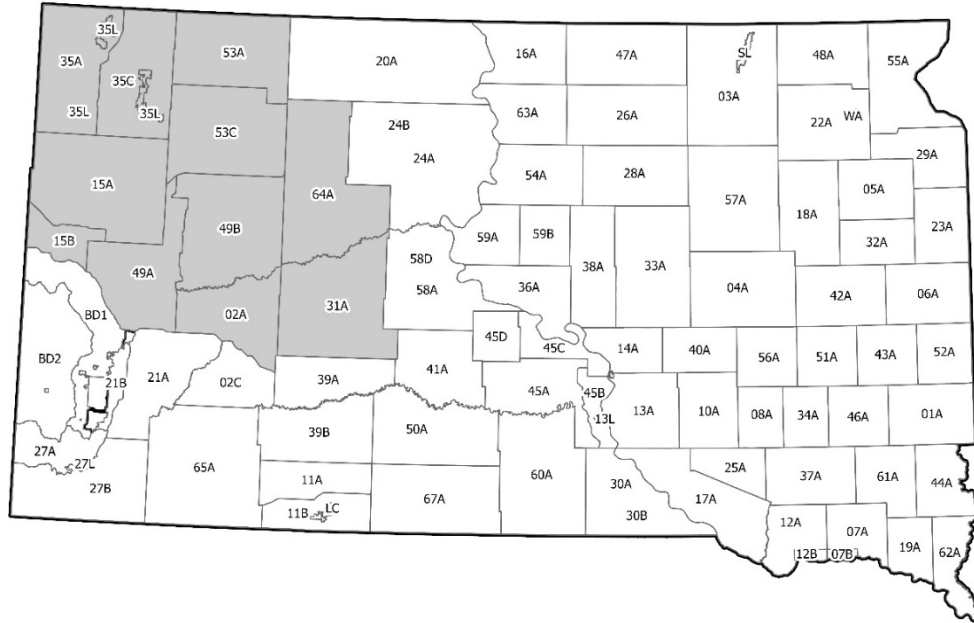
### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property in West River deer hunting unit 49A is already limited to archery only equipment (ARSD 41:06:13:04) and additional hunting opportunity can be provided for hunters because of the limited success based on the weapon restriction.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2018	4,845	264	1,823	35	377	2,499	52%
2019	4,424	263	1,722	37	297	2,319	52%
2020	4,302	249	1,846	26	372	2,493	58%
2021	641	21	323	0	18	362	57%
2022	527	27	212	4	22	263	50%

Apprentice Deer Unit Map

Unit APD-03
  Unit APD-13



**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

41:06:44:04.01. Closed areas. The youth deer season is closed and licenses are not valid in the following areas:

- (1) Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (2) Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in Bennett County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (3) Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge in Charles Mix County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (4) Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Bird Refuge in Day County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge; and
- (5) Fort Mead Bureau of Land Management south unit and the signed portion of the north unit in Meade County.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue – Not applicable
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, youth would be able to hunt additional areas with archery equipment.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Yes, see response to #2.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes, see response to #2.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

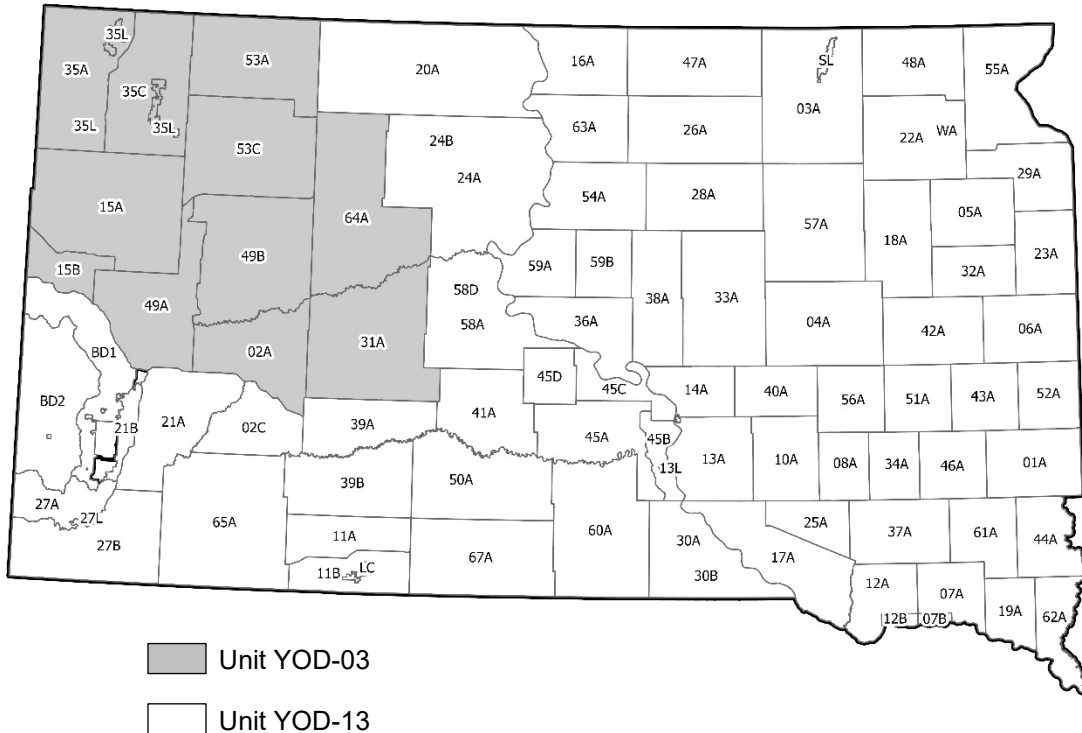
No fiscal impact to the Department.

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>MODIFY</b>	<b>REJECT</b>	<b>NO ACTION</b>
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## Youth Deer Hunting Season 2023-2024 “Antlerless License” Restrictions

1. Unit YOD-03: West River Units 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C and 64A. Single tag “any antlerless deer” license.
2. Unit YOD-13: That portion of the state not included in Unit YOD-03 and excluding Custer State Park. Single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license.
3. Youth deer hunters may purchase one (1) deer license.

Youth Deer Hunting Unit Map



# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Youth Deer Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:63

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 9, 2023 – January 1, 2024  
September 14, 2024 – January 1, 2025

**Open Areas:** Unit YOD-03: West River Units 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C and 64A (See map for open area)  
Unit YOD-13: That portion of the state not included in Unit YOD-03 (See map for open area)

**Licenses:** Unit YOD-03: Single tag “any antlerless deer” license  
Unit YOD-13: Single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license

### Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Both residents and nonresidents that have reached the age of 12 years during the period September through December 31 and have not reached the age of 18 years old by June 30; and any person who has not received a Mentored Deer License may purchase a Youth Deer License. Successful applicants for the Youth Deer License are not eligible for the Mentored Deer License.
2. Each hunter under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
3. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. Hunters may purchase one (1) Youth Deer Hunting License valid for either Unit YOD-03 or Unit YOD-13.
5. Custer State Park is closed to those with Youth Deer Hunting License and National Wildlife Refuges are closed unless specified by the refuge.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

#### **Recommended change:**

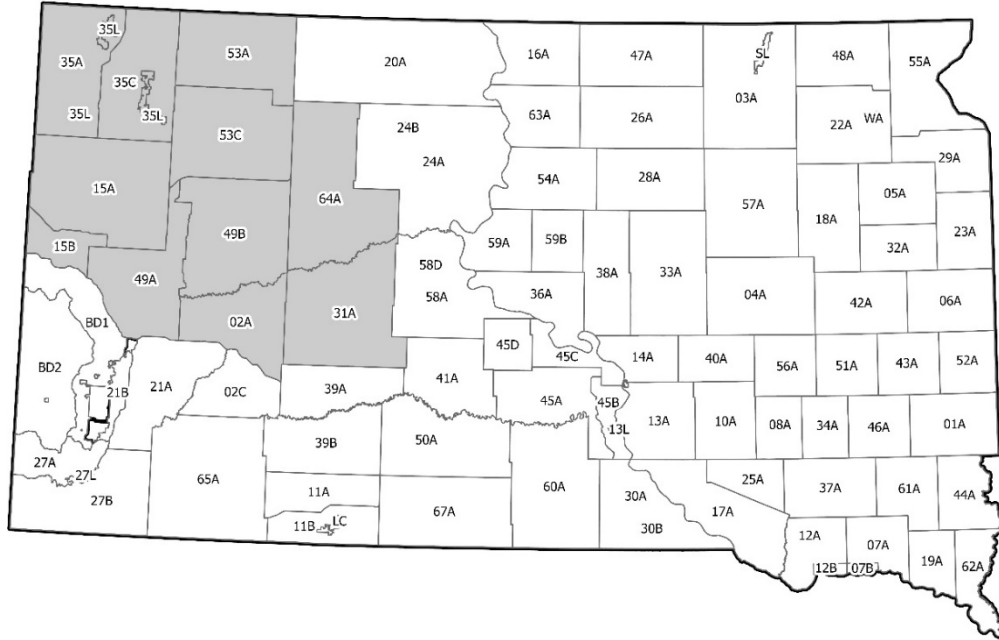
Remove closed area specifications to Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property in West River deer hunting unit 49A is already limited to archery only equipment (ARSD 41:06:13:04) and additional hunting opportunity can be provided for hunters because of the limited success based on the weapon restriction.

**Youth Deer Hunting Unit Map**

Unit YOD-03
  Unit YOD-13



**Mentored Youth Deer**

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	3,646	287	1,495	30	301	2,114	58%
2017	4,069	230	1,567	31	320	2,147	53%
2018	5,357	324	2,335	51	439	2,824	53%
2019	5,715	348	2,123	45	417	2,932	51%
2020	6,387	371	2,772	21	472	3,636	57%
2021	6,207	301	2,446	5	225	2,977	48%
2022	6,723	331	2,602	6	324	3,263	49%

**Youth Deer**

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	4,861	322	1,896	29	324	2,571	53%
2017	5,325	292	2,072	35	426	2,825	53%
2018	Modified into Apprentice Deer season						
2019							
2020							
2021	3,812	175	1,522	8	156	1,861	49%
2022	3,448	155	1,275	4	240	1,674	49%

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

41:06:63:04. Closed areas. The youth deer season is closed and licenses are not valid in the following areas:

- (1) Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;

- (2) Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in Bennett County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (3) Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge in Charles Mix County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge;
- (4) Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Bird Refuge in Day County, unless otherwise allowed by the refuge; and
- ~~(5) Fort Mead Bureau of Land Management south unit and the signed portion of the north unit in Meade County.~~

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

- 1. The Issue – Not applicable
- 2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
- 3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
- 4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
- 5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

- 1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate? No.
- 2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, youth would be able to hunt additional areas with archery equipment.
- 3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Yes, see response to #2.
- 4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes, see response to #2.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact to the Department.

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

## Custer State Park Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:41

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Unit Dates:** CUD-CU1-11: Any whitetail November 1-30  
CUD-CU1-13: Antlerless whitetail December 1-15

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

### Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Applicants successful in drawing an “any” tag type are ineligible for the license again for 10 years.
2. “Any Deer” and “Any Whitetail Deer” licenses are valid November 1-30.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Recommended changes from last year:** Remove the archery only equipment restriction from November 1-15.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Very little archery only hunting occurs between November 1-15 in Custer State Park. Expanding the use of firearms through the entire month of November for the Custer State Park any deer and any whitetail seasons will increase hunting opportunity and is not expected to result in a substantial biological difference in harvest. In addition, harvest can be managed using the total number of any whitetail and antlerless whitetail licenses in Custer State Park.

The recommended maximum number of one-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	40	10	19	0	0	29	72%
2017	64	30	11	1	0	42	66%
2018	64	26	9	0	0	36	56%
2019	87	26	24	3	0	53	61%
2020	88	28	25	3	0	56	63%
2021	73	20	22	0	0	41	57%
2022	75	14	27	0	0	42	56%

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

**41:06:41:01.** Custer State Park deer hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses. The Custer State Park deer hunting season is open from November 1 through December 15. No more than 100 one-tag deer licenses may be issued for the Custer State Park deer hunting season. ~~Hunting is limited to archery equipment from November 1 through November 15.~~

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

- 1. The Issue – Not applicable
- 2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
- 3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
- 4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
- 5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

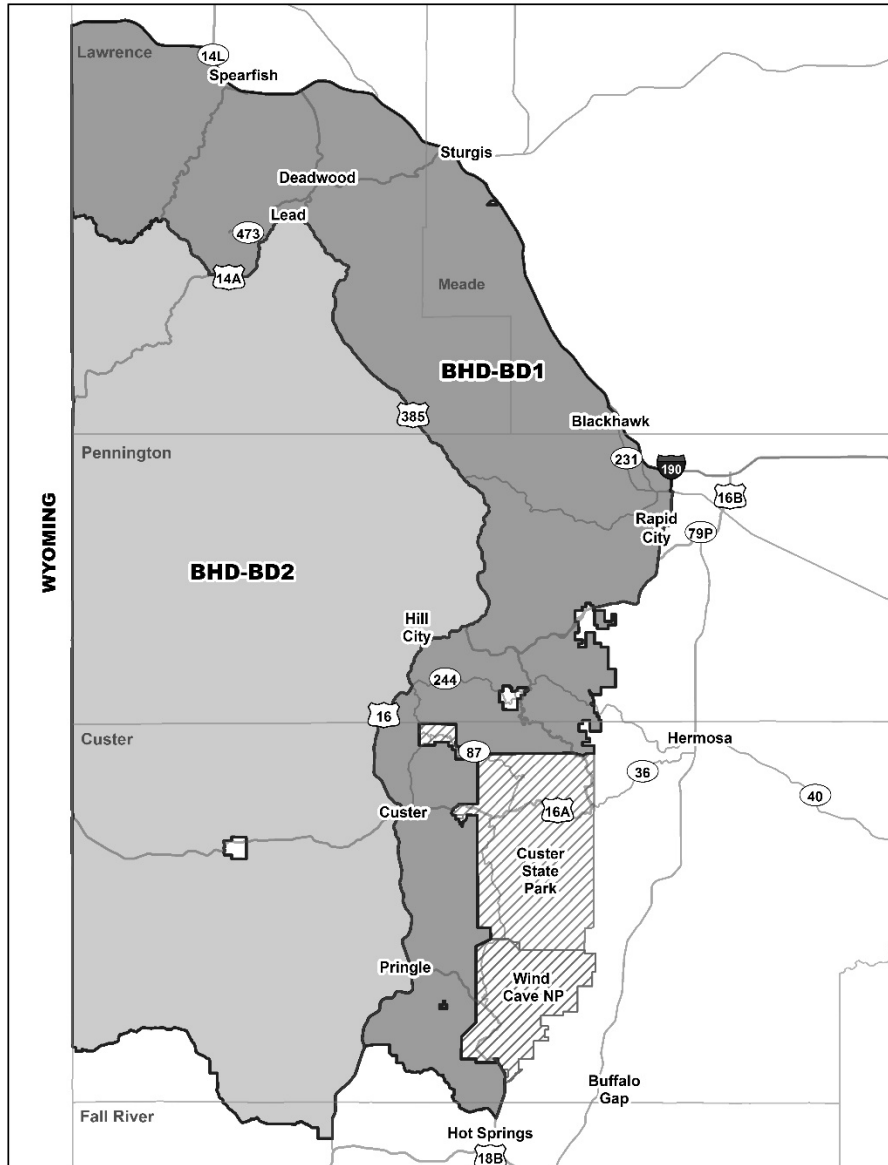
- 1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate? Not applicable.
- 2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Not applicable.
- 3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Not applicable.
- 4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact to the Department.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

# BLACK HILLS DEER UNITS



**BH1 – All of the area in BD1 and BD2**

## Black Hills Deer Licenses – 2023 and 2024

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## Black Hills Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:19

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** November 1-30

**Open Area:** Black Hills

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation for resident and nonresidents will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. No more than 5,000 one-tag deer licenses.
2. One-half of the resident licenses allocated for each unit are available for landowner preference.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The recommended maximum number of one-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	4,455	2,604	505	86	2	3,198	72%
2017	4,662	2,616	630	79	0	3,325	71%
2018	4,710	2,260	643	86	12	3,001	64%
2019	5,213	2,258	847	57	0	3,161	60%
2020	5,193	2,293	894	75	7	3,269	64%
2021	3,776	1,896	418	73	0	2,387	63%
2022	3,813	1,777	432	73	2	2,283	60%

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

None.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue – Not applicable
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate? Not applicable.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Not applicable.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Not applicable.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable.

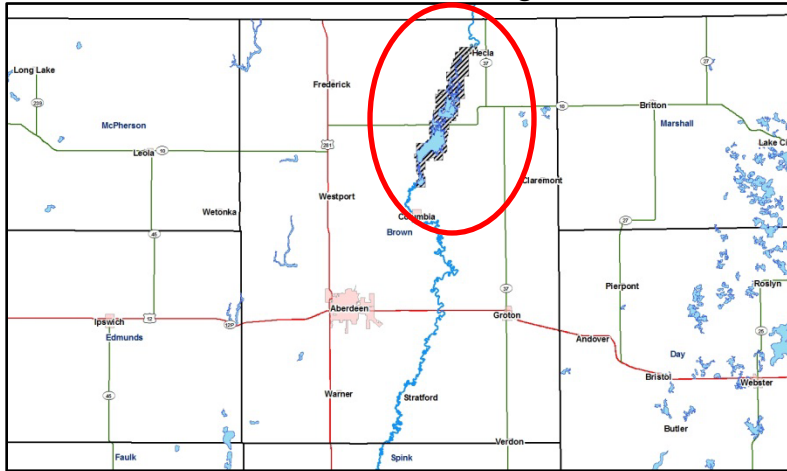
**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact to the Department.

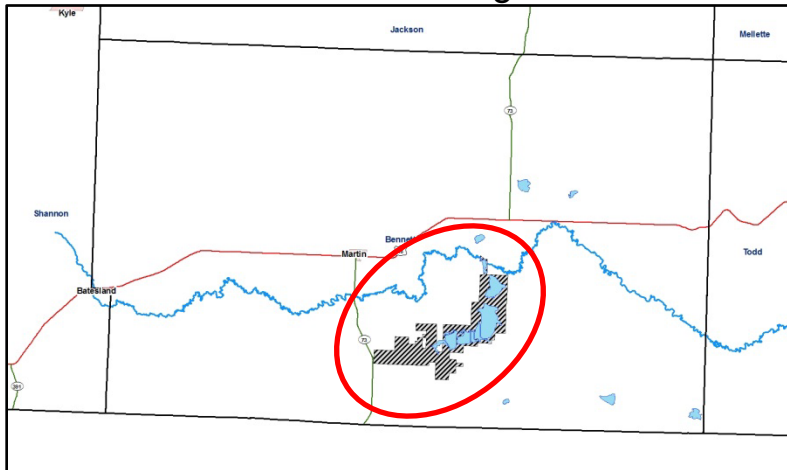
**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# REFUGE DEER UNITS

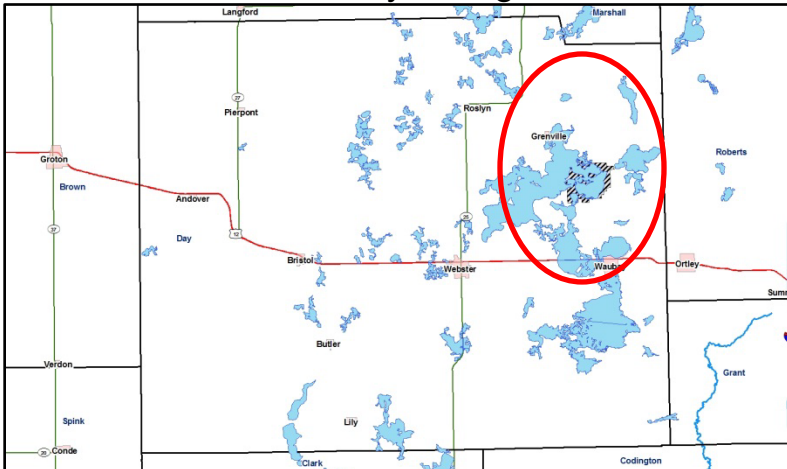
## Sand Lake Refuge



## Lacreek Refuge



## Waubay Refuge



# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:36

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**2023 Season Dates:** Sand Lake NWR November 11-15, November 16-20, November 21-26, November 27 – December 3, December 4-10  
Lacreek NWR October 18-24 and November 22-28  
Waubay NWR\* November 11-19 and November 25 – December 3  
\* includes Waubay State Game Bird Refuge

**2024 Season Dates:** Sand Lake NWR November 9-13, November 14-18, November 19-24, November 25 – December 1, December 2-8  
Lacreek NWR October 16-22 and November 27-December 3  
Waubay NWR\* November 9-17 and November 23 – December 1  
\* includes Waubay State Game Bird Refuge

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation for resident and nonresidents will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

#### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. The first season on Sand Lake NWR, all seasons on Lacreek NWR and Waubay NWR are restricted to muzzleloaders.
2. Applicants may apply for only one refuge unit (season) in the first application period.
3. Licenses remaining after the first application period may be purchased by any resident or nonresident on a first-come, first serve basis.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

#### **Recommended changes from last year:**

1. Restrict RFD-SL4 to muzzleloading rifles without telescopic sights.
2. Edit the open unit description of Lacreek Refuge to specify the refuge unit area is specified by the refuge.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The recommended maximum number of one-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

## Refuge Deer

Year	Licenses Sold	Bucks Harvested	Does Harvested	Total Harvest	Tag Success
2016	200	40	11	51	26%
2017	215	57	19	76	35%
2018	195	60	21	81	42%
2019	158	42	13	55	35%
2020	159	53	5	58	36%
2021	152	56	6	62	41%
2022	158	53	17	70	44%

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

1.

41:06:36:02. Sand Lake open units. The following is a description of the units open to deer hunting on the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge:

(1) Unit RFD-SL1 is open for five consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday of November. The licenses are restricted to muzzleloading rifles without telescopic sights as provided in § 41:06:04:14;

(2) Unit RFD-SL2 is open for five consecutive days beginning on the day following the end of the Unit RFD-SL1 season;

(3) Unit RFD-SL3 is open for six consecutive days beginning on the day following the end of the Unit RFD-SL2 season;

(4) Unit RFD-SL4 is open for seven consecutive days beginning on the day following the end of the Unit RFD-SL3 season. The licenses are restricted to muzzleloading rifles without telescopic sights as provided in § 41:06:04:14; and

(5) Unit RFD-SL5 is open for seven consecutive days beginning on the day following the end of the Unit RFD-SL4 season.

A hunter possessing an unfilled "antlerless deer" license for any Sand Lake deer hunting unit may hunt the refuge for nine consecutive days beginning on the day following the end of Unit RFD-SL5 season.

2.

41:06:36:02.01. Lacreek open units. The following is a description of the units open to deer hunting on the Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge:

(1) Unit RFD-LC1 is open for seven consecutive days beginning on the third Wednesday of October; and

(2) Unit RFD-LC2 is open for seven consecutive days beginning on the fourth Wednesday of November.

The deer hunting units within the refuge are set by Lacreek Refuge. Information is available at Lacreek Refuge headquarters and will be mailed to successful applicants.

All Lacreek open units are restricted to muzzleloading rifles without scopes.

## RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue



- Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
    - NA
  3. Biological Considerations
    - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
    - NA
  4. Social Considerations
    - NA
  5. Financial considerations
    - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

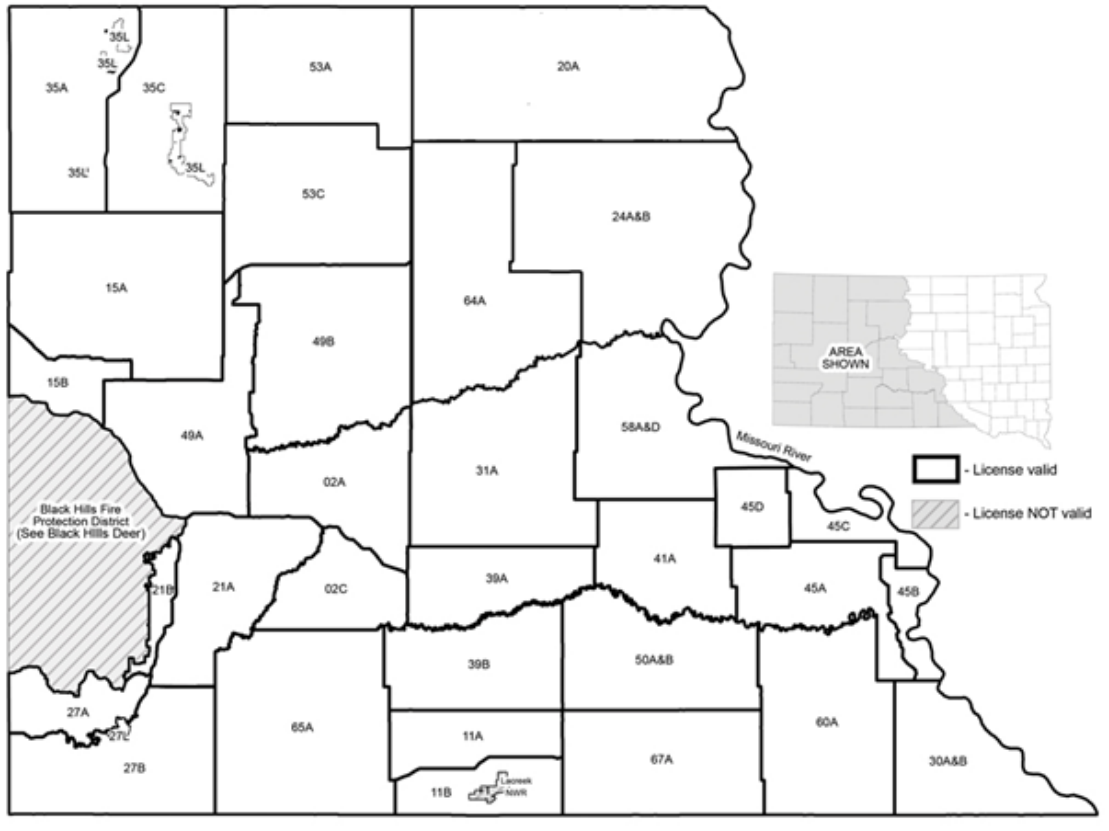
1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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# WEST RIVER DEER UNITS



## 2023 and 2024 - West River Deer License & Tag Numbers

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## West River Prairie Deer Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:20

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** All units excluding Gregory County: November 11-26, 2023  
Gregory County (Unit 30A): November 4-7 and November 20-26, 2023  
Gregory County (Unit 30B): November 11-26, 2023  
Antlerless deer tags only: December 9-17, 2023

All units excluding Gregory County: November 16-December 1, 2024  
Gregory County (Unit 30A): November 9-12 and November 25-December 1, 2024  
Gregory County (Unit 30B): November 16-December 1, 2024  
Antlerless deer tags only: December 14-22, 2024

**Open Area:** See the attached map

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation for resident and nonresidents will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

### Requirements and Restrictions:

1. 500 resident and 500 nonresident "any deer" licenses AND 500 resident and 500 nonresident "any whitetail deer" licenses are available through the "Special Buck" application.
2. No more than 20,000 one-tag deer licenses, 15,000 two-tag deer licenses and 10,000 three-tag licenses.
3. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference applicants.
4. Landowners may also purchase an "any deer" or "any deer + any antlerless deer" license that is valid only on their property as long they do not hold a regular West River deer license that allows the harvest of a buck.
5. Only persons using a wheelchair may apply for the licenses in Stanley County (Unit 58D) designated as a special "Hunters with Disabilities Unit."

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

#### Recommended changes:

1. Edit "Custer Count Road 319" error to "Custer County Road 317" in Unit WRD-27A description:
2. Remove Fort Meade exception in Unit WRD-49A description:

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The unit description for WRD-27A incorrectly referenced Custer County Road 319 and should reference Custer County Road 317.

Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management property in West River deer hunting unit 49A is already limited to archery only equipment (ARSD 41:06:13:04) and additional hunting opportunity can be provided for hunters because of the limited success based on the weapon restriction.

The recommended maximum number of one-tag, two-tag and three-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	21,237	7,600	3,557	2,869	257	14,283	53%
2017	20,142	6,896	2,799	3,373	213	13,280	56%
2018	20,163	6,696	2,916	3,320	250	13,182	56%
2019	19,349	6,618	3,340	2,874	256	10,089	59%
2020	19,382	7,285	4,028	3,077	219	14,610	63%
2021	21,072	6,710	4,941	3,026	336	15,013	58%
2022	21,944	6,364	4,941	3,020	398	14,724	56%

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

1. 41:06:20:

(12) Unit WRD-27A: those portions of Custer and Fall River Counties within a line beginning at the junction of the South Dakota-Wyoming border and U.S. Highway 18, then easterly along U.S. Highway 18 to its junction with the Cheyenne River, then easterly along the Cheyenne River to its junction with U.S. Highway 18 and 385, then northerly along U.S. Highway 18 and 385 to its junction with State Highway 79 and continuing along State Highway 79 to its junction with the section line between section 19 and section 18, township 6 south, range 7 east, then westerly along this section line to its junction with section 13 and section 24, township 6 south, range 7 east, then southerly along the section line between section 19 and section 24, township 6 south, range 7 east to its junction with Custer County Road 101, then westerly along Custer County Road 101 to its junction with U.S. Highway 385, then southerly along U.S. Highway 385 to its junction with Fall River County Road 18 (Argyle Road), then northwesterly along Fall River County Road 18 and Custer County Road 333 to its junction with State Highway 89, then southerly along State Highway 89 to its junction with Fall River County Road 12, then westerly along Fall River County Road 12 to its junction with Custer County Road 319, then westerly along Custer County Road 319 to its junction with Custer County Road 715, then westerly along Custer County Road 715 to its junction with Custer County Road 769, then westerly along Custer County Road 769 through Dewey to its junction with the South Dakota-Wyoming border, then southerly along the South Dakota-Wyoming border to its junction with U.S. Highway 18, the point of beginning, except the portion included in WRD-27L;

2. 41:06:20:

(28) Unit WRD-49A: the portion of Meade County east of Interstate 90, ~~except the Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management South Unit and the signed portion of the North Unit~~, south of U.S. Highway 212, and west of a line beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 212 and Meade County Road 23, then southerly along Meade County Road 23 to its junction with Meade County Road 28, then easterly along Meade County Roads ~~23-28~~, then southerly along Meade County Road 23 to its junction with State Highway 34, then southerly along Meade County Road 21 (New Underwood Road) to its junction with the Pennington County line and that portion of Pennington County west of Pennington County 160th Avenue (New Underwood Road) and north of Interstate 90;

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue

- Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
- NA

2. Historical Considerations

- NA

3. Biological Considerations

- What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
    - NA
  5. Financial considerations
    - NA

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

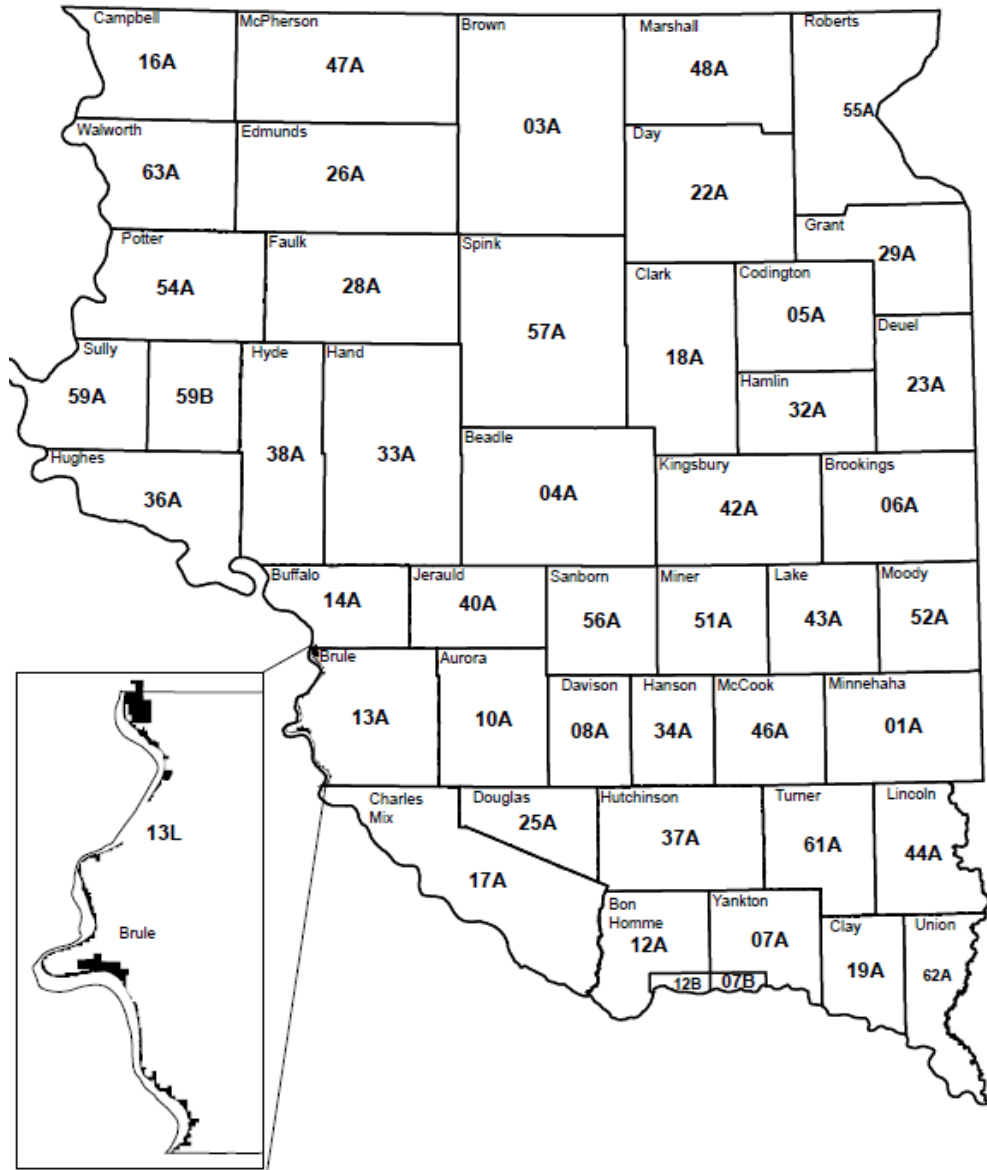
1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_ **REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_

# EAST RIVER DEER UNITS



## 2023-2024 – License and Tag Numbers by Unit

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## East River Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:21

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** November 18 – December 3, 2023  
Antlerless deer tags only: December 9-17, 2023

November 23 – December 8, 2024  
Antlerless deer tags only: December 14-22, 2024

**Open Area:** See the attached map

**Licenses:** Specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation for resident and nonresidents will be recommended by the Department to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

### **Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. 500 “any deer” licenses are available through the “Special Buck” application.
2. No more than 30,000 one-tag deer licenses, 15,000 two-tag deer licenses and 5,000 three-tag licenses.
3. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference.
4. Landowners not possessing a license that allows the harvest of a buck may purchase an “any deer” or a two-tag “any deer + antlerless deer” license that is valid on their property only.
5. Initially, all licenses are available only to residents. Nonresidents may apply for licenses remaining after the second lottery drawing.
6. A portion of southeastern Minnehaha County is closed to hunting with firearms other than muzzleloaders and shotguns using slugs.
7. Only unfilled “any antlerless deer” and “antlerless whitetail deer” tags are valid for 9 days beginning on the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The recommended maximum number of one-tag, two-tag and three-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	25,479	8,755	7,207	287	69	16,319	44%
2017	25,406	9,143	5,485	194	57	14,879	48%
2018	26,375	9,087	5,470	238	57	14,853	48%
2019	27,836	7,788	4,977	191	20	12,976	46%
2020	26,662	8,704	5,214	227	20	14,164	52%
2021	26,036	8,578	4,689	168	17	13,452	50%
2022	26,183	9,403	4,779	208	9	14,400	53%

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Not applicable
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? Not applicable.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Not applicable.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Not applicable.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Not applicable.

### FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact to the Department.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_



## Muzzleloader Deer Hunting Season 2023-2024 “Antlerless License” Restrictions

1. The Unit MZD-LM1 single-tag “antlerless whitetail deer” license is valid in only the gray shaded areas, as those units have firearm antlerless deer licenses.

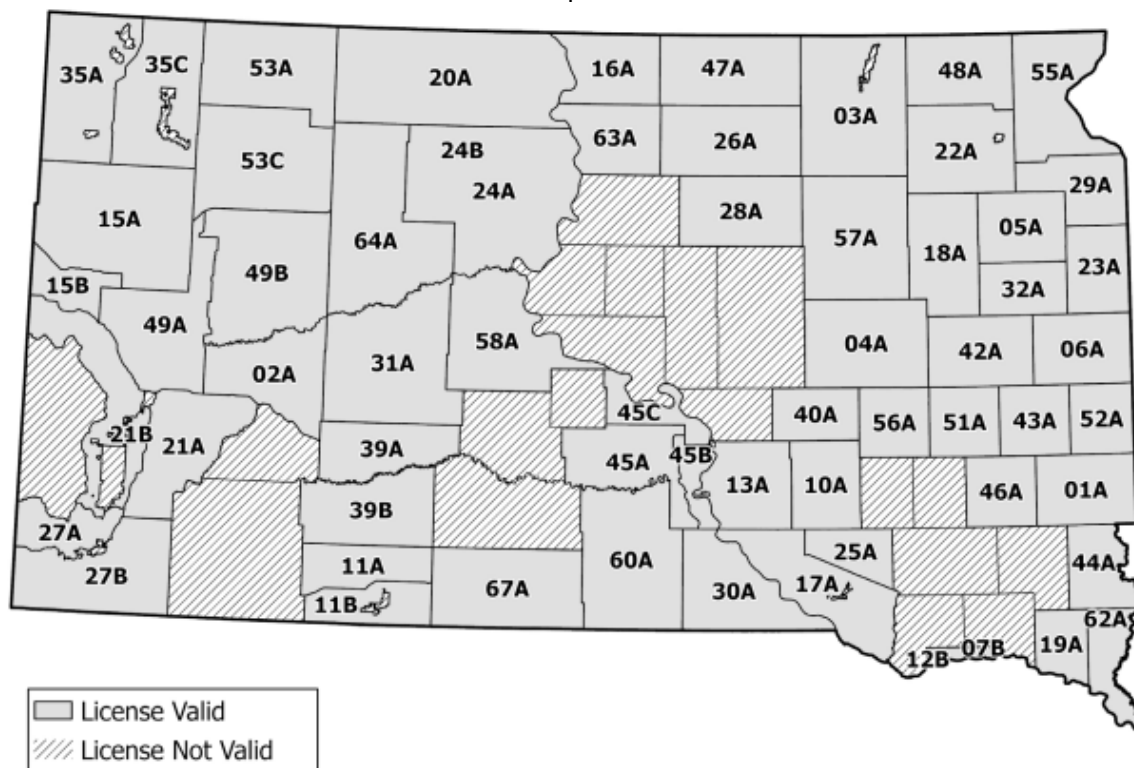
### Muzzleloader Antlerless Whitetail Deer

#### Unit MZD-LM1

#### 2023-2024 Map

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

2021-2022 Map for Reference



# GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

## General Muzzleloading Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:45

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>May 11, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>May 11-12, 2023</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** December 1, 2023 – January 1, 2024  
December 1, 2024 – January 1, 2025

**Open Area:** “Any Deer” Licenses: Statewide  
“Antlerless Whitetail Deer” Licenses: Unit MZD-LM1

**Licenses:** 1,000 “any deer” licenses  
Unlimited single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” licenses

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Only residents are eligible to apply for “any deer” tags. Residents and nonresidents may purchase “antlerless whitetail deer” licenses.
2. Individuals may purchase one “antlerless whitetail deer” license for Unit MZD-LM1 (see map).
3. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Waubay State Game Refuge, Farm Island State Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island Nature Area, and the Fort Meade Bureau of Land Management South unit and the signed portion of the North unit are closed to general muzzleloading deer hunting.

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

None.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The recommended maximum number of one-tag deer licenses will be established in administrative rule and the GFP Commission via administrative rule will determine specific number of licenses by tag types and allocation amongst residents and nonresidents.

Preliminary harvest data for the 2022 deer hunting seasons just became available. Department staff will review all harvest and other biological data, population modeling outputs, determine population objectives for whitetail and mule deer, and then bring recommendations for unit-specific license numbers and types to the GFP Commission at the April Commission meeting.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2016	3,048	334	699	89	6	1,127	37%
2017	3,432	263	865	117	4	1,251	36%
2018	3,383	275	808	110	14	1,208	36%
2019	3,340	295	795	112	17	1,219	36%

2020	3,707	272	882	170	17	1,341	36%
2021	3,491	235	711	110	8	1,065	31%
2022	3,187	280	759	85	8	1,131	35%

#### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

None.

#### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
  - NA
2. Historical Considerations
  - NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
  - NA
4. Social Considerations
  - NA
5. Financial considerations
  - NA

#### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? NA
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? NA
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? NA
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? NA

#### FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact is expected to the Department.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

# SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH, AND PARKS FINALIZATION

## Park Land Hunting Restrictions

Chapter 41:03:01:16, 41:06:20:02, & 41:06:40:05

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>January 12, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>March 9, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>March 9, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

#### Proposed changes:

1. These changes would provide the Department the option to open portions of state parks and recreation areas to hunting during the months of September and May by means of posting, signage, and other designations.
2. Current administrative rule does not allow for hunting in any form on Oahe Downstream recreation area park lands west of SD Hwy 1806 and north of Fort Pierre.
3. The proposed rule change would allow for hunters to legally hunt park lands west of SD Hwy 1806. This would clear up the rule to coincide with what is currently enforced. Park lands include OHV and land outside the fenced shooting complex perimeter.
4. This proposal would restrict and clarify Revheim Bay Recreation Area as archery only.
5. This proposal would clarify Newton Hills State Park, Rocky Point Recreation Area, and Lake Poinsett Recreation Area to archery hunting and shotgun only, but with options to post certain areas for open hunting.

Department recommended changes to proposal: None

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

State Parks and Recreation Areas are closed to hunting during the months of May through September with some exceptions. The proposed change would allow the Department to open portions of state parks and recreation areas to hunting with signage and other designations. This will provide increased opportunity for hunting species including archery deer, Mourning dove, and spring turkey.

Legal hunting was permitted at the above-mentioned areas at Oahe Downstream prior to 2002, when the state took over management responsibilities from the Corps of Engineers under Title VI. A firearm hunting restriction was placed on the entire recreation area as a safety measure due to the level of development and public use of the area at the time. After further evaluation, the Department recommends that those portions of the recreation area that are separate from the main camping and river access areas to the east can be safely opened to public firearm hunting. These areas are often referenced as the Oahe Downstream OHV, Rifle Range, and Archery Range.

Revheim Bay Recreation Area is a small recreation area within a mile of the city limits of Mobridge. It is used for hiking, swimming, picnicking, fishing, and other day use activities. Due to its small size and proximity to the City of Mobridge, the chances of firearm projectiles leaving the area are very probable. Archery hunting would be retained on the property.

Newton Hills rifle restriction was in place prior to 2019 and was inadvertently dropped during other rule modifications, and this would reinstate the historic practices of allowing bows, crossbows, and shotguns. Portion of the Lake Lakota unit of Newton Hills could be posted as open to firearm hunting and remain consistent with the adjacent Game Production Area.

Rocky Point Recreation Area is located within the Bureau of Reclamation Belle Fourche/Orman Dam Operations Unit. The recreation area is developed with roads, boat ramps, trails, campgrounds picnic and fishing areas. Restricting this area to shotgun w/shotshells, archery and crossbow would reflect current hunting rules on adjacent Reclamation-managed recreation areas. There is nearly 5,000 acres of Game Production Areas or other Reclamation properties adjacent to the recreation area that offer open hunting.

Lake Poinsett Recreation Area is a small and narrow park that is more than 75% developed and is surrounded by heavily developed private property. Archery and shotgun with shot shells would remain as authorized methods of hunting.

Changes to 41:06:20:02 and 41:06:40:05 are subsequently necessary for the opening of portions of Oahe Downstream units to hunting where similar conditions are also contained in rules for west river deer and Mourning dove seasons.

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

The following are proposed draft changes that are intended to incorporate the recommended changes adopted by the Commission.

**41:03:01:16. Restrictions on use of firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows in the state park system -- Exceptions.** Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are prohibited in the state park system with the following exceptions:

- (1) Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are permitted on designated rifle and archery ranges year-round and may be transported or carried uncased to and from ranges and boat ramps from designated parking areas;
- (2) A firearm, air gun, crossbow, or bow legally transported in a motor vehicle, trailer camper, or boat, pursuant to state law, is considered cased for purposes of this section;
- (3) Hunters licensed for the special Custer State Park hunting seasons may have uncased firearms, crossbows, and bows in Custer State Park during the season for which they are licensed;
- (4) From September 1 through May 31, uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows and bows are authorized for licensed hunters in all lakeside use areas, ~~and Shadehill Recreation Area,~~ and Oahe Downstream Recreation Area west of highway 1806, or any portion of a state park or recreation area that is designated open to hunting.
- (5) From October 1 through April 30, uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are authorized for licensed hunters in the state park system during established hunting seasons with the following restrictions:
  - (a) Uncased firearms, air guns, crossbows, and bows are prohibited year-round in all established campgrounds, designated day-use areas, and at Beaver Creek Nature Area, Lake Herman State Park, Spring Creek Recreation Area, Spirit Mound Historic Prairie, Bear Butte State Park east of State Highway 79, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area east of SD Highway 1806 except for a hunter who possesses a valid deer license for Unit WRD-58D, as described in chapter 41:06:20, or a valid turkey license for Unit PST-58B, as described in chapter 41:06:13, and Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve and Good Earth State Park, except for a resident hunter who possesses a valid archery deer license and an access

permit, as described in chapter 41:06:22, or except for a resident hunter or a mentored hunter who possesses a valid archery spring turkey license and an access permit, as described in chapter 41:06:13;

(b) Only bows and crossbows are permitted in Big Sioux Recreation Area, the Forest Drive Unit of Richmond Lake Recreation Area, Palisades State Park, LaFramboise Island Nature Area, Chief White Crane Recreation Area, Clay County Recreation Area, Revheim Bay Recreation Area, and the mouth of Spearfish Canyon;

(c) Only shotguns using shot shells, crossbows, and bows are permitted in West Whitlock Recreation Area, West Pickerel Recreation Area, Mina Recreation Area, Okobojo Recreation Area, Farm Island Recreation Area, Angostura Recreation Area, Cow Creek State Recreation Area, Oakwood Lakes State Park, Newton Hills State Park, Rocky Point Recreation Area, Lake Poinsett Recreation Area, and the portions of North Point State Recreation Area that are situated to the west of 381<sup>st</sup> Street and north of 297<sup>th</sup> Avenue, west of 382<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and north of 297<sup>th</sup> Street, and south of 297<sup>th</sup> Street, and west of Prairie Dog Bay; and

(d) A person who possesses a valid turkey license for Unit PST-48A, as described in chapter 41:06:13, is permitted to have an uncased shotgun using shotshells, a crossbow, a bow, or a muzzleloading shotgun within the boundary of Sica Hollow State Park from the first Saturday of April through May 31; and

(6) A person who is allowed to legally carry a concealed pistol pursuant to state law may carry a concealed pistol at any time.

**Source:** SL 1975, ch 16, § 1; 2 SDR 10, effective August 7, 1975; 4 SDR 15, effective September 15, 1977; 6 SDR 60, effective December 18, 1979; 8 SDR 85, effective January 18, 1982; 9 SDR 30, effective September 13, 1982; 10 SDR 76, 10 SDR 102, effective July 1, 1984; 12 SDR 125, effective February 6, 1986; 12 SDR 186, effective May 28, 1986; 13 SDR 26, effective September 10, 1986; 13 SDR 192, effective June 22, 1987; 16 SDR 44, effective September 13, 1989; 19 SDR 17, effective August 12, 1992; 20 SDR 150, effective March 23, 1994; 21 SDR 148, effective March 6, 1995; 22 SDR 188, effective July 10, 1996; 25 SDR 21, effective August 27, 1998; 25 SDR 108, effective February 28, 1999; 26 SDR 9, effective August 1, 1999; 27 SDR 49, effective November 16, 2000; 27 SDR 85, effective February 26, 2001; 28 SDR 48, effective October 10, 2001; 28 SDR 129, effective March 18, 2002; 29 SDR 160, effective June 3, 2003; 30 SDR 99, effective December 22, 2003; 31 SDR 62, effective November 4, 2004; 31 SDR 213, effective July 4, 2005; 32 SDR 183, effective May 9, 2006; 32 SDR 225, effective July 3, 2006; 33 SDR 180, effective May 7, 2007; 34 SDR 199, effective January 28, 2008; 34 SDR 332, effective July 7, 2008; 35 SDR 306, effective July 2, 2009; 36 SDR 112, effective January 11, 2010; 39 SDR 10, effective August 1, 2012; 39 SDR 120, effective January 9, 2013; 40 SDR 121, effective January 6, 2014; 41 SDR 34, effective September 2, 2014; 41 SDR 173, effective May 11, 2015; 44 SDR 151, effective April 30, 2018; 45 SDR 89, effective December 31, 2018; 46 SDR 11, effective July 29, 2019; 46 SDR 74, effective December 2, 2019; 47 SDR 38, effective October 6, 2020.

**General Authority:** SDCL [41-17-1.1\(1\)\(8\)](#).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL [41-17-1.1\(1\)\(8\)](#).

**41:06:20:02. Open units -- Exceptions.** The following is a description of the open units:

(34) Unit WRD-58D: Stanley County, except the portions included in Units WRD-45C and WRD-45D but including the portions of department campground Oahe Downstream RA below Oahe Dam east of Highway 1806. Licenses are only available to persons who use a wheelchair. Additional licenses may be issued to nonresident hunters who use a wheelchair;

**Source:** SL 1975, ch 16, § 1; 1 SDR 78, effective June 19, 1975; 2 SDR 88, effective July 1, 1976; 3 SDR 87, effective June 26, 1977; 4 SDR 88, effective June 27, 1978; 5 SDR 6, effective August 3, 1978; 5 SDR 108, effective June 28, 1979; 6 SDR 129, effective July 13, 1980; 7 SDR 128, effective July 13, 1981; 8 SDR 170, effective June 20, 1982; 9 SDR 158, effective June 14, 1983; 10 SDR 76, 10 SDR 102, effective July 1, 1984; 10 SDR 148, effective July 11, 1984; 11 SDR 172, effective June 27, 1985; 13 SDR 9, effective August 3, 1986; 14 SDR 14, effective August 6, 1987; 15 SDR 3, effective July 21, 1988; 15 SDR 210, effective July 10, 1989; 17 SDR 12, effective July 31, 1990; 18 SDR 4, effective July 18, 1991; 18 SDR 223, effective July 13, 1992; 19 SDR 207, effective July 14, 1993; 21 SDR 14, effective August 3, 1994; 22 SDR 16, effective August 15, 1995; 23 SDR 20, effective August 13, 1996; 24 SDR 16, effective August 13, 1997; 25 SDR 193, effective July 19, 1998; 26 SDR 9, effective August 1, 1999; 27 SDR 13, effective August 27, 2000; 28 SDR 24, effective August 28, 2001; 29 SDR 29, effective August 26, 2002; 29 SDR 21, effective August 26, 2002; 30 SDR 21, effective August 25, 2003; 31 SDR 21, effective August 23, 2004; 32 SDR 31, effective August 29, 2005; 32 SDR 69, effective November 9, 2005; 33 SDR 1, effective July 18, 2006; 34 SDR 67, effective September 10, 2007; 35 SDR 47, effective September 8, 2008; 36 SDR 21, effective August 18, 2009; 36 SDR 170, effective May 11, 2010; 37 SDR 18, effective August 16, 2010; 38 SDR 8, effective August 3, 2011; 39 SDR 10, effective August 1, 2012; 40 SDR 14, effective July 29, 2013; 41 SDR 7, effective July 30, 2014; SL 2015, ch 56, § 1, effective May 1, 2015; 42 SDR 14, effective August 10, 2015; 43 SDR 9, effective August 1, 2016; 44 SDR 17, effective August 7, 2017; 45 SDR 155, effective June 24, 2019; 46 SDR 116, effective April 29, 2020; 47 SDR 137, effective June 29, 2021.

**General Authority:** SDCL 41-2-18(2)(17), 41-6-21.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 41-2-18(2)(17), 41-6-21.

**41:06:40:05. Restrictions.** Mourning dove hunting restrictions are as follows:

(1) Doves may be shot only in flight; and

(2) All state parks and state recreation areas are closed to dove hunting except Angostura State Recreation Area excluding that portion of the area lying east of the dam, and Shadehill State Recreation Area, the portions of Oahe Downstream Recreation Area located west of SD Highway 1806, or any portion of a state park or recreation area posted as open as described in chapter 41:03:01.

**Source:** 8 SDR 19, effective August 31, 1981; 10 SDR 76, 10 SDR 102, effective July 1, 1984; 25 SDR 21, effective August 27, 1998; 46 SDR 116, effective April 29, 2020; 49 SDR 9, effective August 8, 2022.

**General Authority:** SDCL 41-2-18(2), 41-11-5, 41-17-1.1(4).

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 41-2-18(2), 41-11-5, 41-17-1.1(4).

## FISCAL IMPACT

The described changes would offer increased hunting opportunity or are for the purpose of safety and result in a net zero fiscal impact on the Department's budget.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_

REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

# SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION: FINALIZATION

## Fall River County Public Water Safety Zones

Chapter 41:04:02:23

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>January 12-13, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>March 9, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Proposed change to rule:**

1. Change the “no boating zone” on Angostura from 100 to 300 feet fronting the dam which includes the 5 control gates and the canal siphon (41:04:02:23 2e)
- 2 (e) The waters within ~~100~~300 feet fronting ~~on that portion of~~ the dam which includes the five control gates and the canal siphon are a "no boating zone";

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Increase the no boating safety zone in front of the dam to reduce potential dangers from boating too close to the dam or five control gates and the canal siphon.

### RESIDENT / NON-RESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Not applicable
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate?
  - *This change will reduce the area available to boating on Angostura Reservoir.*
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists?
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?

### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no estimate for a fiscal impact by increasing the boating zone from 100 to 300 feet in front of the Angostura Reservoir dam.

APPROVE\_\_\_\_\_      MODIFY\_\_\_\_\_      REJECT\_\_\_\_\_      NO ACTION\_\_\_\_\_



## GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

### Mountain Goat Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:29

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	January 12-13, 2023	Pierre
	Public Hearing	March 9, 2023	Pierre
	Finalization	March 9-10, 2023	Pierre

#### COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Proposal:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons  
**Season Dates:** September 1 – December 31, 2023  
September 1 – December 31, 2024

**Open Area:** Those portions of Pennington and Custer counties west of Highway 79 except Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Jewel Cave National Monument, and the fenced portion of Wind Cave National Park and Custer State Park.

**Licenses:** 0 licenses

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Application for a license may be made by any resident hunter who has not been previously issued a mountain goat license in South Dakota.
2. Land operator preference is not applicable to these licenses.
3. Mandatory check of harvested mountain goat by a Conservation Officer or Department representative within 24 hours of kill.
4. Successful applicants must attend a mandatory orientation meeting at the Rapid City Regional Office for education of hunter, furnishing materials for biological sampling, and for orientation to area prior to hunting.

**Proposed change from last year:**

1. Close the season and discontinue sale of preference points.

#### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Recommended Changes from Proposal:** None.

#### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

During the 2022 helicopter survey, 42 mountain goats were counted in the survey area near Crazy Horse Memorial, Battle Creek Road and Black Elk Peak. The GFP mountain goat action plan, Objective 3, Strategy B states “When the minimum number counted reaches less than 50 individuals the season will be closed”.

Year	Licensed Hunters	Billies Harvested	Nannies Harvested
2003	3	1	2
2004	3	1	2
2005	2	0	2
2006	2	0	1
2007	Season Closed		
2008	Season Closed		
2009	Season Closed		
2010	Season Closed		
2011	Season Closed		

2012	Season Closed		
2013	Season Closed		
2014	Season Closed		
2015	2	1	1
2016	2	2	0
2017	2	2	0
2018	2	1	1
2019	2	1	1
2020	2	2	0
2021	2	1	1
2022	2	2	0

**DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES**

Modify ARSD

41:06:29:03. Number and type of licenses available. ~~Two "any mountain goat" licenses may be issued in Unit BMG-BG4.~~ The mountain goat season is closed, and no licenses may be issued in BMG-BG1.

**RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA**

1. The Issue – Not applicable
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Not applicable
5. Financial considerations – Not applicable

**RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA**

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate?
  - Yes, this approach will reduce the number of mountain goat licenses from 2 to 0.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?
  - No. The closed season reduces hunting opportunity, but may increase viewing opportunity and allows the population to potentially increase.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers, and outdoor recreationists?
  - This change would likely not have an impact on the next generation of hunters.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?
  - This change would likely not impact the quality of life for current generations but could impact future generations by conservatively managing the mountain goat population in South Dakota.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

This will reduce the number of mountain goat licenses from 2 to 0 and reduce the number of preference points purchased (in 2021, 3,983 mountain goat applications were received).

APPROVE_____	MODIFY_____	REJECT_____	NO ACTION_____
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**Archery Antelope Hunting Season  
Chapter 41:06:24**

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>December 8, 2022</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>March 9, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>March 9-10, 2023</b>	<b>Pierre</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 antelope hunting season

**Season Dates:** August 19 – October 31, 2023 (closed during firearm season)

**Open Area:**

All areas where the prairie (firearm) antelope season is open and the portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District with limited free access permits.

**Licenses:**

Unlimited resident “buck antelope” licenses.  
Unlimited nonresident “buck antelope” licenses.

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. A person may have only one (1) archery antelope license.
2. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
3. Five (5) free access permits will be issued via lottery drawing to those licensees who possess a valid “buck antelope” resident archery license for those portions of Custer and Pennington counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District, except Custer State Park.

**Summary of Proposed Change from Last Year:**

1. Create a private land only buck antelope nonresident archery license that is unlimited.
2. Limit buck antelope nonresident archery licenses valid on public and private land to 450.
3. No change to resident antelope archery.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommended Changes from Proposal:** None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Archery antelope hunters have more than doubled in the last 10 years (1,467 to 3,019). All antelope hunters that purchased or applied for a license between 2019 and 2021 were emailed a questionnaire to determine their opinions about archery hunter numbers. Eleven percent of hunters responded (1,868) to the questionnaire. Hunters generally felt there were too many antelope hunters on public land and resident hunters felt there were too many nonresidents. However, there was limited support for any regulation changes that would limit archery opportunity, especially among resident archery hunters. Additional information was gathered during an archery deer and antelope stakeholder meeting in Pierre. Stakeholders mostly agreed that archery antelope hunters should be limited and there was support for limiting hunters more on public land and limiting nonresidents more than residents. As a result of the questionnaire and stakeholder meeting, the Department developed a list of recommendation options to limit archery hunting opportunity, and the preferred approach was to start by limiting nonresident archery hunters on public land.

Item	Resident		Nonresident	
	Current	Recommendation	Current	Recommendation
Number of buck antelope licenses allowed per hunter	1	1	1	1
Buck antelope license allocation (private and public license)	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	450
Buck antelope license allocation (private land only license)	NA	NA	NA	Unlimited

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

Modify ARSD 41:06:24:01 (Archery antelope hunting season established -- Open area -- Number and type of licenses available) as follows:

The archery antelope hunting season is open in those areas of the state with a firearm antelope season and in the portions of Custer and Pennington Counties within the Black Hills Fire Protection District, except Custer State Park, with access permits from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day beginning on the third Saturday of August through October 31, except during the firearm antelope season.

An ~~unlimited~~ number of resident one-tag antelope licenses for this season valid on public and private land may be issued.

Unlimited number of nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on private land not leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for public hunting may be issued.

No more than four hundred and fifty nonresident one-tag archery antelope licenses valid on public and private land may be issued by lottery drawing.

The ~~a~~Access permits may be issued by lottery drawing.

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Perceived issue of hunter overcrowding and hunting pressure to antelope on public lands.
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Nonresidents will likely feel mistreated or “targeted” because of limiting nonresident archery antelope licenses.
5. Financial considerations – Limiting nonresident licenses will likely decrease revenue generated from archery antelope licenses.

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user’s ability to participate?  
Yes, this approach will limit the number of nonresident licenses available to hunt on public lands, thus potentially limiting the overall number of nonresident hunters participating in archery antelope hunting in SD.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?  
Directly it would not provide additional opportunities; however, indirectly it would likely enhance the hunting experience.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists?  
This change would likely not impact the next generation of hunters.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?  
This structural change to the archery antelope season could impact hunters in different ways. Limiting the number of licenses valid on public land could reduce the

overall number of nonresident hunters coming to SD, however, the positive impacts would be for those hunting on public land would experience a lower hunter density resulting in a higher quality hunt.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

This will reduce the number of nonresident licenses sold and thus reduce revenue generated from nonresident archery deer licenses.

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

Item #19

Archery Deer Hunting Season  
Chapter 41:06:22 and 41:06:01:17

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	December 8, 2022	Pierre
	Public Hearing	March 9, 2023	Pierre
	Finalization	March 9-10, 2023	Pierre

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

**Duration of Recommendation:** 2023 and 2024 hunting seasons

**Season Dates:** September 1, 2023 – January 1, 2024  
September 1, 2024 – January 1, 2025

**Open Area:** “Any Deer” Licenses: Statewide, East River, West River  
“Antlerless Whitetail Deer” Licenses: Unit ARD-LM1  
“Any Antlerless Deer” Licenses: Custer, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls city limits

**Licenses:** Unlimited “any deer” licenses  
Unlimited single tag “antlerless whitetail deer” licenses  
Limited single tag “any antlerless deer” licenses (*determined by Department and respective municipalities*)

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Residents and nonresidents may purchase one (1) statewide “any deer” license or one (1) East River “any deer” license and one (1) West River “any deer” license.
2. Residents and nonresidents may purchase one (1) “antlerless whitetail deer” license for Unit ARD-LM1 (see map).
3. Nonresidents may not hunt deer on private lands leased for public access by the department or public lands prior to October 1.
4. A license obtained by a nonresident on or after the first day of April is valid only on private lands not leased for public access by the department.
5. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
6. Sand Lake NWR is open September 1 through January 1, except during the firearm deer seasons established for the refuge.
7. Waubay State Game Bird Refuge, Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, and Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge are open through January 1, except during refuge firearm deer seasons.
8. Licensees must obtain an access permit from the Department issued by lottery drawing before hunting Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve, Good Earth State Park, and Units WRD-35L and WRD-27L.

**Summary of Proposed Change from Last Year:**

1. Create a private land only nonresident archery any deer license that is unlimited and a public and private archery any deer license valid statewide with 2,200 licenses available.
2. Remove the East River and West River specific licenses for nonresident archery deer.
3. No changes to resident archery and no changes to nonresident antlerless archery deer.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Recommended Changes from Proposal:** None.

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

Archery deer license sales have increased by nearly 30% in 10 years (28,328 to 36,381), and currently, there is no limit to the number of archery hunters. In recent years, individuals and organizations within SD have expressed concerns over crowding on public lands and the continued growth of nonresident archery hunters. Petitions have been brought forward to the GFP Commission requesting changes be made to limit nonresident archery hunters; to this point, the Commission has denied such petitions. However, after the last round of discussions, the GFP Commission requested the department to gather information, generate alternatives, and bring forward a recommendation for their consideration which would help address concerns brought forward but continue to provide hunting opportunities.

All deer hunters that purchased or applied for a license between 2019 and 2021 were emailed a questionnaire to determine their opinions about archery hunter numbers. Nine percent of hunters responded (8,183) to the questionnaire. There was moderate support for too many deer hunters on public land, and resident hunters felt there were too many nonresidents. Concerns regarding too many mule deer hunters were greater than white-tailed deer hunters. However, there was limited support for any regulation changes that would limit archery opportunities, especially among resident archery hunters. Additional information was gathered during an archery deer and antelope stakeholder meeting in Pierre on October 24. Stakeholders mostly agreed that archery deer hunters should be limited, and there was support for limiting hunters more on public land and limiting nonresidents more than residents. As a result of the questionnaire and stakeholder meeting, SDGFP developed a list of alternatives to limit archery hunting opportunities, and the preferred approach was to start by limiting nonresident archery hunters on public land.

South Dakota is comprised of approximately 80% private land, 10% public land, and 10% tribal land. Considering the most desired public hunting lands (Game Production Areas, Waterfowl Production Areas, Bureau of Land Management lands, Forest Service lands, and School and Public Lands), these collectively account for about 3,467,000 acres of publicly accessible land for hunting. In addition, GFP leases over 1.4 million acres of private land across SD which is open to public hunting. Collectively, these 4.9 million acres account for approximately 10% of the total SD land mass acres. In recent information gathered from deer hunters, over 50% indicated they hunt greater than 50% of their time on public lands. Bottomline, a high proportion of hunters are utilizing a small proportion of the land base for hunting.

In an effort to start to address one of the primary concerns expressed, overcrowding on public lands, the information gathered from nonresident hunters utilizing public lands to archery hunt was utilized and a 25% reduction was applied to those nonresident hunter numbers: resulting in approximately 2,200 nonresident hunters. This figure was then incorporated into the recommendation of separating statewide any deer licenses (cap of 2,200 licenses) that would be valid on public and private land and issued through a lottery drawing, leaving an unlimited number of statewide any deer licenses that would be valid on private land only.

Item	Resident		Nonresident	
	Current	Recommendation	Current	Recommendation
Number of licenses allowed per hunter for any deer license	1 statewide or 1 West River and 1 East River	1 statewide or 1 West River and 1 East River	1 statewide or 1 West River and 1 East River	1 statewide
Early application deadline for license to be valid on public land	NA	NA	April 1	NA
License allocation for any deer (private and public license)	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	2,200
License allocation for any deer (private land only license)	NA	NA	Unlimited	Unlimited
Public land start date	NA	NA	October 1	October 1
Antlerless whitetail deer licenses (private and public land) in open area	Unlimited (1 per hunter)	Unlimited (1 per hunter)	Unlimited (1 per hunter)	Unlimited (1 per hunter)

## DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

1. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:01 (Archery deer hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses -- Access permits) as follows:
  - a. The archery deer hunting season is open statewide from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day beginning September 1 through January 1, except as otherwise provided in § 41:06:22:02.  
Unlimited resident "any deer" licenses may be issued for units ARD-ST1, ARD-ER1, and ARD-WR1, and unlimited resident and nonresident antlerless whitetail deer licenses may be issued for unit ARD-LM1.  
Unlimited nonresident "any deer" licenses valid on private land not leased by the Department of Game, Fish and Parks for public hunting may be issued for unit ARD-ST1.  
Two thousand and two hundred nonresident "any deer" licenses may be issued valid for unit ARD-ST1 on public and private lands.  
One thousand single-tag "any antlerless deer" licenses may be issued for use in ARD-MP1, ARD-MP2, and ARD-MP3.  
No more than ten "any deer" and 50 antlerless whitetail deer access permits may be issued to residents for Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve.  
No more than ten "any deer" and 25 "antlerless whitetail deer" access permits may be issued to residents for Good Earth State Park.  
No more than 500 "any deer" access permits may be issued to residents, and no more than 125 "any deer" access permits may be issued to nonresidents for unit WRD-35L described in § 41:06:20:02.  
No more than 20 "any deer" access permits may be issued to residents, and no more than five "any deer" access permits may be issued to nonresidents for Unit WRD-274L, described in § 41:06:20:02.
2. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:01.02 (Nonresident archery deer hunting season restrictions) as follows:
  - a. A nonresident may not hunt deer on private lands leased for public access by the department or public lands prior to October 1. ~~A license obtained by a nonresident on or after the first day of April is valid only on private lands not leased for public access by the department.~~
3. Modify ARSD 41:06:22:03.01 (License purchase restrictions) as follows:
  - a. ~~A person resident may purchase one statewide "any deer" license valid on public and private land. In lieu of a statewide "any deer" license, a resident person may purchase one East River "any deer" license and one West River "any deer" license valid on public and private land. A nonresident may purchase one statewide "any deer" license valid on private land only or apply for one "any deer" license valid statewide on public and private land made available through a lottery draw. A nonresident may not purchase more than one archery any deer license. No person may purchase more than one "antlerless whitetail deer" archery license.~~
4. Modify ARSD 41:06:01:17 (Access permits required for specific deer hunting units and public lands) as follows:
  - a. Any resident or nonresident deer hunter possessing an archery deer license valid for public land shall obtain and possess a free limited access permit to hunt hunting units or public lands described in § 41:06:22:01.

## RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Perceived issue of hunter overcrowding and hunting pressure on deer on public lands.
2. Historical Considerations – Not applicable
3. Biological Considerations – Not applicable
4. Social Considerations – Nonresidents will likely feel mistreated or “targeted” because of limiting nonresident archery deer licenses.



5. Financial considerations – Limiting nonresident licenses will likely decrease revenue generated from archery deer licenses.
- 6.

#### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate?
  - a. Yes, this approach will limit the number of nonresident licenses available to hunt on public lands, thus potentially limiting the overall number of nonresident hunters participating in archery deer hunting in SD.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users?
  - a. Directly it would not provide additional opportunities; however, indirectly it would likely enhance the hunting experience.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists?
  - a. This change would likely not impact the next generation of hunters.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors?
  - a. This structural change to the archery deer season could impact hunters in different ways. Limiting the number of licenses valid on public land could reduce the overall number of nonresident hunters coming to SD, however, the positive impacts would be for those hunting on public land would experience a lower hunter density resulting in a higher quality hunt.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

This will reduce the number of nonresident licenses sold and thus reduce revenue generated from nonresident archery deer licenses.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ MODIFY \_\_\_\_\_ REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ NO ACTION \_\_\_\_\_

Division of Parks and Recreation							
February YTD 2023 Camping by District							
LOCATION	2022	2023	%	LOCATION	2022	2023	%
Pickereel Lake	12	-	-100%	North Point	11	2	-82%
Fort Sisseton	2	-	-100%	North Wheeler	-	-	
Roy Lake	130	50	-62%	Pease Creek	-	-	
Sica Hollow	-	-		Randall Creek	-	-	
<b>DISTRICT 1</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-65%</b>	South Shore	-	-	
Richmond Lake	1	4	300%	South Scalp	-	-	
Mina Lake	-	2		Whetstone	-	-	
Fisher Grove	8	-	-100%	White Swan	-	-	
Amsden	-	-		<b>DISTRICT 10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-82%</b>
Lake Louise	8	2	-75%	Farm Island	6	4	-33%
<b>DISTRICT 2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-53%</b>	West Bend	31	45	45%
Pelican Lake	4	11	175%	<b>DISTRICT 11</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>32%</b>
Sandy Shore	1	4	300%	Oahe Downstream	9	20	122%
Lake Cochrane	-	-		Cow Creek	-	-	
Hartford Beach	22	20	-9%	Okobojo	2	-	
<b>DISTRICT 3</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30%</b>	Spring Creek	1	-	
Oakwood Lakes	5	15	200%	<b>DISTRICT 12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>67%</b>
Lake Poinsett	11	16	45%	West Whitlock	-	-	
Lake Thompson	21	36	71%	East Whitlock	-	4	
<b>DISTRICT 4</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>81%</b>	Swan Creek	-	-	
Lake Herman	4	6	50%	Indian Creek	9	12	33%
Walker's Point	2	8	300%	Lake Hiddenwood	-	-	
Lake Carthage	-	-		Walth Bay	-	-	
<b>DISTRICT 5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>133%</b>	West Pollock	4	10	150%
Snake Creek	8	2	-75%	<b>DISTRICT 13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>100%</b>
Platte Creek	1	-		Bear Butte	4	63	1475%
Buryanek	14	6	-57%	<b>DISTRICT 14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1475%</b>
Burke Lake	-	-		Shadehill	7	25	257%
Dude Ranch	-	-		Llewellyn Johns	1	-	-100%
Elm Creek	-	-		Rocky Point	12	16	33%
<b>DISTRICT 6</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-65%</b>	<b>DISTRICT 15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>105%</b>
Palisades	61	64	5%	Custer	37	29	-22%
Big Sioux	18	49	172%	<b>DISTRICT 16</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-22%</b>
Lake Vermillion	23	26	13%	Angostura	30	34	13%
<b>DISTRICT 7</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>36%</b>	Sheps Canyon	-	-	
Newton Hills	42	40	-5%	<b>DISTRICT 17</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13%</b>
Good Earth	-	-		<b>TOTAL YTD</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>9%</b>
Union Grove	3	1		<b>TOTAL for Month</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>-9%</b>				
Lewis & Clark	23	9	-61%				
Chief White Crane	-	-					
Clay County	-	8					
Pierson Ranch	-	-					
Springfield	-	-					
Sand Creek	-	-					
Tabor	-	-					
<b>DISTRICT 9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-26%</b>				

**Division of Parks and Recreation**  
**February YTD 2023 Visitation by District**

<i>LOCATION</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>%</b>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>%</b>
Pickerel Lake	1,231	968	-21%	Lewis & Clark	52,824	62,549	18%
Fort Sisseton	1,933	2,727	41%	Chief White Crane	-	-	
Roy Lake	6,779	5,620	-17%	Pierson Ranch	3,257	2,072	-36%
Sica Hollow	-	114		Springfield	15,109	12,724	-16%
<b><i>DISTRICT 1</i></b>	<b>9,943</b>	<b>9,429</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b><i>DISTRICT 9</i></b>	<b>71,190</b>	<b>77,345</b>	<b>9%</b>
Richmond Lake	3,003	4,271	42%	North Point	4,059	1,165	-71%
Mina Lake	1,608	1,314	-18%	North Wheeler	1,990	14	-99%
Fisher Grove	460	201	-56%	Pease Creek	864	58	-93%
Lake Louise	1,893	1,578	-17%	Randall Creek	3,033	1,321	-56%
<b><i>DISTRICT 2</i></b>	<b>6,964</b>	<b>7,364</b>	<b>6%</b>	Fort Randall Marina	50	2	-96%
Pelican Lake	3,320	4,586	38%	<b><i>DISTRICT 10</i></b>	<b>9,996</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>-74%</b>
Sandy Shore	1,733	2,435	41%	Farm Island	13,425	12,288	-8%
Lake Cochrane	322	32	-90%	West Bend	1,510	3,191	111%
Hartford Beach	17,058	16,761	-2%	LaFramboise Island	10,682	8,089	-24%
<b><i>DISTRICT 3</i></b>	<b>22,433</b>	<b>23,814</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b><i>DISTRICT 11</i></b>	<b>25,617</b>	<b>23,568</b>	<b>-8%</b>
Oakwood Lakes	2,357	1,500	-36%	Oahe Downstream	24,676	24,308	-1%
Lake Poinsett	2,540	2,274	-10%	Cow Creek	19,104	15,731	-18%
Lake Thompson	4,081	17,453	328%	Okobojo	4,502	2,691	-40%
<b><i>DISTRICT 4</i></b>	<b>8,978</b>	<b>21,227</b>	<b>136%</b>	Spring Creek	20,170	19,984	-1%
Lake Herman	7,374	6,319	-14%	<b><i>DISTRICT 12</i></b>	<b>68,452</b>	<b>62,714</b>	<b>-8%</b>
Walker's Point	2,291	1,648	-28%	West Whitlock	1,117	1,051	-6%
<b><i>DISTRICT 5</i></b>	<b>9,665</b>	<b>7,967</b>	<b>-18%</b>	Swan Creek	1,417	719	-49%
Snake Creek	10,602	2,477	-77%	Indian Creek	4,629	3,853	-17%
Platte Creek	4,115	2,116	-49%	Lake Hiddenwood	-	777	
Buryanek	4,845	1,031	-79%	Revheim Bay	9,360	2,148	-77%
Burke Lake	2,097	1,420	-32%	West Pollock	6,750	8,657	28%
<b><i>DISTRICT 6</i></b>	<b>21,659</b>	<b>7,044</b>	<b>-67%</b>	<b><i>DISTRICT 13</i></b>	<b>23,273</b>	<b>17,205</b>	<b>-26%</b>
Palisades	6,164	5,215	-15%	Bear Butte	1,284	2,561	99%
Big Sioux	4,014	3,505	-13%	<b><i>DISTRICT 14</i></b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>2,561</b>	<b>99%</b>
Beaver Creek	2,679	2,789	4%	Shadehill	1,985	1,842	-7%
Lake Vermillion	4,812	7,298	52%	Llewellyn Johns	261	341	31%
<b><i>DISTRICT 7</i></b>	<b>17,669</b>	<b>18,807</b>	<b>6%</b>	Little Moreau	1,460	1,536	5%
Newton Hills	7,805	3,750	-52%	Rocky Point	3,231	2,948	-9%
Good Earth	10,449	15,348	47%	<b><i>DISTRICT 15</i></b>	<b>6,937</b>	<b>6,667</b>	<b>-4%</b>
Union Grove	1,258	542	-57%	Custer	94,755	98,940	4%
Lake Alvin	5,015	6,096	22%	<b><i>DISTRICT 16</i></b>	<b>94,755</b>	<b>98,940</b>	<b>4%</b>
Spirit Mound	1,908	1,535	-20%	Angostura	6,042	5,202	-14%
Adams	2,490	1,894	-24%	Sheps Canyon	1,176	1,003	-15%
<b><i>DISTRICT 8</i></b>	<b>28,925</b>	<b>29,165</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b><i>DISTRICT 17</i></b>	<b>7,218</b>	<b>6,205</b>	<b>-14%</b>
				<b><i>TOTAL YTD</i></b>	<b>434,958</b>	<b>422,582</b>	<b>-3%</b>
				<b><i>TOTAL for Month</i></b>	<b>203,639</b>	<b>212,831</b>	<b>5%</b>

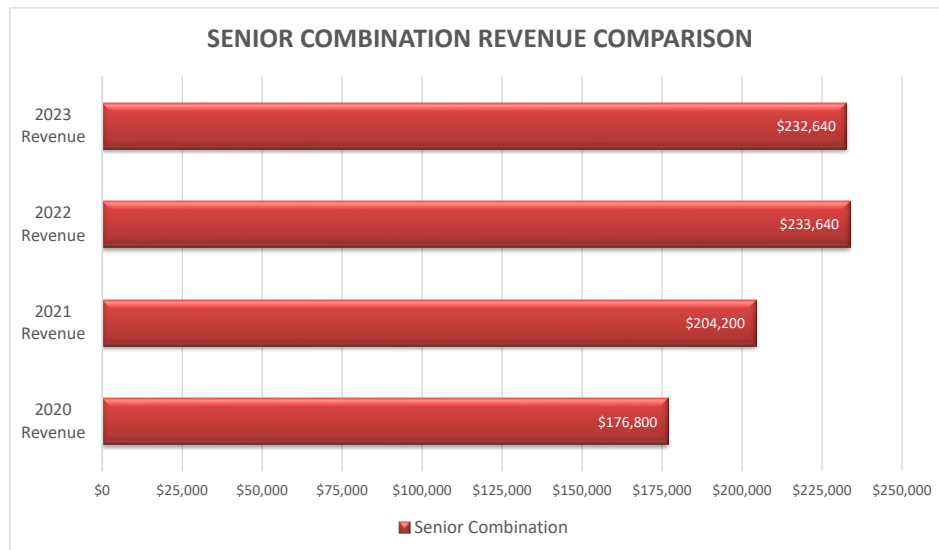
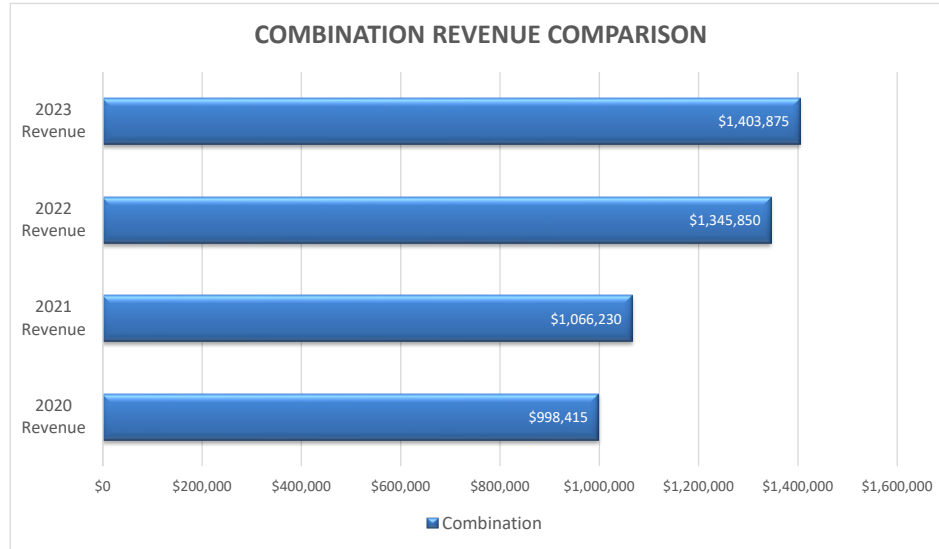
Division of Parks and Recreation					
February Revenue by Item					
	2022		2023		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	Change
Annual	1,192	\$ 42,912	1,475	\$ 53,100	24%
2nd Annual	103	\$ 1,854	74	\$ 1,332	-28%
Combo	1,396	\$ 75,384	2,028	\$ 109,512	45%
Transferable	110	\$ 8,800	165	\$ 13,200	50%
Daily License	538	\$ 4,304	633	\$ 5,064	18%
Unattended Vehicle Daily	7	\$ 105	20	\$ 300	186%
GSM Annual Trail Pass	135	\$ 2,025	152	\$ 2,280	13%
GSM Daily Trail Pass	142	\$ 568	9	\$ 36	-94%
Motorcoach Permit	85	\$ 255	-	\$ -	
CSP 7 Day Pass	457	\$ 9,140	438	\$ 8,760	-4%
CSP 7 Day Bike Pass	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
Rally Bike Band	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
One-Day Special Event		\$ -	0	\$ 100	
<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>4,165</b>	<b>\$ 145,347</b>	<b>4,994</b>	<b>\$ 193,684</b>	<b>33%</b>
Camping Services		\$ 1,092,157		\$ 1,000,504	-8%
Picnic Reservations		\$ 40		\$ 160	300%
Firewood	7	\$ 42	34	\$ 204	386%
Gift Card		\$ 1,451		\$ 1,904	31%
Boat Slips		\$ 40,296		\$ -	
<b>LODGING</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$ 1,133,986</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>\$ 1,002,772</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,172</b>	<b>\$ 1,279,333</b>	<b>5,028</b>	<b>\$ 1,196,456</b>	<b>-6%</b>

Division of Parks and Recreation					
February YTD 2023 Revenue by Item					
	2022		2023		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	Change
Annual	2,583	\$ 92,992	2,452	\$ 88,272	-5%
2nd Annual	176	\$ 3,168	127	\$ 2,286	-28%
Combo	2,518	\$ 135,972	3,114	\$ 168,174	24%
Transferable	192	\$ 15,360	261	\$ 20,880	36%
Daily License	1,184	\$ 9,472	1,343	\$ 10,744	13%
Unattended Vehicle Daily	13	\$ 195	35	\$ 525	169%
GSM Annual Trail Pass	252	\$ 3,780	277	\$ 4,155	10%
GSM Daily Trail Pass	210	\$ 840	45	\$ 180	-79%
Motorcoach Permit	85	\$ 255	-	\$ -	
CSP 7 Day Pass	969	\$ 19,380	822	\$ 16,440	-15%
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
Rally Bike Band	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
One-Day Special Event		\$ -		\$ 100	
<b>PERMITS</b>	<b>8,182</b>	<b>\$ 281,414</b>	<b>8,476</b>	<b>\$ 311,756</b>	<b>11%</b>
Camping Services		\$ 1,393,387		\$ 1,304,177	-6%
Picnic Reservations		\$ 200		\$ 860	330%
Firewood	30	\$ 180	92	\$ 552	207%
Gift Card		\$ 3,113		\$ 3,624	16%
Boat Slips		\$ 40,296		\$ -	
<b>LODGING</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>\$ 1,437,175</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>\$ 1,309,213</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,212</b>	<b>\$ 1,718,589</b>	<b>8,568</b>	<b>\$ 1,620,969</b>	<b>-6%</b>

**COMBINATION LICENSES**

December 15 - February 28

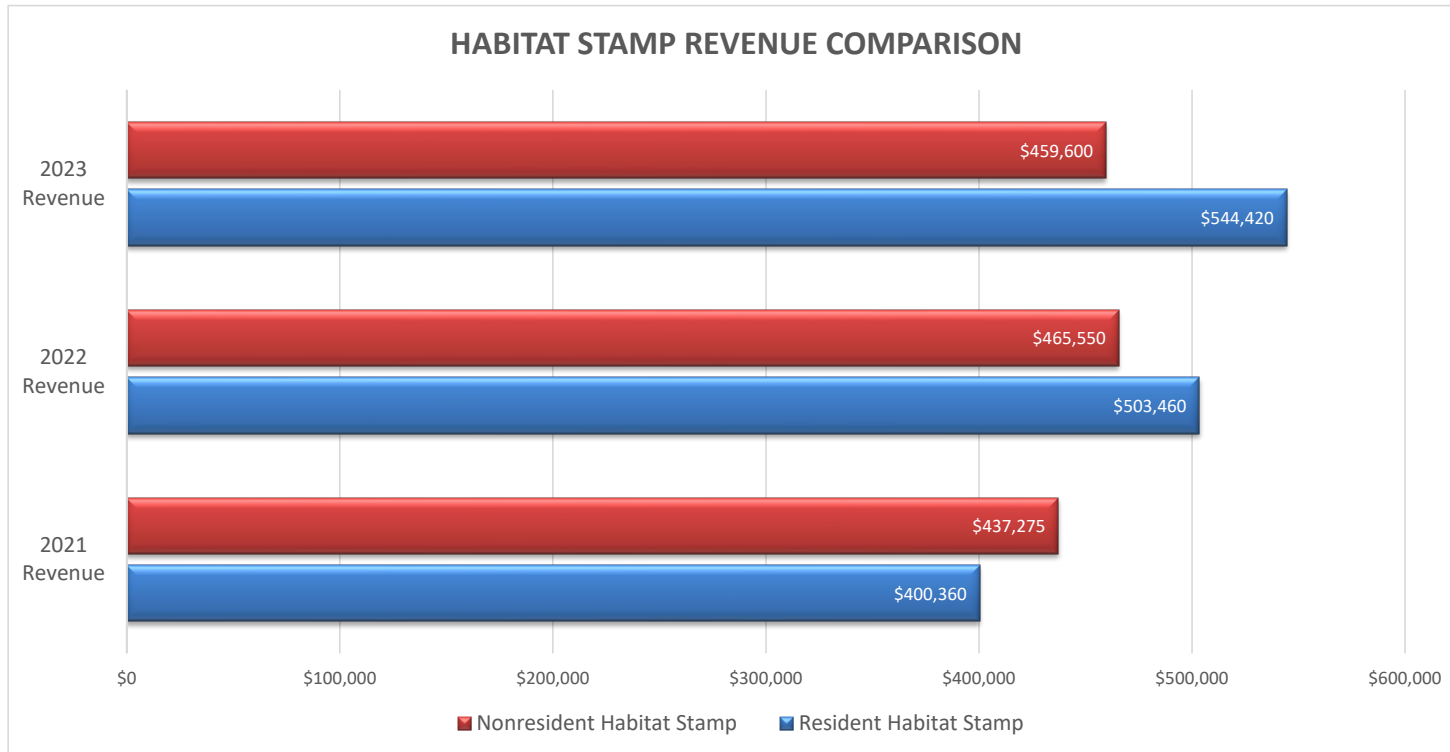
License Type						+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from	
	2020	2021	2022	3-yr Avg	2023	2023 Revenue	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr. Avg vs 2023	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr. Avg vs 2023	3 Yr. Avg
Combination	18,153	19,386	24,470	20,670	25,525	\$1,403,875	1,055	4,855	\$58,025	\$267,043	23%
Senior Combination	4,420	5,105	5,841	5,122	5,816	\$232,640	(25)	694	(\$1,000)	\$27,760	14%
<b>Combination License Totals</b>	<b>22,573</b>	<b>24,491</b>	<b>30,311</b>	<b>25,792</b>	<b>31,341</b>	<b>\$1,636,515</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>5,549</b>	<b>\$57,025</b>	<b>\$294,803</b>	<b>37.04%</b>



## HABITAT STAMP

December 15 - February 28

License Type						+/- Licenses			+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
	2020	2021	2022	3-yr Avg	2023	2023 Revenue	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr. Avg vs 2023	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr. Avg vs 2023	
Resident Habitat Stamp		40,036	50,346	n/a	54,442	\$544,420	4,096	n/a	\$40,960	n/a	n/a
Nonresident Habitat Stamp		17,491	18,623	n/a	18,384	\$459,600	(239)	n/a	(\$5,975)	n/a	n/a
<b>Habitat Stamp Totals</b>		<b>57,527</b>	<b>68,969</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>72,826</b>	<b>\$1,004,020</b>	<b>3,857</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>\$34,985</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>



## SMALL GAME LICENSES

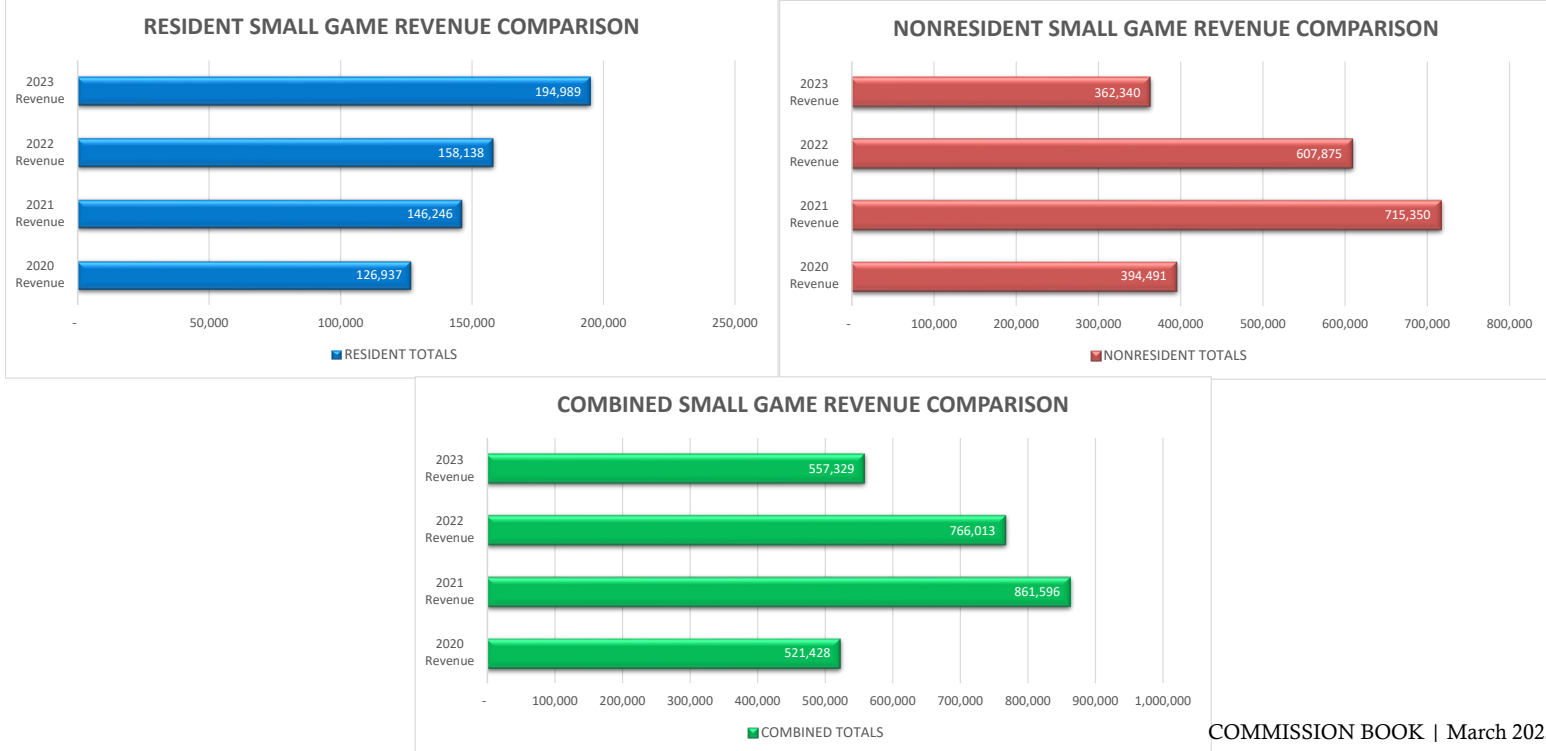
December 15 - February 28

License Type	2020	2021	2022	3-yr Avg	2023	2023 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr Avg
							2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	
Small Game	711	937	1,825	1,158	3,367	\$111,111	1,542	2,209	\$50,886	\$72,908	191%
1-Day Small Game	202	340	144	229	79	\$948	(65)	(150)	(\$780)	(\$1,796)	-65%
Youth Small Game	370	431	616	472	524	\$2,620	(92)	52	(\$460)	\$620	11%
Furbearer	1,984	2,348	2,322	2,218	2,300	\$69,000	(22)	82	(\$660)	\$2,460	4%
Predator/Varmint	585	524	995	701	1,030	\$5,150	35	329	\$175	\$1,643	47%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck			99	n/a	122	\$610	23	n/a	\$115	n/a	n/a
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	7,351	7,206	3,595	6,051	1,110	\$5,550	(2,485)	(4,941)	(\$12,425)	(\$24,703)	-82%
<b>RESIDENT TOTALS</b>	<b>11,203</b>	<b>11,786</b>	<b>9,596</b>	<b>10,829</b>	<b>8,532</b>	<b>\$194,989</b>	<b>(1,064)</b>	<b>(2,419)</b>	<b>\$36,851</b>	<b>\$51,132</b>	<b>-22.34%</b>
Small Game	2,502	5,110	4,110	3,907	2,326	\$281,446	(1,784)	(1,581)	(\$215,864)	(\$191,341)	-40%
Youth Small Game	110	214	269	198	145	\$1,450	(124)	(53)	(\$1,240)	(\$527)	-27%
Shooting Preserve 1-Day Nonresident	151	136	154	147	72	\$3,312	(82)	(75)	(\$3,772)	(\$3,450)	-51%
Shooting Preserve 5-Day Nonresident	580	622	776	659	453	\$34,428	(323)	(206)	(\$24,548)	(\$15,681)	-31%
Shooting Preserve Annual Nonresident	30	50	53	44	44	\$5,324	(9)	(0)	(\$1,089)	(\$40)	-1%
Furbearer	5	3	3	4	0	\$0	(3)	(4)	(\$825)	(\$1,008)	-100%
Predator/Varmint	542	572	523	546	641	\$25,640	118	95	\$4,720	\$3,813	17%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck			2		8	\$40	6	n/a	\$30	n/a	n/a
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	46	57	75	59	55	\$275	(20)	(4)	(\$100)	(\$22)	-7%
Spring Light Goose	250	223	287	253	227	\$10,215	(60)	(26)	(\$2,700)	(\$1,185)	-10%
Youth Spring Light Goose	8	7	17	11	10	\$210	(7)	(1)	(\$147)	(\$14)	-6%
<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>	<b>4,224</b>	<b>6,994</b>	<b>6,269</b>	<b>5,828</b>	<b>3,981</b>	<b>\$362,340</b>	<b>(2,288)</b>	<b>(1,855)</b>	<b>(\$245,535)</b>	<b>(\$209,455)</b>	<b>-31.83%</b>
<b>COMBINED TOTALS</b>	<b>15,427</b>	<b>18,780</b>	<b>15,865</b>	<b>16,657</b>	<b>12,513</b>	<b>\$557,329</b>	<b>(3,352)</b>	<b>(4,144)</b>	<b>(\$208,684)</b>	<b>(\$158,323)</b>	<b>-24.88%</b>

\*The license year for Migratory Bird Certificates changed in 2021 so license sales are not comparable between years.

\*Migratory Bird Certificates changed from 1 option to 2 in 2022

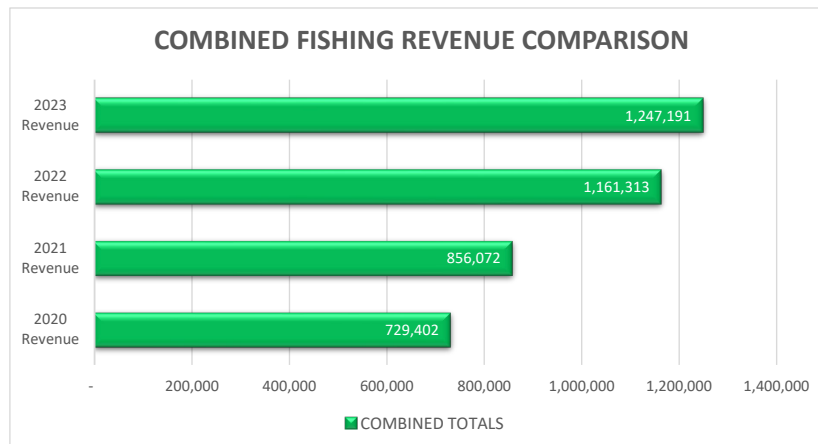
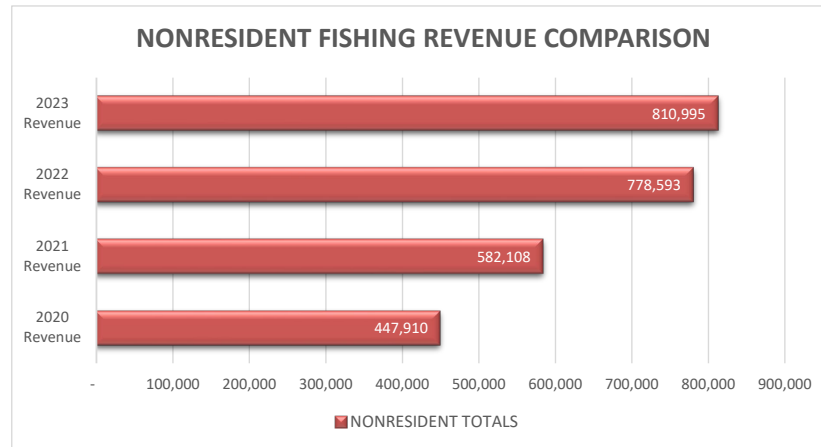
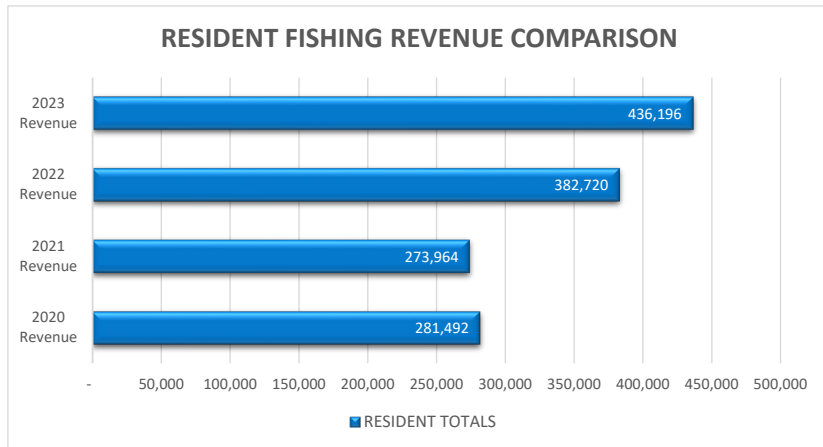
\*Spring Light Goose decreased by \$5 when the migratory bird certificate was no longer included.



## FISHING LICENSES

December 15 - February 28

License Type	2020	2021	2022	3-yr Avg	2023	2023 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr Avg
							2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	
1-Day Fishing	502	480	454	479	570	\$4,560	116	91	\$928	\$731	19%
Annual Fishing	8,979	8,620	12,290	9,963	14,081	\$394,268	1,791	4,118	\$50,148	\$115,304	41%
Senior Fishing	2,172	2,397	2,914	2,494	3,114	\$37,368	200	620	\$2,400	\$7,436	25%
<b>RESIDENT TOTALS</b>	<b>11,653</b>	<b>11,497</b>	<b>15,658</b>	<b>12,936</b>	<b>17,765</b>	<b>\$436,196</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>4,829</b>	<b>\$53,476</b>	<b>\$123,471</b>	<b>37.33%</b>
1-Day Fishing	1,460	3,616	3,822	2,966	3,374	\$53,984	(448)	408	(\$7,168)	\$6,528	14%
3-Day Fishing	2,777	2,616	2,825	2,739	2,980	\$110,260	155	241	\$5,735	\$8,905	9%
Annual Fishing	4,803	6,380	9,148	6,777	9,653	\$646,751	505	2,876	\$33,835	\$192,692	42%
<b>NONRESIDENT TOTALS</b>	<b>9,040</b>	<b>12,612</b>	<b>15,795</b>	<b>12,482</b>	<b>16,007</b>	<b>\$810,995</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>3,525</b>	<b>\$32,402</b>	<b>\$208,125</b>	<b>28.24%</b>
<b>COMBINED TOTALS</b>	<b>20,693</b>	<b>24,109</b>	<b>31,453</b>	<b>25,418</b>	<b>33,772</b>	<b>\$1,247,191</b>	<b>2,319</b>	<b>8,354</b>	<b>\$85,878</b>	<b>\$331,595</b>	<b>32.86%</b>



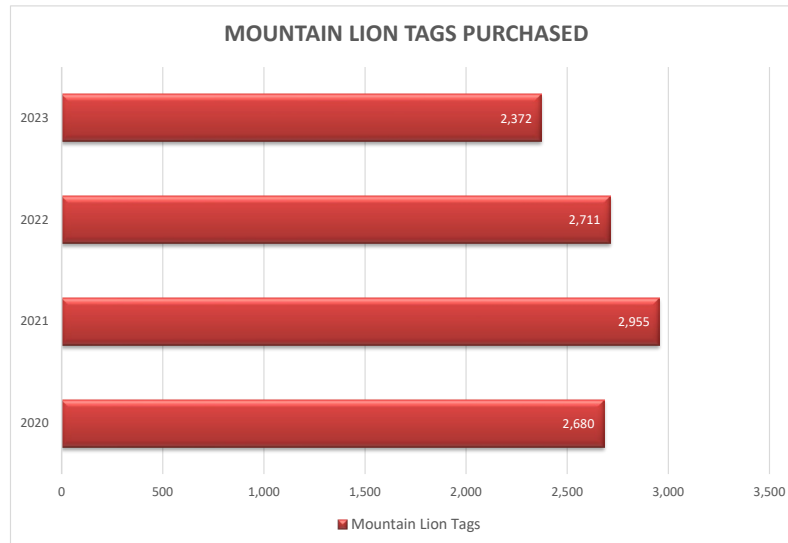
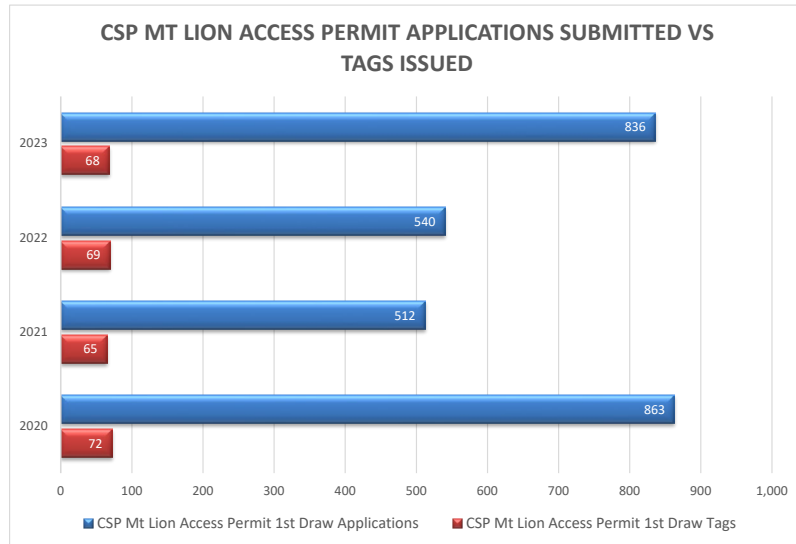
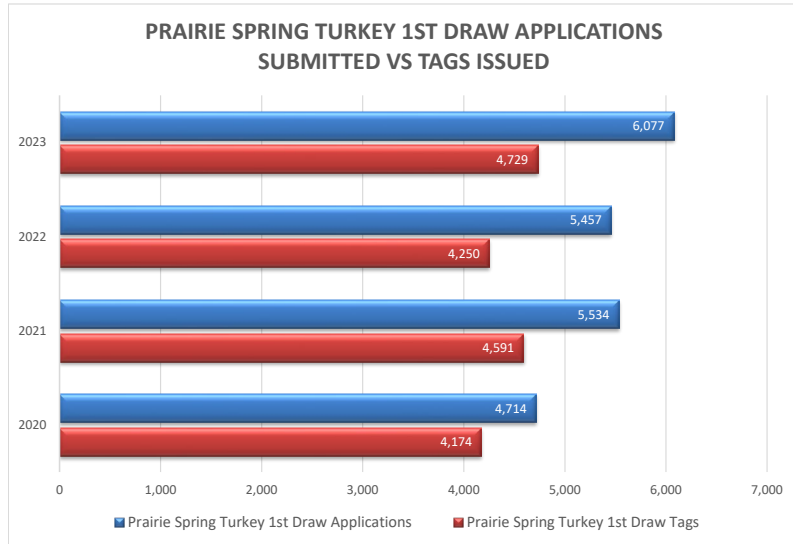


## 2023 BIG GAME LICENSES

License Type	2020	2021	2022	3-yr Avg	2023	2023 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr Avg
							2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	2022 vs 2023	3 Yr Avg vs 2023	
Mountain Lion Tags	2,680	2,955	2,711	2,782	2,372	66,416	(339)	(410)	(\$9,492)	(\$11,480)	-15%
Prairie Spring Turkey 1st Draw Tags	4,174	4,591	4,250	4,338	4,729	145,700	479	391	\$15,425	\$12,880	9%
CSP Mt Lion Access Permit 1st Draw Tags	72	65	69	69	68	n/a	(1)	(1)	n/a	n/a	-1%

### Applications Submitted

Prairie Spring Turkey 1st Draw Applications	4,714	5,534	5,457	5,235	6,077	n/a	620	842	n/a	n/a	16%
LFC Paddlefish 1st Draw Applications	1,910	1,817	2,175	1,967	2,534	n/a	359	567	n/a	n/a	29%
CSP Mt Lion Access Permit 1st Draw Applications	863	512	540	638	836	n/a	296	198	n/a	n/a	31%
Custer Spring Turkey 1st Draw Applications	599	710	624	644	705	n/a	81	61	n/a	n/a	9%





**Issue ARCHERY ANTELOPE**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name PHILIP NEUHARTH City, State MENNO SD Create Date 01/11/2023 7:41:31 AM

Comment Attachment:

Thanks for the support in slowing down the NR hunters on Public land. This is long over due.

Name DUSTIN LUEBKE City, State HARRISBURG SD Create Date 01/12/2023 5:32:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

I would welcome a limit on the archery Antelope tags . More so follow other western states for non residents .

Name DYLAN CAVANAUGH City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 8:33:49 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support the proposal that limits out of state public tags to 450 valid for public/private land. The other proposal I oppose. I heavily dislike changes to license draws that further turn the sport of hunting into a money game. Which is what the proposal for unlimited tags on private will favor. Hunting shouldn't be a sport for the haves, while cutting out the have nots.

Name JUSTIN BROUGHTON City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/22/2023 10:10:32 AM

Comment Attachment: sdgfp\_testimony\_1e0babad8.docx



<b>Issue</b>	<b>ARCHERY ANTELOPE</b>				
<b>Position</b>	<b>SUPPORT</b>				

Name	JOEL	MURANO	City, State	ABERDEEN	SD	Create Date	02/24/2023 1:18:56 PM
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Comment Attachment:

I support putting a cap on non-resident archery numbers. As a resident archery(and firearm) hunter of South Dakota, the increase in non-resident hunting pressure for deer and antelope in the last 20 years just keeps getting worse and I observe this pressure when I am in the field. This is a great first step in reform of the deer hunting opportunities in South Dakota. However, a quick dive into the last 20 years of deer and antelope harvest statistics tells a more jarring story.

In 2003, 1078 archery antelope tags were sold(866-residents and 212-non residents combined) and 4700 antelope firearm tags were sold. Totaling 5,778 antelope tags statewide. This equates to about 18% of the total tags were archery.

In 2021 3019 archery antelope tags were sold (2142-residents and 877-non residents combined) and 5200 antelope firearm tags were sold. Totaling 8219 antelope tags statewide. This equates to about 36% of the total tags were archery

In 2003 there were 14,692 total deer archery tags sold(13,532 resident and 1,160 non residents combined) out of ~130,000 total deer tags sold- Equaling 10% of the total deer tags sold for the year(the website does not have the 2003 deer harvest stats published any longer so I had to use the long term graph to approximate 130,000).

In 2012 there were 30,158 total archery tags sold(25,100 resident and 3128 non residents combined) out of 162,388 total deer tags sold- Equaling 18% of the total deer tags sold that year.

In 2021 there were 36,381 total archery tags sold(30,530 resident and 5851 non resident combined) out of 132,703 total deer tags sold- Equaling 27% of the total deer tags sold for that year.

The point being is that over the last 20 years there's been a significant increase in interest in archery hunting in the state. This makes logical sense because with firearm tags becoming harder and harder to draw, many units requiring 2+ years of preference points to draw, the archery tags provide unlimited opportunity and you can hunt many of the same areas(that take years to draw a firearm tag for) year after year.

The overall deer and antelope population in the state has ebbed and flowed in the last 20 years looking at the long term harvest data in the 2012-2021 harvest reports, and the state hit a high water mark for deer and antelope hunting opportunities in that 2008-2009 time frame. However, interest and demand for archery tags has only increased since then even when populations of animals have not(increased exponentially).

Further reform is necessary, and now that this year a new deer plan is forthcoming this is the appropriate time to take action. Is it appropriate to have an ever increasing number of resident archery hunters buying tags for deer and antelope annually? Is this sustainable based on our game populations? Can the department manage the antelope and deer populations when they are not able to control the number of archery hunters?

A few final thoughts, we're several years in on the "new" deer draw structure for firearms tags. Has the change created a significant positive outcome(s) or is further action necessary? Were there any unintended consequences from the deer structure change? Would it be appropriate to cap and draw resident archery deer tags as part of the statewide deer draw? The same goes for resident archery antelope.

These are all questions worth consideration.

Name	ERIC	PENNISTON	City, State	RAPID CITY	SD	Create Date	02/25/2023 2:35:58 PM
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Comment Attachment:

Please cap archery Antelope tags for non residents



**Issue ARCHERY ANTELOPE**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name TRAVIS BECK City, State PARKER SD Create Date 02/26/2023 8:55:17 AM

Comment Attachment:

I support capping the non-resident permits it would be great to build our beard back I would actually like to see you guys start limited units for antelope just like the deer L units.

Name JARED NOONEY City, State BLACK HAWK SD Create Date 02/26/2023 9:05:20 AM

Comment Attachment:

The number of antelope in western SD is on a continuing decline and the hunter density is too great. The number of non-resident antelope tags need to be limited on a lottery basis. Managing our wildlife should be looked at proactively rather than reactively.

Name DAN WALDMAN City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 02/27/2023 1:20:42 PM

Comment Attachment:

I fully support the proposal to limit the Non-resident hunters for archery antelope. I would add I would like to see the number of NR hunters allowed on public land dropped down to 200 to be more in line with the 8% rifle allocation. Again I support the proposal to limit NR hunters. It is long overdue. Thanks

Name BRAD GATES City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 03/01/2023 9:52:41 AM

Comment Attachment:

Sd must cap non res archery tags if the antelope numbers are down and were are cutting residents rifle tags why would we have unlimited non res archery tags. With the new technology on archery equipment hunters are more successful and we must protect are sd resources and make it easier for sd residents to draw tags in are state! Thank You

Name JAMES BEAVERS City, State PIERRE SD Create Date 03/06/2023 9:32:44 AM

Comment Attachment:

I support the reduction of archery antelope tags available to non-residents starting in 2023. South Dakota is the only state around the Wyoming, Montana region that allows Over the Counter archery antelope licenses for non-residents. Both Montana and Wyoming have much higher population densities of antelope than South Dakota. I have to apply for multiple years before I can draw a Wyoming or Montana Archery non-resident license. South Dakota needs to protect our antelope population after the many severe droughts and this hard winter in 2022-23. Making the archery antelope license a draw for non-residents would help protect our already declining antelope population for the future.

Name DUSTIN RICE City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 03/06/2023 12:23:19 PM

Comment Attachment:

Even though I think there should be additional aspects added to this proposal this is at least a start to improving our antelope hunting in South Dakota.

Name HUNTER DECKERT City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 03/06/2023 9:24:13 PM

Comment Attachment:

A cap on nonresident archery antelope is a huge step in the right direction. I would also implore you cap nonresident archery antelope tags on private land as well.



**Issue ARCHERY ANTELOPE**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name JESSE KURTENBAC City, State SPEARFISH SD Create Date 03/06/2023 10:10:54 PM  
H

Comment Attachment:

Limiting archery antelope tags for NR is long overdue.

**Position OTHER**

Name KYLE HAUCK City, State FERGUS MN Create Date 01/09/2023 4:40:40 PM  
FALLS

Comment Attachment:

The proposed limit on non resident archery antelope hunters is a good start but it is not enough.

The number of tags needs to be limited closer to the 8% allotment that exists with rifle tags.

That would be almost half of what is proposed. Its evident that change is needed since the rifle tags were cut almost in half last year so lets not skimp when it comes to limiting the archery tags as well.

Name KYLE HAUCK City, State FERGUS MT Create Date 01/09/2023 4:41:45 PM  
FALLS

Comment Attachment:

The proposed limit on non resident archery antelope hunters is a good start but it is not enough.

The number of tags needs to be limited closer to the 8% allotment that exists with rifle tags.

That would be almost half of what is proposed. Its evident that change is needed since the rifle tags were cut almost in half last year so lets not skimp when it comes to limiting the archery tags as well.

Name QUINTIN BIERMANN City, State GROTON SD Create Date 01/10/2023 1:01:58 PM

Comment Attachment:

Over the last 10 years we have seen a significant increase in the out of state pressure on public lands by archery antelope hunters. In certain areas it is no longer even worth going with every 4 inch buck being pursued by people looking to be youtube famous on south dakotas public lands. Please lower the tag allocation for non residents and increase the overall experience for everyone.

Name DANA RPGERS City, State HILL CITY SD Create Date 02/13/2023 5:41:05 PM

Comment Attachment:

I full support a Cap/DRAW on NR archery antelope. The proposal brought forth by the department is not nearly enough though to fix the issue. There should be NO difference between Public/Private land permits. Follow the 8% model and put a TOTAL cap and draw in place for all NR archery antelope permits at about 250 total.

IF you must placate pay to hunt operators, make the NR archery permit \$509 and require a landowners name/signature like the special buck firearm permits.

We residents live here for a reason. Please help protect our resources for the animals first, then for the resident opportunities before any commercial interests come in and sell the public trust resources. thank you



**Issue ARCHERY ANTELOPE**

**Position OTHER**

Name PHILIP LENTZ City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/13/2023 6:59:11 PM

Comment Attachment:

Why isn't the 8% nr tag rule followed for archers? Certainly should be just like firearms.

Name LEONARD SPOMER City, State PIERRE SD Create Date 02/22/2023 4:58:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am submitting comments regarding the changes to the archery antelope season.

Our antelope population is in decline and we need to protect it.

The Staff proposal for changes to the nonresident archery antelope season is a step in the right direction, but unfortunately, I don't believe that it goes far enough.

The total number of nonresident archery licenses should be limited to 8% of the previous year's total archery antelope licenses sold. Based upon GF&P Staff statistics of 3019 licenses sold in recent years that would equate to 241 nonresident archery licenses to be offered for the 2023 season.

Furthermore, the unlimited private land licenses issue is a bad idea. Much of the antelope range in western SD contains a mixture of private and public lands such as School and Public Lands, Forest Service and BLM lands. Much of this land is without border fences and will be hunted with a private land license. And with the recent changes in the Open Fields Doctrine there is know way for our Conservation Officers to monitor and enforce these regulations on public properties not visible from the road.

I would urge the Commission to eliminate the private land only license entirely.

Sincerely

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

Name QUINTIN BIERMANN City, State GROTON SD Create Date 03/03/2023 9:53:32 AM

Comment Attachment:

I have archery antelope hunted western SD over the past 5 season and the increase in pressure from non residents has steadily increased every season. Any piece of public land in butte, harding, perkins, meade, and Fall River county has a vehicle at the parking area for weeks on end. Many of these hunters are non residents that are happy to exploit South Dakotas over the counter license system for archery antelope. In light of falling antelope numbers and increase in pressure I would like to see a movement towards further reduction down to 200 NR archery antelope licenses.

Name KARTER KEEFER City, State BROOKINGS SD Create Date 03/06/2023 1:51:04 PM

Comment Attachment:

I believe Non-Resident archery tags should be a capped lottery just like every surrounding state. The cap should be for ALL grounds public or private. It should be no more than 8-10% of the total tags bought for the year. I have hunted antelope for a few year and avoid the NW corner of the state. It becomes over populated with non resident hunters and their camps. I can't even enjoy having a "western" experience in the state I live in.



**Issue ARCHERY ANTELOPE**

**Position OTHER**

Name MIKE LIANE City, State DEVILS LAKE ND Create Date 03/06/2023 1:55:04 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am a nonresident to SD but have family there and come down to hunt Archery Antelope every year. We hunt private land exclusively. I understand the nonresident problems, however, I believe most of the problems are on public land. Private landowners are most capable of controlling traffic on their own land. Consequently, I believe restricting nonresident archery antelope should be on public lands and let the private owners manage their own and not limit private land license availability.

Thank you for the opportunity, Mike Liane

**Position OPPOSE**

Name DANIEL MEYER City, State BRANDON SD Create Date 01/14/2023 8:31:44 AM

Comment Attachment:

It appears that these proposals are only going to benefit outfitters that cater to the out of state population, while the number of license available to residents go down each year.

Name BONNIE STRUBLE City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 02/14/2023 1:16:33 PM

Comment Attachment:

I would support having 200 NR archery antelope permits on public land.

Name FETERLPAUL FETERL City, State LENNOX SD Create Date 02/24/2023 5:12:04 PM

Comment Attachment:

The state really needs to get on controlling our antelope resources and if it takes taking away out of state hunters for a year or two so be it

Name CODY LEINS City, State BOX ELDER SD Create Date 02/24/2023 6:36:01 PM

Comment Attachment:

As a resident I have seen fewer and fewer antelope while I have been out archery hunting. Everytime I go out I see more vehicle and hunters from out of state than I do residents. I think it's about time South Dakota followed what our neighbor states are doing and limit the number of non resident tags and increase the cost to match our bordering states. I fear that if we keep going down the path we are the numbers will dwindle leaving the youth of the state with little to no opportunity.

Name ROBERT EDDY City, State SPEARFISH SD Create Date 02/27/2023 1:37:14 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please reject the current SDGFP Archery Antelope proposal, and limit Non-Resident hunters to 8% of the previous years Resident archery numbers. Also, reduce the Access Permit numbers on Limited Uses areas to reduce competition for all. Thank You!

Name RILEY JOHNSEN City, State WOONSOCKET SD Create Date 02/28/2023 10:22:41 AM

Comment Attachment:

The population is so low compared to 4-5 years ago, cut off tags for non residents and limit tags for residents for a few years to help get the population back to normal. Also make Non residents more expensive. They are so cheap compared to other states. Quit letting everyone come to SD to hunt and hurt our population for residents who care about the population and herd health.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name PHILIP NEUHARTH City, State MENNO SD Create Date 01/11/2023 7:42:11 AM

Comment Attachment:

Thanks for the support in slowing down the NR hunters on Public land. This is long over due.

Name DUSTIN LUEBKE City, State HARRISBURG SD Create Date 01/12/2023 5:36:04 PM

Comment Attachment:

I would support the limited non resident public land tags . Also I am in favor or keeping the April application deadline.

Name DUSTIN LUEBKE City, State HARRISBURG SD Create Date 01/12/2023 6:42:07 PM

Comment Attachment:

I do support limited nonresident archery tags.

However, the past few years are averaging roughly 5,000 licenses. The proposal of 2,200 I feel is low at less than half. I would like to see a 3,000 to start with. Then reevaluate after 3-5 years .

Name DYLAN CAVANAUGH City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 8:35:59 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support the proposal that limits out of state public tags to 2,200 valid for public/private land. The other proposal I oppose. I heavily dislike changes to license draws that further turn the sport of hunting into a money game. Which is what the proposal for unlimited tags on private will favor. Hunting shouldn't be a sport for the haves, while cutting out the have nots.

Name WILLIAM BROWN City, State BRANDON SD Create Date 02/06/2023 6:29:27 PM

Comment Attachment:

I agree with the presentation on the limitation of deer tags for non-resident deer hunters. The public lands of South Dakota are becoming evermore crowded, and the mule deer populations of the west will continue to suffer if the current rate of archery growth is maintained. The mule deer seems much more susceptible to the bow than a whitetail due to their nature, and the continued growth of hunters will drastically harm the growth of South Dakota's herd. The matter may need to be readdressed if the current level of resident bowhunters begins to increase as well. Another step that must be addressed in the future is archery hunting in the Black Hills. In 2021 (the most current harvest report at the time of this comment, 154 mule deer, including 25 does, were taken in the Black Hills unit with archery equipment. In the same year, 73 mule deer, of which 0 were does, were taken with firearms. Given this data and the state's objective to "substantially increase" the number of mule deer within the unit, I believe a change to the "West River Archery Deer License" is necessary. I think adding a clause to the license stating that the West River Archery Deer License is "Any Deer - excluding Black Hills, which is Any Whitetail." The mule deer is the victim of increased pressure due to its appeal to the Eastern hunter, and measures to protect the populations in South Dakota are necessary. The current adaptation of the presented rules is an appropriate start, but I believe more reform will be needed soon.

Name AUSTIN DOMEIER City, State MARSHALL MN Create Date 02/13/2023 8:23:45 AM

Comment Attachment:

As a nonresident hunter, I would rather draw an archery tag every 2-3 years and have less competition hunting on state land than see 3 trucks in every parking lot opening weekend. Reducing the number of nonresident licenses issued through a lottery system would be beneficial to both resident and nonresident hunters!





**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name MIKKEL HAUGEN City, State SAINT PETER MN Create Date 02/14/2023 3:29:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

I think limiting non-resident archery deer permits is a good idea. Please consider separating any-deer and whitetail only as archery permits too.

Name JUSTIN BROUGHTON City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/22/2023 10:11:10 AM

Comment Attachment: sdgfp\_testimony\_fb9f19a5b.docx

Name JASON STONE City, State CHAMBERLAIN SD Create Date 02/22/2023 10:14:58 AM

Comment Attachment: Archery\_Deer\_Proposal\_Comments\_2e8d7e5ed.pdf

Name RONALD KOLBECK City, State SALEM SD Create Date 02/22/2023 11:10:55 AM

Comment Attachment:

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in full support of the need to put limitations on non-resident bowhunters in South Dakota. South Dakota Bowhunters Inc. identified the need and brought forth proposals to address the rapidly rising non-resident bowhunters pursuing our limited antelope and mule deer resources. While I wish the current archery deer proposal would have addressed the science of managing our mule deer instead of pitting residents vs non-residents, I recognize that this proposal is a start in the right direction and needs to happen now to preserve our wildlife resources. Most of the discussion I have heard on this topic has focused on the amount of increased hunting pressure with hunters competing on public land. While this is definitely part of the issue, there is also the issue of increased pressure on the mule deer herd which is clearly seen in the department's population estimates and reports from hunters. The number on non-resident archery deer hunters targeting mule deer has grown exponentially over the past several years and will continue to grow if something is not done now. The impact of the growth in non-resident hunters is seen in the harvest statistics with non-resident bowhunters harvesting approximately 48% of the total archery mule deer bucks in 2021. This is even more pronounced when you look at the prime mule deer units. In Western Harding County non-residents harvested 107 (88%) mule deer bucks versus a resident harvest of only 15. Meanwhile, non-residents only account for 18% of the whitetail deer harvest in the state.

I have heard arguments against the proposal citing decreased revenue and poorer R3 ratings with added restrictions. SDBI has offered recommendations to increase non-resident license fees that was actually supported by many of the non-residents involved in discussions. This fee increase would actually make up for the decreased numbers of hunters being proposed. Regarding R3 assessments, I believe our first priority should be to the residents of South Dakota and if something is not done now we will be negatively impacting recruitment, retention, and reactivation of resident archers as they are further crowded out of hunting lands and the resource is further decimated to the point where we have to cut licenses across the board for mule deer.

Please consider the recommended enhancements to the current proposal, but please pass something to begin limiting the increased pressure on our limited mule deer and antelope resources.

Thank You!



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name JOEL MURANO City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 02/24/2023 1:20:39 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support putting a cap on non-resident archery numbers. As a resident archery(and firearm) hunter of South Dakota, the increase in non-resident hunting pressure for deer and antelope in the last 20 years just keeps getting worse and I observe this pressure when I am in the field. This is a great first step in reform of the deer hunting opportunities in South Dakota. However, a quick dive into the last 20 years of deer and antelope harvest statistics tells a more jarring story.

In 2003, 1078 archery antelope tags were sold(866-residents and 212-non residents combined) and 4700 antelope firearm tags were sold. Totaling 5,778 antelope tags statewide. This equates to about 18% of the total tags were archery.

In 2021 3019 archery antelope tags were sold (2142-residents and 877-non residents combined) and 5200 antelope firearm tags were sold. Totaling 8219 antelope tags statewide. This equates to about 36% of the total tags were archery

In 2003 there were 14,692 total deer archery tags sold(13,532 resident and 1,160 non residents combined) out of ~130,000 total deer tags sold- Equaling 10% of the total deer tags sold for the year(the website does not have the 2003 deer harvest stats published any longer so I had to use the long term graph to approximate 130,000).

In 2012 there were 30,158 total archery tags sold(25,100 resident and 3128 non residents combined) out of 162,388 total deer tags sold- Equaling 18% of the total deer tags sold that year.

In 2021 there were 36,381 total archery tags sold(30,530 resident and 5851 non resident combined) out of 132,703 total deer tags sold- Equaling 27% of the total deer tags sold for that year.

The point being is that over the last 20 years there's been a significant increase in interest in archery hunting in the state. This makes logical sense because with firearm tags becoming harder and harder to draw, many units requiring 2+ years of preference points to draw, the archery tags provide unlimited opportunity and you can hunt many of the same areas(that take years to draw a firearm tag for) year after year.

The overall deer and antelope population in the state has ebbed and flowed in the last 20 years looking at the long term harvest data in the 2012-2021 harvest reports, and the state hit a high water mark for deer and antelope hunting opportunities in that 2008-2009 time frame. However, interest and demand for archery tags has only increased since then even when populations of animals have not(increased exponentially).

Further reform is necessary, and now that this year a new deer plan is forthcoming this is the appropriate time to take action. Is it appropriate to have an ever increasing number of resident archery hunters buying tags for deer and antelope annually? Is this sustainable based on our game populations? Can the department manage the antelope and deer populations when they are not able to control the number of archery hunters?

A few final thoughts, we're several years in on the "new" deer draw structure for firearms tags. Has the change created a significant positive outcome(s) or is further action necessary? Were there any unintended consequences from the deer structure change? Would it be appropriate to cap and draw resident archery deer tags as part of the statewide deer draw? The same goes for resident archery antelope.

These are all questions worth consideration.

Name BROOKE HEETHUIS City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/24/2023 3:10:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

These numbers are insane. Why would we allow that many out of state bow hunters!!!



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name BRYWN RACTLIFFE City, State CANTON SD Create Date 02/24/2023 4:04:49 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support the motion of a common sense cap on the number of archery non resident tags to hunt any deer and antelope in South Dakota.

Name RYAN DEXTER City, State TWIN BROOKS SD Create Date 02/24/2023 7:57:03 PM

Comment Attachment:

I 100% support to limit the non resident archery deer and antelope tags available. They need a quota. Every fall for 7 years my son and I head west river for deer and antelope. The number of non residents is getting ridiculous. All cabins, hotels, camping areas are 95% non resident. It is ruining the quality and quality of animals out there. I have also spoken with many who have wounded game at 100 plus yards with archery equipment. Oh my!!! Talk about not caring about the resources. I hunt with a number of resident individuals who feel the exact same on this issue. Please help the residents of South Dakota and put them as priority.

Name JAMES MUHLBEIER City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 02/24/2023 9:45:42 PM

Comment Attachment:

We need to drastically limit the number of archery mule deer tags in the state for non residents. Additionally if the draw a permit the should be able to hunt Sept.

Name ANDREW TRUDEAU City, State BROOKINGS SD Create Date 02/25/2023 8:15:25 AM

Comment Attachment:

You need to do more to protect mule deer....even alot of the resident tags need to any whitetail not any deer

Name ERIC PENNISTON City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 02/25/2023 2:37:09 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please cap archery deer tags for non residents

Name LONNY KRACHT City, State STURGIS SD Create Date 02/25/2023 7:06:31 PM

Comment Attachment:

My comments are to support limiting the number of non-resident archery deer and antelope licenses that can be sold each year. Last year I drove up to Harding county to archery antelope hunt. There is a very large Walk-in area that borders the north side of Highway 20 for about 5 miles between the town of Buffalo SD and the Reva Gap campground. I swear on my mothers grave that every vehicle pull off along highway 20 for those 5 miles had a non-resident vehicle parked there. I was very suprised at how popular South Dakota has become for non-resident antelope and deer hunters. Reva gap compground was full as well with out of state hunters and had 0 open sites. I pulled my camper to a primitive site in the trees across the highway from reva gap campground to camp. Not only do the antelope get hammered by non-resident archery hunters but the mule deer in Harding county do as well. Archery hunting is nothing like it was 30 years ago when success rates were pretty low. Archery equipment is very accurate today which has many unethical hunters taking longer shots which leads to unrecovered game animals. Please do something to limit the number of non-resident archery hunters and if need be limit resident archery hunters as well. I have been an active archery hunter for 50 years and is is very obvious to me that large reductions in the numbers of archery antelope and deer licenses needs to happen even if that means I don't get a license! I am to the point that I am considering giving up archery hunting.... a sport that I have so enjoyed my entire life. Thank you



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name TRAVIS BECK City, State PARKER SD Create Date 02/26/2023 9:01:36 AM

Comment Attachment:

I support capping the archery deer permits for non-residents and put a antler restriction in place we need to build our mule deer heard back up especially in the Blackhills.

Name JARED NOONEY City, State BLACK HAWK SD Create Date 02/26/2023 9:31:04 AM

Comment Attachment:

First off, the proposal has incorrect dates, which is concerning. The low number of mule deer in western SD and the Black Hills is alarming. The statistics show how many mule deer are killed by non-resident archery hunters, which is disproportionate to our population, especially when looking at surrounding states. The focus on a decrease in revenue should not be the focus, rather we should be concerned with managing our wildlife populations. This is a step in the right direction, but non-resident archery tags should be limited for both public and private lands.

Name SHANNON BRUGGEMAN City, State TEA SD Create Date 02/26/2023 6:39:19 PM

Comment Attachment:

The commission needs to place limits on archery mule deer licenses. Especially for non-residents. None of our neighboring states allow me to buy a guaranteed tag to archery hunt mule deer in the rut, I don't understand why we do so.

Name RYAN FLIEHS City, State CORSICA SD Create Date 02/26/2023 9:11:57 PM

Comment Attachment:

Dear commissioners,  
I use the majority of my vacation days for hunting deer in our wonderful state. Most of those days are spent archery hunting deer and antelope in the fall. Due to the increased pressure by nonresidents on our public lands, I have taken up hunting in some of our neighboring states. These neighboring states require me to draw a tag for archery and/or buy an archery permit for my tag. Their prices are also significantly higher than our nonresident prices.

I strongly agree with not changing anything to the current RESIDENT archery permits and seasons . As these are the only tags that I know I will get to enjoy every year since many of the firearms tags are hard to attain with the new draw system.

As a member of the SDBI, I am in agreement with their proposals, which I have copied below.

Our suggestion to the commission would be that the proposal be amended to 2,000 NR archery deer permits and 200 NR archery antelope permits to be more in line with the 8% cap placed on rifle permits. Adding the UNLIMITED private land permits makes the proposal totally ineffective to achieving any improvement without some requirements for obtaining the private land only tag which are already in place under the special buck tag structure to discourage folks from hunting the wrong land types. Requiring the private land only tag applicants to include the landowner/operator with who they intend to hunt and increasing the cost to \$500 in line with the special buck requirements would solve some of the enforcement concerns we have on the back end and bring those tags in line with our other private land only buck tag requirements. That may have some effect at thwarting the tsunami of pressure we see increasing each fall. Thank you for your attention to this ever-growing concern and taking steps to implement common sense solutions to pressure and overcrowding.

Thanks for your time,  
Ryan Fliehs



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name ALEXANDER YOUNG City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 02/27/2023 12:19:26 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support capping non resident archery tags in South Dakota. This is for the betterment of the deer herd and the resident population.

Name DAN WALDMAN City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 02/27/2023 1:21:37 PM

Comment Attachment:

I fully support the proposal to limit the Non-resident hunters for archery deer. I would add I would like to see the number of NR hunters allowed on public land dropped down to 2000 to be more in line with the 8% rifle allocation. Again I support the proposal to limit NR hunters. It is long overdue. Thanks

Name JUSTIN ALLEN City, State PIERRE SD Create Date 02/27/2023 1:45:53 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support the addition restriction on NR Deer and Antelope archery tags. However, until residents bow hunters are willing to have some skin the game nothing will change. The deer season is way to long, two any deer tags should be reduced to one statewide and several counties or areas of the state should be limited draw for any deer (Missouri River counties areas of western SD as well). Mule deer are over hunted and over pressured b bow hunters, period.

Name BRAD GATES City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 03/01/2023 9:45:55 AM

Comment Attachment:

The state of Sd must put a cap on non resident archery deer tags the residents of Sd are directly effected by the low population of mule deer on public land witch effects draw success for west river rifle units that are being over hunted. Sd needs to protect are resources and make easier for the Sd residents to draw tags and not just hand every non res a tag! Thank You

Name JAMES BEAVERS City, State PIERRE SD Create Date 03/06/2023 9:38:32 AM

Comment Attachment:

I support the reduction of archery deer licenses available to non-residents. I would also like to see a draw instated for non-residents to obtain an any deer(mule deer) archery license. We currently have no restrictions on mule deer harvest in South Dakota for non-residents archery hunters. South Dakota's mule deer population has been declining every year since the early 2000's. North Dakota currently has a system that sets aside a certain number of non-resident mule deer archery licenses. I would like to see South Dakota implement something similar to that.

Name DUSTIN RICE City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 03/06/2023 12:26:03 PM

Comment Attachment:

A great start to improve our archery deer hunting experince here in South Dakota.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name BRADY WILL City, State VOLGA SD Create Date 03/06/2023 3:24:56 PM

Comment Attachment: Public\_Comment\_Archery\_Deer\_f36a676b5.pdf

I support the cap on NR archery licenses for public land. However I think more needs to be taken into consideration regarding the quality overall on mule deer hunting in the west.

See PDF attached.

Thank you,

Brady Will

Name HUNTER DECKERT City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 03/06/2023 9:35:47 PM

Comment Attachment:

A cap on ALL archery deer tags is something that needs to be considered, but especially Non-Resident hunter's. South Dakota's mule deer herd already isn't the strongest. Currently, we have a high percentage of non-resident archery deer hunters targeting our mule deer herd and very disproportionate compared to residents. With the increase in popularity to western style hunting we need to limit our deer tags to archery hunters to help reduce the added pressure, and growing pressure. We need to protect our resource from increasing hunting pressure and have a quality hunting experience when the serious non-resident hunter draws the tag. I'm limited to a draw system when I'd like to experience an out of state deer hunt, archery or rifle. It's time South Dakota caught up.

Name JESSE KURTENBAC City, State SPEARFISH SD Create Date 03/06/2023 10:08:14 PM  
H

Comment Attachment:

This proposal is a start. You are probably going to get bombarded by NR comments because they know they have a good thing going. There is a high demand for our tags. You can limit the NR tags and raise the price to keep the budget. Montana did this a few years ago proving the price increase won't stop hunters from coming.

**Position OTHER**

Name ARNOLD VEEN City, State MILBANK SD Create Date 01/09/2023 10:02:38 AM

Comment Attachment:

I feel that the proposed NR licenses of 2,200 deer and 450 antelope is still way too high and should be changed to the 8% number that applies to the rifle NR hunters currently.

This proposal should apply to both public and private land in my opinion because if it doesn't the problem will simple continue grow.

I feel the commission is taking a step in the right direction to resolve the excessive number of non-resident pressure but the current proposal does nothing to reduce the pressure it simply maintains the problem we are already are dealing with.

Please consider a number correction on the current proposal number to correct the excessive number of non-residents on our public and also private land.

Thank you.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

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Name JOSH DELGER City, State LAKE MILSS IA Create Date 01/09/2023 4:25:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please consider restoring the season dates for the archery season to all, as the month of September was taken away from public land archery deer hunters. This was a band-aid attempt to "fix" an issue that you are now taking a better approach at fixing with an allocation of licenses. The shortened season for public land archery deer hunters is now irrelevant, so please restore to the actual archery hunting season dates or refund 25% (as that's the amount of the season taken away) of the cost of this license to those that don't hunt private land. Or, honestly a better move for the resource would be to remove September for everyone. Your public land hunters continually getting the short end...

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Name KYLE HAUCK City, State FERGUS MN Create Date 01/09/2023 4:36:05 PM  
FALLS

Comment Attachment:

I am in support of the cut back on archery licenses for NR. The issue of declining population and age structure of Mule Deer is something that needs to be addressed. What has been proposed is a good start but it could use some tweaking.

A. Private land tags also need to be limited. The same animals pursued on public are also on private and vice versa.

B. Allow the limited number of tags for NR to also be eligible for the Sept. 1 opener.



**Issue** ARCHERY DEER

**Position** OTHER

Name MARK SMEDSRUD City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 6:14:07 AM

Comment Attachment:

Dear commission,

I am writing you with concerns of the upcoming discussion of limiting Non Resident Archery permits to assist in keeping hunting opportunities and bowhunting quality in check. I'm sure you have seen the numbers in previous discussions and the increase in non residents archery permits across the board statewide, so I won't go into those details. My request today is that we strongly consider limiting all non resident permits and not just the permits on public land. My biggest fear that by only limiting public land permits and not some type of cap on all permits, hunting's will skirt the public vs private license type by applying for private and continue to hunt public taking the risk that they would be caught. With the lack of law enforcement officers over the broad state, it would be easy to skirt the rules and take the risk of being caught only to claim ignorance and take the small penalties.

If this overall cap similar to non resident waterfowl hunting and west River rifle is not considered, I would be in favor of a special archery buck tag for private lands with a significant rate increase. This would be similar to the special buck tags rifle tags currently offer. It would be another tool to decrease demand, while maintaining revenues. As you are well aware South Dakota offers excellent hunting opportunities for many people residents and nonresidents alike. As a lifetime hunting and bowhunter of private and public lands, I have seen the decline in quality of hunting over the years. Most of this is attributable to the commercialization of our hunting opportunities, declines in habitat and increased participation especially when it comes to non resident hunters as a whole. Recently other states have been enacting tighter quotas in regards to nonresident tag demands. I understand and accept those decisions as a guest to their states. Residents deserve the edge when it comes to opportunities and quality. I would like to see some type of serious consideration to keep our hunting opportunities for all as quality hunting and not declining based on revenues catering to other interest groups.

As a personal story related to non resident deer hunting, we have non residents that come to deer hunt the private ranch I hunt. When they were declined rifle opportunities based on quotas, they shifted gears to bowhunting instead. This coming from hunters whom had never been bowhunters up to this point. Their own quotes were "because it's cheap and we now get tags every year, why didn't we do this sooner" Additionally this doesn't limited them to just hunting our private ranch, its a state wide tag! This is just my experience with non-resident Bowhunters on private ground. I have heard from others with similar experiences and an example of real consequences of unlimited non resident tags.

Thank you for allowing me to express my views with such a heated topic.

Sincerely  
Mark Smedsrud





**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

Name MARK SMEDSRUD City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 6:28:05 AM

Comment Attachment:

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing you with concerns of the upcoming discussion of limiting Non Resident Archery permits to assist in keeping hunting opportunities and bowhunting quality in check. I'm sure you have seen the numbers in previous discussions and the increase in non residents archery permits across the board statewide, so I won't go into those details. My request today is that we strongly consider limiting all non resident permits and not just the permits on public land. My biggest fear that by only limiting public land permits and not some type of cap on all permits, hunting's will skirt the public vs private license type by applying for private and continue to hunt public taking the risk that they would be caught. With the lack of law enforcement officers over the broad state, it would be easy to skirt the rules and take the risk of being caught only to claim ignorance and take the small penalties.

If this overall cap similar to non resident waterfowl and west River rifle hunting is not considered, I would be in favor of a special archery buck tag for private lands with a significant rate increase. This would be similar to the special buck tags rifle tags currently offer. As you are well aware South Dakota offers excellent hunting opportunities for many people residents and nonresidents alike. As a lifetime hunting and bowhunter of private and public lands, I have seen the decline in quality of hunting over the years. Most of this is attributable to the commercialization of our hunting opportunities, declines in habitat and increased participation especially when it comes to non resident hunters as a whole. Recently neighboring states have taken measures to decrease nonresidents quotas based on demand and resident hunting quality. I would like to see some type of serious consideration to keep the hunting opportunities for all as quality hunting and not declining based on the dollar amounts and other interest groups.

As a personal story related to non resident deer hunting, we have non residents that come to deer hunt the private ranch I hunt. When they were declined rifle opportunities based on quotas, they shifted gears to bowhunting instead. This coming from hunters whom had never been bowhunters up to this point. Their own quotes were "because it's cheap and we now get tags every year, why didn't we do this sooner" Additionally this doesn't limited them to just hunting our private ranch, its a state wide tag! This is just my experience with private land bow hunters and is one of many stories. I have heard from others with similar experiences and an example of real consequences of unlimited non resident tags on private ground. Thank you for allowing me my expressed views with such a heated topic.

Sincerely  
Mark Smedsrud

Name QUINTIN BIERMANN City, State GROTON SD Create Date 01/10/2023 12:58:48 PM

Comment Attachment:

I would like to see the NR archery permit number down to 2,000 this gets us closer to 8%. Our rifle tags operate on this number, and it also keeps the residents of SD first instead of selling out to out of state interests. Many other states operate on much lower numbers and South Dakota has long been the best option for people looking to go out of state. Lowering the tag numbers for non residents would increase the quality of the hunting experience for all involved.

Name QUINTIN BIERMANN City, State GROTON SD Create Date 01/10/2023 1:08:47 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please lower the number of out of state archery permits to increase the experience for everyone involved. Many large tracts of public land are so overhunted that they are hardly worth hunting come a few weeks into the season. South Dakota needs a change that will protect their deer herd from exploitation by social media influencers and small time pro-staff.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

Name JASON FISCHER City, State COTTONWOOD MN Create Date 02/10/2023 3:51:49 PM

Comment Attachment:

Wondering how many non resident unlimited archery tags were sold last couple years. Would there be a preference point system with this.

Name RONSLD CIZEK City, State WAHPETON ND Create Date 02/10/2023 5:09:12 PM

Comment Attachment:

The note I just received is very confusing!! I have hunted for about 10 years in SD on private land that isn't leased by SD Fish & Game or a part of CHAPS or any other state program. It is fully private and I am the only deer non resident bow hunter on this property the entire season. Your notice indicates by your first bullet point & statement at the bottom that I will be able to purchase a license at a later date in 2023. Then the second bullet point tends to lump everyone together for a grand total of 2200 licenses statewide including public and private. I am confused as I have been a dedicated SD non resident hunter on only private land. Clearly there is an abundance of deer on this ranch & the one deer I may take within archery season clearly isn't going to alter the abundance of animals. At 76 years old this has been my singular vacation every year to go out and visit my ranching friends and do some bowhunting on their property. I can see limiting to 2200 licenses on state, state leased, federal or state CHAPS land but not private land that in most cases is better managed for not over harvesting big game then the actual state lands. I never see a hunter where I hunt. Again I am confused by your verbiage and implications of purely hunting on private land versus state and private lands leased by the state. I feel they should be managed entirely different. Also there is no mention of the ranches that function as Outfitters and any rule changes pertaining to them, especially if you are going to severely limit access to private lands for archery deer hunting in the future. I love my vacation & ability to hunt in SD. I sincerely hope at my age I won't be eliminated from hunting on the private land I do cherish every year. Regards, Ron Cizek

Name DALE FULLER City, State ROGERS MN Create Date 02/10/2023 8:12:36 PM

Comment Attachment:

A national refuge should not favor state residents. It's a national refuge , not a state refuge. Therefore the private land licenses should also be valid in National refuges.

Name WILLIAM JANVRIN City, State EAGAN MN Create Date 02/12/2023 11:18:09 AM

Comment Attachment:

Regarding non-resident proposals; will you be able to apply to the 2200 public/private license and if not drawn, still obtain the private land license?

Name DAVID DRUMMOND City, State OAK RIDGE TN Create Date 02/13/2023 9:15:12 AM

Comment Attachment:

While I understand the frustration resident hunters may have with over crowding I'm not sure the proposal really helps them much. I think most if it happens on the weekends and residents out number non-residents 5to 1. On top of that most non residents are only in the state for 1 week end out the 8 weekends in September and October so on any given week end non residents are outnumber 8x 5 or 40 to 1 assuming residents are hunting every week end. A better solution might be to ban non residents from using public land on all Saturdays so residents could have the public land all to themselves. If you go through with the limited draw proposal the state could lose nearly a 1 million in license fees from non residents. Non residents already pay more in total license fees than resident bow hunters. My last comment is that my hunting partner and I are in our early 70's and South Dakota is about the only state left where we can still hunt mule deer on a diy hunt. Most of the public land has easier access for us physically so if we're not successful in drawing a public access tag out hunting days are probably over. Thank you for your consideration. Maybe you could exempt hunters over 70 for a couple more years. We've thoroughly enjoyed hunting mule deer in South Dakota over the past 4 years.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

Name DAVID DRUMMOND City, State OAK RIDGE TN Create Date 02/13/2023 9:27:03 AM

Comment Attachment:

While I understand the frustration resident hunters may have with over crowding I'm not sure the proposal really helps them much. I think most if it happens on the weekends and residents out number non-residents 5to 1. On top of that most non residents are only in the state for 1 week end out the 8 weekends in September and October so on any given week end non residents are outnumber 8x 5 or 40 to 1 assuming residents are hunting every week end. A better solution might be to ban non residents from using public land on all Saturdays so residents could have the public land all to themselves. If you go through with the limited draw proposal the state could lose nearly a 1 million in license fees from non residents. Non residents already pay more in total license fees than resident bow hunters. My last comment is that my hunting partner and I are in our early 70's and South Dakota is about the only state left where we can still hunt mule deer on a diy hunt. Most of the public land has easier access for us physically so if we're not successful in drawing a public access tag out hunting days are probably over. Thank you for your consideration. Maybe you could exempt hunters over 70 for a couple more years. We've thoroughly enjoyed hunting mule deer in South Dakota over the past 4 years.

Name DANA RPGERS City, State HILL CITY SD Create Date 02/13/2023 5:48:31 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am in total support of putting a non-resident cap and draw requirement on our non-resident archery deer permits. This is LONG overdue. The GFP proposal for totally unlimited private lands and 2,200 public land nr archery deer permits is really not going to help much.

Please follow the SD Bowhunters petition models for both archery deer and archery antelope for NR permits. Our antelope, mule deer and public lands all across SD are suffering due to way too much pressure.

It should be limited to about 2,000 total statewide NR permits for deer. 2,200 public lands permits is way too many. Having NO limited on private land permits is also a mistake. Our public trust wildlife belong to ALL SD citizens. Allowing guides and outfitters unfettered access to unlimited permits and selling them to eastern hunters needs to have a limit.

Please cap all NR deer archery permits at 2,000 and draw for all private/public permits. If you have to keep them separate, at least charge the \$500 fee like the special buck permits and make them put a name/signature on that application so we know they have a place to hunt.

Thank You

Name PHILIP LENTZ City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/13/2023 6:56:45 PM

Comment Attachment:

This is a start to the res vs nr license issue but its not enough. The NR should not be able to get any tag any game year after year when were in long lotto cycles for tags for certain things. You should be ensuring the sd hunters come first. NR tags are also very cheap. It should be a minimum of 500 for sny big game tag.

Name BRANDON JOCHEM City, State EAU CLAIRE WI Create Date 02/18/2023 10:02:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am not against reducing licenses but not just for non resident archers. The number of licenses sold to archers may have increased but how much has that impacted deer herds as opposed to the doubling of rifle licenses? Serious considerations need to be taken in to adjusting the entire hunting population not just the non residents.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

Name LEONARD SPOMER City, State PIERRE SD Create Date 02/22/2023 5:31:14 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am submitting comments regarding the nonresident archery deer license proposal. The proposal is a start but does not go far enough to limit the nonresident archery pressure, especially upon our Mule deer populations.

The 2200 public and private land nonresident license quota is a good idea. The unlimited nonresident private land only is a BAD idea. The private land only licenses should be limited to 800. The total of 2200 public and private land licenses, and the 800 private land licenses would be a total close to 8% of the total previous years licenses.

The total nonresident archery licenses sold should not exceed 8% of the total previous year's archery licenses sold. Retain the April 1, application date for all nonresident archery licenses. The April 1 deadline is in line with other western states application deadlines.

Sincerely  
Leonard Spomer  
20476 Browning Road  
Pierre, SD 57501

Name STEVEN KRAAI City, State WEST OLIVE MI Create Date 02/24/2023 3:02:07 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please don't restrict non resident whitetail hunters because of non residents over hunting Mule deer and Antelope.

Name DOUG BRAGE City, State WATERTOWN SD Create Date 02/24/2023 5:56:22 PM

Comment Attachment:

We need to limit the nonresident archery tags for deer and antelope

Name CODY LEINS City, State BOX ELDER SD Create Date 02/24/2023 6:39:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

We need to limit the amount of non resident tags that are available for deer hunting in South Dakota. We make it to easy and cheap for people to come here and hunt leading to an overwhelming amount of pressure and lower deer numbers. In order to get SD back to be a true trophy mule deer state we need to increase tag cost for non residents and also limit number of tags.

Name DENNIS CLEMENS City, State FRANKFORT SD Create Date 02/25/2023 10:09:51 AM

Comment Attachment:

I agree we need to limit the nonresident tags. SD is the first state for people who come from the east to hunt mule deer, with sd having unlimited tags and no draw the nonresidents are flocking to our state and over harvesting mule and antelope. I believe we also need to look at splitting up mule deer and whitetail for residents and limiting the number of archery mule deer tags.

Name JON OLSON City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/25/2023 5:50:21 PM

Comment Attachment:

I support limiting NR archers. But, the proposal does not go far enough. 8% of resident archers numbers should be the standard. NR private land should be run the same way as special buck licenses. \$500 and landowner name whose property they will be hunting is required.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OTHER**

Name CULLEN MOYER City, State SOUTH SHORE SD Create Date 02/27/2023 8:56:40 AM

Comment Attachment:

We need to place common sense caps on nonresident archery deer tags.

Name MAEGEN BENTON City, State ELK POINT SD Create Date 02/27/2023 11:53:44 AM

Comment Attachment:

I want a cap on non-residents archery tags. We need to protect our small herds. Between disease and hard weather the "nr" tags, I believe, have been over sold.

Name JORDAN VAN ZEE City, State CORSICA SD Create Date 03/02/2023 4:35:45 PM

Comment Attachment:

I feel like there needs to be a cap on non resident archery deer licenses. I don't have any negative feelings towards non residents coming in to hunt but if the deer herd numbers are low (which they are where I hunt) then there needs to be action taken on limiting non resident archery deer tags. I run into a lot of non resident deer hunters on public land where I hunt so I know there are quite a few non residents that come into state to hunt. Again, I don't have anything against a non residents coming in to archery hunt, but I feel like we need to have respect for the deer herd. I have been archery hunting for the past 16 years and have noticed a decline in deer numbers. I know disease has decreased the number of deer over the years and as I'm sure having an unlimited amount of archery deer tags has had something to do with that. But something needs to change here in order for our deer numbers to increase to a healthy level.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Name QUINTIN BIERMANN City, State GROTON SD Create Date 03/03/2023 9:43:49 AM

Comment Attachment:

I would like to see further reduction in NR archery licenses that closer aligns the amount of public land licenses to 8%. The current plan is a few hundred license still away from 8% and continues to take opportunities away from South Dakota resident archery and firearms deer hunters. Over crowding on public land further reduces hunting quality for all those that wish to partake.

Name JIM GRUBER City, State ESTELLINE SD Create Date 03/06/2023 11:04:29 PM

Comment Attachment:

just leave things alone... we have enough regulations now that the average guy cant even get a grasp of... secondly, if you are going to pay people for a walk in area.. perhaps the money would be better spent by offering a little more to the few who are willing to leave an acre or two corn standing in the winter... a walk in area of stubble beans or an old worked up corn field does little to shelter or feed wildlife in the winter, esp. like this one... look around its a biological desert out there..

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ADAM GUTZMER City, State SHOREWOOD MN Create Date 01/13/2023 6:22:58 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please carefully weigh your decisions on this proposal. Out of state hunters pay for a large chunk of public land in SD through licenses. If out of state hunters are significantly reduced the cost will be pushed directly to the residents. With increased costs comes less involvement. Secondly- what is the specific item to be addressed? Is it over crowding? Of what? Mule deer hunters? Whitetail hunters? Guides? I can't say limiting nonresident hunting to less than 40% of historical licenses purchased is a good initial move. It feels like a "guess" with no meaningful data to back it up. Perhaps a 20% reduction, but basing proposals on guess work makes no sense.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name DANIEL MEYER City, State BRANDON SD Create Date 01/14/2023 8:41:33 AM

Comment Attachment:

It appears that these proposals are only going to benefit outfitters that cater to the out of state population, while the number of license available to residents go down each year.

Name CHRISTOPHE SHEEHAN R City, State STREAMWOOD IL Create Date 01/18/2023 6:29:02 AM

Comment Attachment:

As a non-resident hunter, I believe that it is ridiculous to put a limit on our hunting opportunities. I already pay a premium for my yearly tags to hunt my families land for both deer and pheasant. I read how people feel that SD can be a trophy destination if you restrict non-resident hunters. Let me be clear. If you want to be trophy destination, you need to limit rifle hunting period. Archery hunting is rarely a sure thing nd I have gone home many times empty handed where a rifle is almost always a sure thing. You could place a restriction on antler size as well if needed. Be smart about this nonsense. You already are pricing non-resident hunters out with all your license fee and hidden fee increases. WTH is with the 25 dollar habitat stamp for non-resident. Again, all you are doing is hurting your total take from hunters that no longer hunt SD. I see the smaller numbers every season so please don't tell me different. I used to always donate to everything SD has to offer but these ridiculous fees have ended that. All you are doing is hurting yourself and local business with all this nonsense. Please stop hurting my and my friends hunting opportunities or we will be forced to move on. Side note, yearly, we spend over 25 k with local butchers and ranchers, buying meat for our families. This may not seem like much in the big picture but it means a hell of a lot to the local butchers and ranchers that we support and treat like family. WE SUPPORT SD AND LOCAL BUSINESS DO NOT MESS THAT UP BE SMART Please feel free to contact me for any reason, Best regards, Christopher

Name SHANE BRUMBAUGH City, State GERING NE Create Date 01/20/2023 9:53:35 PM

Comment Attachment:

I'm curious on the success rate of these licenses sold vs the revenue lost if limited. Being born and raise in Rapid city all my life until recently, I enjoy coming back to archery hunt with my dad every fall even though the tag price is almost \$300. I'm wondering how much of a dent does the non-resident put in the deer population? I would just hate to see it go to a lottery, I remember when we could buy a deer stamp at mini mart over the counter. Now to get a rifle tag is SD it takes me a few years but to do the same to archery? I think SD should really rethink it. Thanks for your time!

Name VICKIE POLTA City, State CLAYTON WI Create Date 01/26/2023 12:51:45 PM

Comment Attachment:

My husband and I have been nonresident archery deer hunting for whitetails for 20+ years by Deerfield area.It's very seldom that we see other archery deer hunters in the area.We look forward to coming every fall as it is the only vacation we take each year.Hopefully we'll be able to get tags for that area.Thank you for reading!Vickie Polta.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name RICHARD SYLTIE City, State BENSON SD Create Date 02/10/2023 3:24:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

I have been coming out for archery season for many years with my cousin/best friend. We spend all our money locally for food, camping, and entertainment. If we are unable to both go with a draw system, we will find a different state to take our hunting at. We love hunting SD but this change push many of us that willingly spend money in SD every year to somewhere else.

Name RYLEY THILL City, State JOHNSTOWN CO Create Date 02/10/2023 3:29:45 PM

Comment Attachment:

More of the same from the SDGFP. What this looks like to me and probably a ton of other people is someone's buddy who owns private land trying to block the ability of non residents purchasing public land tags or forcing nonresidents to pay the gfp's buddies to hunt their private owned land. You have already taken away the ability for prior residents to hunt the same time as their family with the delayed month for archery and now just going to eliminate their hunting in total. Maybe instead of limiting non residents all of the time, take a look at your poor management of residents. Example: Land owner tags given so that land owners can hunt anywhere with that tag is bogus. Land owner tags should be for their land and their land only. They can draw from the general like the rest of the state has to if they want to hunt "not their property".

Name SCOTT FRERICHS City, State LINCOLN NE Create Date 02/10/2023 3:31:52 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please don't limit archery any deer tags on private land, as a former resident of the state and hunting on family owned land this would impact my ability to hunt the land I have hunted since I was a child. I understand the need to limit hunting pressure on public land to ensure opportunities. I also suggest you return to the draw process for non-resident east river deer tags and would encourage the allocation of a percentage of East River special buck tags for non-residents. Thank you. Fees are elevated but I don't complain about that because it goes directly into conservation, fees for resident tags are lower so that can impact operating budget of the GF&P.

Name BRIAN SMITH City, State UNION KY Create Date 02/10/2023 4:05:48 PM

Comment Attachment:

You're seriously considerate lottery for non-resident any deer? How many licenses were sold last year? How many deer harvested? Are you easing the prices again? Still limiting access to public ground?

I'm opposed to the change. One likes to plan in advance for trips, especially when it's over 1,000 miles and involves an extended stay and time off from work. What is the reasoning behind the proposal? What are the other options available to out of state archery hunters? Why do you hate non-resident hunters so much? Are we not spending enough on SD? Or is the problem still "meth, we're on it"?

In the end, you've already made up your minds. You are the government after all. As for me, I'm done coming "home" to see my parents and hunt. I'll still visit them but I'm no longer donating to the state I've been proud of for all these years.

Name ERIC SKAJEWSKI City, State BURTRUM MN Create Date 02/10/2023 4:13:38 PM

Comment Attachment:

I just think it is extremely sad that even the states that once provided some of the best opportunities to show up buy a tag and hunt as a nonresident are now becoming like all the other western states and making it pretty much impossible for a nonresident to ever hunt again. I understand limiting tags to a point for firearms and muzzle loaders. But I do think it is outrageous to limit archery tags where the success rate is extremely low the way it is , and to limit them to 2,200 on top of that is unfortunate! I absolutely love archery hunting public land in South Dakota and am very sad to see that it will more then likely come to an end.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name JEFF NOHAVA City, State HAWARDEN IA Create Date 02/10/2023 4:28:15 PM

Comment Attachment:

Why are you making harder for out of state hunter tthat spend alot of money in your state to get a license I am from south dakota when I was a kid now I live a 1 mile from the border and own a small piece of land on the south dakota side of the big sioux were my grandson shot his first deer now I may not get to hunt it please leave it as it is

Name MICHAEL PUTNAM City, State BROOKLYN WI Create Date 02/10/2023 4:45:01 PM

Comment Attachment:

2200 is a drastic reduction. This is a state wide permit. Is there a way to relieve the pressure by having west and east river tags? Or atleast using a number like 3000 that creates something like an every other year draw success for public land tags.

Name JOE NORMAN City, State FORT RIPLEY MN Create Date 02/10/2023 5:06:01 PM

Comment Attachment:

I do not support limiting non resident archery deer licenses. It may be a quality of hunt issue west river, I cannot speak to that, east river we do not see the non resident pressure. Mostly resident hunters on the public, hunting, hanging stands, and placing cell cameras on every other tree. I feel east river licenses should not be subjected to the limits. I also disagree with the separation of laws based on land ownership. GFP should manage based on the resource needs, not property lines.

Name KEVIN HANSEN City, State NEW RICHMOND WI Create Date 02/10/2023 7:30:27 PM

Comment Attachment:

I love South Dakota. But I completely disagree& disgusted at how many changes a state can make to a system that is obviously targeting out of state bow hunters on publicly owned lands. Every year it's new changes directed at non residents!! Bad form South Dakota! Give it up out there and quit trying to play God with such a limited number of tags. Then go unlimited on private! Common! Those deer share the land and borders as should we be able to hunt them without having a circus act to perform to come spend thousands in SD (willingly) and generously because we love and respect archery hunting there.

A almost Bigger issue is how do we keep our hunting culture together and our young people engaged if only one or two it NO ONE gets a tag in this system!?! You are and will be further destroying our culture. When a tradition gets broken west happens next?? Do you want to be part of destroying the fabric of our entire nation and ESPECIALLY our families over bogus overreach on friends from nearby states?? That's not going to work and you people should look at the bigger picture and quite reaching into the special interest corners of your state for advice. We are together or we are nothing. SD is a wonderful place! Let us bow hunt !





**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name GRAYSON BUST City, State LOUISVILLE KY Create Date 02/10/2023 8:10:50 PM

Comment Attachment:

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the proposed changes to the non resident archery deer season. I oppose these changes as they take no consideration for any non resident landowner which I am along with my father and brother.

I believe the commission is analyzing an issue that needs to be addressed to ensure strong deer populations endure in South Dakota. I support efforts to this end. However, even though my family are non residents we have enjoyed many quality hunting trips on our land and cherish the time spent together hunting. We have made significant investments in the property which illustrates our dedication to this sport and state and we have contributed a lot to the tax base.

I would support an increase in license fees which would be more productive from a revenue generation standpoint for the state and have a natural impact on licenses procured based on basic economic principles. Increased revenue would also further the commissions' goal of strengthening and protecting the deer population by providing more resources to further that goal.

I also would support consideration for out of state landowners as well. It would be simple to verify the data on deeds to limit licenses to those listed on the deeds.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. I believe alternatives such as the above should be considered as opposed to the proposal on the table.

Grayson Bust

Name JONATHAN VANDER VEGT City, State MORA MN Create Date 02/11/2023 1:03:11 AM

Comment Attachment:

Please keep the archery deer season as is for Non-residents. Residents already have the full month of September to hunt public lands. I have been hunting SD since 2015 and the hunting is still quality people just need to put in the work. Having an opportunity to hunt your state each year is a honor that I would regret loosing.

Name LOGAN BUTKOVICH City, State MONTROSE MN Create Date 02/11/2023 1:16:34 AM

Comment Attachment:

Why change it

Name PERRY CLARK City, State SAINT PETER MN Create Date 02/11/2023 7:04:19 AM

Comment Attachment:

Restricting people on public lands is clearly an anti-non-res action, probably pushed by guides that want to lock the state up. We have a family tradition in the NW and the pressure is reasonable, the land owners are kind and welcoming. Don't react to the vocal minority or the money, that is not the South Dakota way.

Name THOMAS SCHAFFER City, State COMSTOCK WI Create Date 02/11/2023 7:14:25 AM

Comment Attachment:

I am land owner in South Dakota. I have owned 2 farms. I don't believe this is fair to those who own land in South Dakota and not be able to Bow Hunt on their own land.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ERIC MATHE City, State NEENAH WI Create Date 02/11/2023 7:58:55 AM

Comment Attachment:

Wow, sad to see South Dakota going to a limited draw, capped at 2200 for non residents. I always thought of South Dakota as the land of opportunity. I have hunted there the last 8 years for archery antelope and once for mule deer. You are forcing hunters to go to other states. I guess you care more about whining residents than you do about local businesses

Name ZACHARY OTTS City, State HANOVER MN Create Date 02/11/2023 8:27:07 AM

Comment Attachment:

GFP commission, I have hunted non resident archery, west river, for the past 3 years. We have seen an abundance of mule deer every year averaging between 2-300 hundred deer a day with plenty of mature deer of both sex. Whitetails are harder to find in the hill country but still see a good amount with some mature deer I would guess between 30-40. The land owners we have talked to ask if we can shoot more deer as they winter with their cattle and eat their feed. We have found if you stay away from big tracks of blm and national grassland you won't run into many hunters if any and if you hunt walk in usually you are the only hunters in it. It would be helpful to know how many tags have been given to non residents the last couple seasons to see if it's comparable to the 2200 tags you are trying to switch to. Also a breakdown of how many tags were given to nonresident archery vs non resident gun. Overall I think the SD GFP has done a very good job of managing the resource I look forward to hunting every fall. Thanks for all you guys do but I think this would be a poor decision.

Name KENNETH PETERSON City, State DINWIDDIE VA Create Date 02/11/2023 10:09:11 AM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose changes to nonresident archery regulations. I am a native South Dakotan that returns to bow hunt every year ( most of the time unsuccessful) . The last 2 years I spent 3 months archery hunting in SD. During that time it was rare for me to see another bow hunter. I hunted west of Sturgis. In that area you could easily have more bow hunters. This has nothing to do with deer management! It's all about the SD bow hunters assoc. and what they have proposed. I guess there afraid some out of state hunter might shoot a big buck. Pretty poor way to manage a resource.

Name GREG SCHULTZ City, State NUNICA MI Create Date 02/11/2023 12:26:28 PM

Comment Attachment:

We have been coming to SD every year since 2010 ish. Usually with a group of 6-8 guys and hunting Walworth and Potter counties. We usually go home with 1-3 deer for 8 guys. But we have a lot of fun and are public land hunting for the challenge of it and the beautiful country we get to enjoy. We spend a considerable amount of money on this trip between liscences, gas, groceries, restaurants. If less than half of the crew is able to get a liscence I believe it will end this tradition and it will be sad to let it go. We drive by many good hunting states with unlimited over the counter liscences to come visit SD. I think this proposal is a mistake being made to serve the interests of a few that will hurt your economy and the sport of bow hunting. In these times when the world is against hunting, sportsman should band together to promote as many hunting opportunities as possible. 5000 liscences sold statewide is not an overcrowded situation in my opinion. Why not promote the sport and the economy when nonresident hunters are killing so few deer statewide. At a 20% success rate non resident bowhunters are paying \$1500 per deer in liscence fees alone. It really seems like a mistake and a step backwards to limit this. Lands are never overcrowded where we are hunting. Thank you



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name GREG SCHULTZ City, State NUNICA MI Create Date 02/11/2023 12:27:55 PM

Comment Attachment:

We have been coming to SD every year since 2010 ish. Usually with a group of 6-8 guys and hunting Walworth and Potter counties. We usually go home with 1-3 deer for 8 guys. But we have a lot of fun and are public land hunting for the challenge of it and the beautiful country we get to enjoy. We spend a considerable amount of money on this trip between liscences, gas, groceries, restaurants. If less than half of the crew is able to get a liscence I believe it will end this tradition and it will be sad to let it go. We drive by many good hunting states with unlimited over the counter liscences to come visit SD. I think this proposal is a mistake being made to serve the interests of a few that will hurt your economy and the sport of bow hunting. In these times when the world is against hunting, sportsman should band together to promote as many hunting opportunities as possible. 5000 liscences sold statewide is not an overcrowded situation in my opinion. Why not promote the sport and the economy when nonresident hunters are killing so few deer statewide. At a 20% success rate non resident bowhunters are paying \$1500 per deer in liscence fees alone. It really seems like a mistake and a step backwards to limit this. Lands are never overcrowded where we are hunting. Thank you

Name HUNTER KLEINSCHMI City, State BRAINERD MN Create Date 02/11/2023 4:37:06 PM DT

Comment Attachment:

Hello, I want to first say I do not entirely oppose the changes surrounding nonresident archery deer hunters in South Dakota. I am all for allowing residents to have essentially the best odds at harvesting an animal. It is their state and I understand that. But as a nonresident I am already limited to hunting public land 30 days after residents and I feel this could limit nonresident opportunities even more. Although I have never hunted west of the Missouri River (only near Watertown and Florence for whitetails) I believe the input, that there is overcrowding of people on public land.

I have honestly seen only four of five other nonresident bow hunters when I have been out hunting. Most of the time the other hunters I have encountered were after pheasants or waterfowl. Has the Commission ever considered changing the license from one "any-deer" to either one Mule Deer or one Whitetail? Or limiting nonresident licenses to either "east river" or "west river" and eliminating the "statewide" license altogether? I think the issues brought forth are more apparent in mule deer habitat than whitetail.

I want to add that I'm lucky enough to be able to hunt public and private land in SD and I cannot stress enough how I have had the best bow hunting when I am on SD soil. Hunting over a small piece of public that the state planted, I was able to witness the best rutting activity in my life, where I saw multiple 140" bucks and a stud 180" nontypical. I am thankful that the opportunity is there for me, and in the long haul limiting the number of hunters is probably a good thing. But I have also seen large herds of deer with 30-40 does and one or two bucks in them.

I do not believe limiting the number of nonresidents will address this issue but allowing for the opportunity to harvest a Whitetail doe will make the population healthier. Pricing could be the same as the "nonresident whitetail doe muzzleloader" tag and I know everyone in my party would gladly purchase a whitetail doe only tag as well as their one "any deer" tag.

I want to stress the fact that I am grateful to be able to hunt in South Dakota, and this issue does not directly effect where I hunt, but it very well might in the next few years. I think limiting nonresident deer hunters to choosing either "west river" or "east river" is a better plan than limiting the number of "statewide" licenses. Or keeping the resident license as an "any deer" license and changing nonresident license to either a "mule deer only" or "whitetail only" option.

Thank you for taking the time to read my input, and I look forward to the decision the Commission makes on these issues.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ANTHONY CURTIS City, State BRISTOL SD Create Date 02/12/2023 9:26:57 AM

Comment Attachment:

There are many other avenues to pursue, other than cutting the number of nonresident archery licenses by over half, the number of sales in 2022 was around 5500, and your proposal is 2200. If we are looking at ways to improve the herd we should start by limiting the number of farm tags. Some farmers are getting 20 tags that is a area to look into. There are many ways to help the herd, but taken away revenue from small towns that count on tourism dollars for income, which is what non residents archery hunters bring in. Thank you for your time. Please feel free to reach out to me I feel very strongly about this and would like the opportunity to help with other solutions,

Name DEREK BOWE City, State BLOOMER WI Create Date 02/12/2023 1:24:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

Name JESSE BRUGGENTHI City, State ROCHESTER MN Create Date 02/12/2023 2:26:03 PM  
ES

Comment Attachment:

As a non resident archery deer hunter I have very rarely ran into other people hunting on public land while in SD , there is a common notion that pressure effects the success rates and that isn't necessarily true you just have to hunt a little differently to accommodate pressure. SD would lose a large chunk of money limiting tags that they use to provide and maintain the deer population, a good way to get around this and still allow out of state hunters to have unlimited tags would be to implement a antler restriction on bucks for mule deer and Whitetail in order to boost the age class of deer throughout the state but still allow adequate income for the state.

Name JOSH YOUNG City, State WARDSVILLE MO Create Date 02/12/2023 10:27:37 PM

Comment Attachment:

I have chosen to bowhunt your state, with a friend, for approximately 1 week each of the past 3 years. Nonresidents are already restricted by not being allowed to hunt in September. The proposed tag restriction for non-residents will lead us (and undoubtedly others) to look to other states to hunt. Each year, we spend money on food, gas, lodging, etc in South Dakota but will look elsewhere if these changes are finalized.

Name DAVID MAAS City, State WATERTOWN MN Create Date 02/13/2023 8:19:00 AM

Comment Attachment:

I'm the editor of Bowhunting World print magazine (It's been around for 70 years.) I'm also a MN resident, and bowhunt annually on public and private lands in eastern SD. In the last 20 years, I can tell you that I rarely see another non-resident bowhunter on public land in eastern SD (and I bowhunt a lot). If you're having trouble with overcrowding or access in western SD (too many non-res bowhunters), then don't include eastern SD in your solution. There's no reason to limit non-res bowhunter numbers in eastern SD because it's not a problem. Please don't lump non-res bowhunters from eastern SD in with those from western SD.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name LUCAS MUELLER City, State SAINT MN Create Date 02/13/2023 8:37:28 AM  
BONIFACIUS

Comment Attachment:

I want to start by saying I understand the position the state and residents are taking in proposing these changes, but I have to respectfully disagree with what is being proposed as a whole. I do not have all the exact numbers and background data to make a logistical argument for deer populations, number of non-resident archery licenses, etc. but with what is proposed, I believe it would cut the non resident opportunities in half. Maybe some additional regulation is needed if a true threat to deer populations is the trend, but I my thought is this is going a bit to far and extreme for first year changes.

We have been coming to SD as a group of 4-6 archery hunters for the past 3 years, hunting all public land. We usually stay for 5-6 days total throughout the season, which I would argue is the norm for most non-resident parties. We pick a week to try and get an opportunity at a mule deer with our bows, which the success rates are not that high, but it is the pursuit that is enjoyable. I do not believe that having non-residents coming for a week, maybe two at the most, is going to impact the populations in a threatening measure.

In addition, we utilize all SD amenities such as fuel, groceries, lodging, supplies, restaurants, bars, etc. My main comment to extend to this meeting, is to place additional regulations to the extent needed, and not to go overboard with retracting non-residents licenses away from those who want to pursue big game is SD. Can the board/state come together and find a way to help balance populations of whitetails and Muley's without pulling the opportunity to have hunters come out each year?

SD is our favorite trip of the year, and we talk about it from the day we leave post hunt, until the following year we get back. i hope you are able to fins a way to make this work without limiting our opportunity to come out and enjoy the great state of SD on our hunting adventures.

Thank you,  
Lucas Mueller

Name SCOTT GULDEN City, State ST. MICHAEL MN Create Date 02/13/2023 8:43:41 AM

Comment Attachment:

DEAR GFP DEPARTMENT,  
PLEASE TELL ME YOU ARE NOT GOING TO IMPOSE A LIMIT OF ONLY 2200 NON-RESIDENT ARCHERY TAGS FOR SD!! THAT SOUNDS INSANE TO ME. MAYBE I HAVE MIS-READ SOMETHING AND THIS MIGHT APPLY TO WEST RIVER BECAUSE HUNTING PRESSURE IS HIGHER IN THE WESTERN HALF OF SD. AS YOU CAN TELL I'M NOT IN FAVOR.  
SCOTT GULDEN

Name JOHN YUNGWIRTH City, State ERIE PA Create Date 02/13/2023 8:51:55 AM

Comment Attachment:

Our family and friends tradition is a week tip to SD which has been most enjoyable. These restrictions on the archery non resident licenses would probably discontinue our outing in your state

Name JEROL CHANEY City, State SUAMICO WI Create Date 02/13/2023 10:01:37 AM

Comment Attachment:

I don't understand how limiting NR archery hunters to only 2,200 any deer tags statewide would prove to be beneficial. How many Any deer tags are sold on an annual basis now? What is the annual percentage of success? Where is the scientific evidence to support such a drastic change in tag sales? What will be the economic impact to local businesses with less NR money coming in? Why lump private land in with public land? Wouldn't it make more sense to set it up more like the west river rifle tags, meaning X amount of tags per county? I'm sure I will submit more questions at a later date. This proposal doesn't make sense on so many levels. I've been hunting South Dakota since 2009 and I have only seen one other archer in the field. I don't understand what is driving this proposal.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name WYATT HAYES City, State DELANO MN Create Date 02/13/2023 10:20:58 AM

Comment Attachment:

I have been coming to SD for 3 years to hunt West River archery mule deer. I have had a chance to harvest a buck 2/3 years visiting, but only harvested 1 year, electing to pass multiple bucks the other two. Each year I have seen plenty of 160+ class bucks. In the 3 years of hunting, I have only ever seen one other hunter on a public piece of property, and with the amount of public land available, I was easily able to transition over to a new piece. What you have in SD is very special, I also want to protect it. However, reducing the amount of revenue to the state and in turn the resource is only one way to approach a problem. The major complaint is from in-state hunters seeing less shooter bucks, and more non-resident crowding, to which I haven't hunted all over the state, but my personal experience has been anything but that. I would suggest that more surrounding units in the NW corner of the state be a restrictive lottery if that is a more concentrated area of hunting pressure. For a state that benefits from NR hunting tag revenue, and out of state patrons revenue, why are only residents to allowed the first month of the archery season? What dent does that put in the deer population? What about moving the rifle season away from the rut and reducing the residents to an earn a buck, or only 1 buck (any species) tag. If the intent is to improve hunting opportunities overall, look at keeping revenue to the resource, limiting the harvest, but not limiting opportunities. If SD does move to a lottery system for NR, I would like to replicate what ND does with allowing to apply as a party, but to include up to 6 individuals. This is really beneficial when it comes to planning hunts as a group.

Name TOM MAXSON City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 02/13/2023 10:25:35 AM

Comment Attachment:

I do not support the proposed change to limit the number of non-resident archery deer tags. The revenue that is generated from the tags is substantial and losing that revenue would have a negative impact on the Game, Fish, and Parks. On the flip side, since the tags are non-resident, the majority of the hunters are only hunting for a small amount of time during the long season. Therefore they are likely having a small impact on the number of hunters in the field at any giving time during the season. In addition, the success rate for an archery tag is relatively low, so the impact to the deer populations is also low. Ultimately, the benefit of the revenue that is generated by the non-resident archery tags out ways any possible negative impact that the unlimited number of tags may have.

Name STEVE MAXSON City, State LITTLEON CO Create Date 02/13/2023 10:47:01 AM

Comment Attachment:

My family has lived in South Dakota for six generations. I live in Colorado. For 30 years I have traveled to South Dakota to hunt with my family (uncles and cousins). I do not support the proposed change to limit the number of non-resident archery deer tags for the following reasons:

1. The revenue that is generated from the tags is substantial and losing that revenue would have a negative impact on the Game, Fish, and Parks.
2. Since the tags are non-resident, the majority of the hunters are only hunting for a small amount of time during the long season. Therefore, they are likely having a small impact on the number of hunters in the field at any giving time during the season.
3. The success rate for an archery tag is relatively low, so the impact to the deer populations is also low.

Clearly the benefit of the revenue that is generated by the non-resident archery tags outweighs any possible negative impact that the unlimited number of tags may have.

I appreciate your consideration.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ANDREW GAPPA City, State MADELIA MN Create Date 02/13/2023 12:54:12 PM

Comment Attachment:

As a non-resident I would like to voice my opposition for proposed changes. I have family in your fine state and every year my friends and family archery hunt for a week in late October. We do so on a combination of private and public access land. We spend money throughout the year scouting and looking for new hunting opportunities in the area. It has become a tradition. Knowing that we are able to get drawn every year, allows us to plan our vacation schedules early without fear of having to cancel.

Name RICHARD BESSLER City, State LAKE GEORGE MN Create Date 02/13/2023 4:35:10 PM

Comment Attachment:

The dnr in Minnesota, North Dakota and south Dakota have programs to get youth outside and hunting& fishing..Some limits I understand but archery harvest numbers are very low. As a non resident ( hunting 10 years in SD) we harvest out of 12 hunters average 2 to 3 deer a year. Grand children will be effected most....we go for the hunt not the KILL! Hunting will die and slow death! I personal have shot 1 in 10 years..I shoot my deer for the table in Minnesota.

Name RICHARD BESSLER City, State LAKE GEORGE MN Create Date 02/13/2023 4:35:54 PM

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Name JAMES MAXSON City, State LITTLETON CO Create Date 02/14/2023 9:17:04 AM

Comment Attachment:

I was born and raised in Rapid City, but now live in Colorado. I have been hunting deer in the Black Hills for over 55 years. Hunting deer in the Hills with my family is a cherished opportunity for me. Since I am now only able to get a rifle license as a nonresident every 3-5 years, the unlimited archery tags currently offered, provide my only chance to do this on a consistent basis.  
Per the information I have been able to find, you are proposing to reduce nonresident any deer licenses for public land from approximately 6,000 to 2,200. It would seem that this would reduce the GFP revenues by around \$1,000,000. On the other hand it would seem that reducing the number of licenses by 3,800 would not affect crowding to any significant extent. Three thousand eight hundred, hunters spread over the 120 available hunting days allowed with these licenses and dispersed over the 5,000,000 acres of public land in South Dakota, would seem to have a very negligible impact on hunter density. Compared to the significant lost revenue, this would not seem to be a worthwhile tradeoff. Our hunting experiences very seldom result in contact with other hunters in the locations we are trying to hunt in. We do not feel overcrowded to any extent at all and we also see very good numbers of deer including reasonable percentages of good sized bucks in the population.  
It is my feeling that the current numbers of nonresident archery hunters does not affect the quality of the deer hunting experience in South Dakota. I believe there is probably a small group of vocal resident hunters that have had a few nonresident hunters in the areas they prefer to hunt and are expressing their displeasure. I do not believe there is an overall discontent with the present state of deer hunting in South Dakota and the proposed change would not really improve the quality of the hunting experience while at the same time significantly impacting SD GFP revenues.

Name ANDREW LINDMEIER City, State WEST FARGO ND Create Date 02/14/2023 12:59:55 PM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the proposed archery deer changes regarding nonresident caps and allocations. A 25% reduction in licenses will decrease the funding that the SDGFP department receives annually. The department has already eliminated non-resident hunting on public lands for the first month of the season which should have addressed the "crowding" concerns.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name BONNIE STRUBLE City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 02/14/2023 1:18:38 PM

Comment Attachment:

Limit the archery deer permits on public land to 2000 NR.

Name TERRANCE JOHNSON City, State WOODBURY MN Create Date 02/14/2023 1:26:45 PM

Comment Attachment:

As a former resident of South Dakota, an avid outdoors person, and now a very loyal non-resident hunter and angler, I am very concerned about the proposed licensing changes South Dakota is considering. South Dakota continues to target non-residents to create more opportunities and restrict the number of hunters that go afield. Last year, access permits were required to archery hunt in certain areas. Again, this mostly restricts access to non-resident hunters. Now, South Dakota wants to restrict non-resident archers. I suspect a few disgruntled resident hunters are the ones raising the issue to their elected officials and the GF&P.

South Dakota has over 5 million acres of public land. In 2017, it was reported that 23,000 archers hunted in South Dakota(I was not able to find more recent data). Comparatively, Minnesota had over 100,000 hunters in 2017 with access to 5.6 million acres of public land with plenty of room for everyone to have an opportunity on public land. In 2021, 5,851 non-residents archery hunted South Dakota. The proposed change is to cut that by more than 60% to 2,200 licenses. I fail to see how restricting non-resident tags to 2,200 will have a significant impact on anyone other than resident hunters.

Anecdotally, our group of 3 from Minnesota, archery deer hunted west river in 2022 for 7 days. On the first morning of our hunt just north of Oacoma, we encountered 2 resident archery hunters. The rest of the week we hunted south of Kadoka and south of Edgemont without encountering any other hunters. We did see other people afield, but they were hiking, target shooting, or scouting. Your proposal is simply a tactic to restrict the number of non-resident hunters to provide more opportunities and create less pressure for resident hunters. Frankly, this is discriminatory.

We are non-residents in 49 states, and we see this time and time again in other states. Resident hunters continue the blame game when they see an out-of-state license plate at the trailhead. 'It's all the non-resident hunters that ruin it for us residents'. Then they contact state officials at the GF&P and State Legislature and voice their complaints. And it is simply that, complaining. They're selfish and want more for themselves. We would prefer more for everyone.





**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name TERRANCE JOHNSON City, State WOODBURY MN Create Date 02/14/2023 1:28:53 PM

Comment Attachment:

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Name BOB MAXSON City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 02/14/2023 4:40:28 PM

Comment Attachment:

I would like to voice my strong disapproval for this proposal. I would like to see facts and data that shows that non-resident archery hunters are causing either high hunter density or undue pressure on deer populations that needs to be relieved. Perhaps there are some very local geographic areas where this might be a problem? If so, act in those areas and time frames rather and drastic actions like reducing tags from a reported 5800 sold to only 2200. My own personal experience is that I rarely encounter another hunter when I am in the field. I just don't see how 5,800 hunters scattered across the state, over 3 months of hunting can lead to "too many hunters" since most out-of-state hunters will be in the field for a limited time frame.

The difference in those tag numbers at the non-resident fee means a loss of over one million dollars to the GFP. That loss in revenue should be made up by the resident archers which would mean a roughly \$35 per tag increase. Are resident archers willing to pay that much more to exclude non-resident archers? I doubt it. If you insist on doing this, maybe that is how it should be proposed, you want fewer out-of-state hunters, here is what you need to pay to make it happen. In addition, the non-resident hunters bring additional dollars into the economy; paying for hotels, food and gas.

This war on out of state archery hunters was started several years ago. Because of some of the very local comments about the north west corner of the state, I am lead to believe there is a very vocal anti-out-of-state minority that is pushing bad policy.

If you have to take very specific action, make it specific to where the problem lies, not a draconian across the board slashing of available tags.

Thank you for taking my comments into account.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name TROY AHRENDT City, State LUVERNE SD Create Date 02/15/2023 11:38:06 AM

Comment Attachment:

Like to know why they changed it, why shouldn't residents have to do the same if we half to? It doesn't make a lot of since, a majority of your money comes from out of state. We pay double in fishing and hunting so why would you make that decision? Why wouldn't you do a WestRiver license separate or East River separate? I heard from a good resource that it was because of a couple counties that were bitching! I hope there was a better reason than that to take a lot of revenue away to SDGFP. I'm sure I'm not the only person to think about go to a different state because you only make the nonresident pay for it and the residents does not change. It really makes my kid unhappy now that you are going to change it because my family/ in-laws are residents of SD and now that time every year that we spend with them could be gone because of the change(heart breaking). Thanks. Hoping to a response from you.

Name JEFFRY BUST City, State CHARLOTTE VA ILLE Create Date 02/15/2023 5:35:52 PM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the proposed nonresident archery deer license restriction to 2200 licenses unless there is a carve out for landowners. My sons and I own 160 acres west of Redfield. We manage it to provide wildlife habitat. People, landowners like us, should be excluded from any license cap.  
Jeff Bust

Name BOB CLAY City, State COLUMBUS NE Create Date 02/16/2023 12:04:33 PM

Comment Attachment:

In response to the proposal of limiting access to out-of-state bow hunters, I respectfully disagree. My partner and I have bow hunted SD state and public lands the last 5 years. Since limiting out of state hunting in September we haven't encountered any local hunters and only a few out of state hunters. First, I think there are other options to limit out of state bow hunters without losing Fish/Game and commercial revenue. Consider reducing the number of out of state by not allowing hunting on the weekends and open September back up to all hunters. Or, leave September as it is now and make Saturday's a no hunting day for non-residents throughout the season. When I see the data, the in-state resident bow hunters out number out of state over 5:1. Also, the overall revenue besides the licensing fees from out of state hunters that buy; gas, lodging, restaurants, etc. Second, raise the out of state yearly license fees that force most younger hunters to save and only make the hunts every two or three years. Lastly, this proposal hurts us older hunters that come to SD to hunt because in our 60-70's the ability to walk relatively flat land is easier on us and if you had the statistics we don't kill very many deer nor do we encroach on others. My partner and I enjoy the SD outdoors and a sport we have been involved with for 40+ years. We appreciate your consideration of our concerns.  
Thank You!

Name JIM KRIZAK City, State STILLWATER MN Create Date 02/16/2023 5:05:17 PM

Comment Attachment:

Me and my son just started archery hunting out west for the last 2 years. We chose South Dakota because of your straight forward license requirements and eligibility. We have hunted the last week of October for the last two years and have not experienced the over crowding that has been an issue expressed by some. We really appreciate the amount of public land available in SD! I understand having to limit access but the significant decrease to the non-resident licenses seems excessive. Our two trips to the Hot Springs area have been absolutely amazing and we saw very few other hunters. Thank you for your consideration to this issue.  
Jim Krizak 612-581-4734



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name CORY KRIZAK City, State MARINE ON MN Create Date 02/16/2023 6:13:16 PM  
ST. CROIX

Comment Attachment:

Me and my dad have been hunting south of the black hills for the past few years and have ran into hardly any other hunters. Its disappointing to hear that you guys want to limit tags sold to non-residents. The straight forwardness and availability of getting a license is what drew us to South Dakota in the first place. We fell in love with the black hills and the surrounding area over the past couple years and it would be very sad to possibly not have an opportunity to hunt there anymore.

Name AJ EMANUEL City, State DULUTH MN Create Date 02/20/2023 7:44:49 AM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the drastic reduction in proposed nonresident archery deer licenses, especially state wide. I hunted areas two years ago and only encountered one other group of non resident hunters in the second week of season. A giant cut of tag allocations for nonresidents does not solve issues of pressure statewide if that is the concern. More research should be done to find out which areas are over pressured.

Name JERRY OHMAN City, State GLENHAM SD Create Date 02/20/2023 9:40:00 PM

Comment Attachment:

I believe we are too liberal with our nonresident archery permits. If you are going to make them apply , have one application period not two. How would you enforce a private tag or a public tag when a lot areas but up to each other.

Name RILEY GALT City, State SPANISH UT Create Date 02/21/2023 11:34:12 AM

Comment Attachment:

SD is a wonderful state to hunt and I enjoy the opportunities offered to non residents. My perception is that this limit on over the counter public land deer tags is a because of concerns with the number of Mule deer that are being taken by non-residents.

I am from Utah and can hunt Mule deer where I live. My reason for hunting South Dakota is to hunt Whitetail deer. If the concern is overharvest of Mule deer by archers in your state then limit the public access deer tags offered to be 'any deer' and leave the over the counter public land unlimited option open for archery Whitetail Deer hunters. You already do this with rifle wherein west river whitetail tags are easier to draw than 'any deer' tags. If you are going to limit archery deer please do so where the concern lies and do not limit hunters who wish to hunt white-tailed deer with archery equipment on public land. The state would pick up revenue, the concerns about mule deer would be met and folks could hunt white-tailed deer.

At the very least the Commission should offer archery public 'any deer' separately in a different archery draw from whitetail deer public even if a cap was placed on both species.

Thank you for your time, South Dakota is a wonderful state to hunt and I appreciate your efforts.

Riley Galt  
801-372-4656



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name DAVID BOSMOE City, State MONDOVI WI Create Date 02/22/2023 6:16:20 PM

Comment Attachment:

I have archery hunted whitetail deer in the state of South Dakota as a non-resident and also as a resident for more than 30 years. Although I understand that one of the main reasons for the change is because of the problem with the overabundance of non-resident mule deer hunters in the Black hills and West River areas.

I can understand if that is an issue changing the regulations in those areas. But as someone like I said that has archery hunted for whitetails East River for more than 30 years I can honestly say that I have never even ran into another non-resident archery hunter in the areas I hunt. Unless they were people that I brought from out state. And after paying non-resident fees for most of the 30 years I've been hunting there I am deeply frustrated and disappointed that you would consider removing the opportunity to hunt on public land every year. It is the non-resident hunter fees that help support that. Alysses is just an idea to help hunting outfitters in your state why should I have to pay a large non-resident fee then if I'm limited to private land? When for 30 years I've been told that the reason I pay a larger non-resident fees to help fund programs like walk-in land and CRP and other state-funded programs. I luckily because I have lived there have private land to hunt so it won't be much of an issue for me, but I can't imagine how many non-resident hunters will decide to go to other Hunter friendly states to do their out-of-state hunting because of this decision. To me the idea should be instead of an any deer tag maybe it should be mule deer tags and whitetail tags separately. To me there is no proof that the non-resident hunters are having a large impact on the populations other than possibly in the Black hills region. After 30 plus years if you decide to really go through with this I don't know if I'm going to continue to hunt in South Dakota for whitetails anymore. Because I feel it is wrong for you to charge me to help pay for all of the public land in that state but not allow me to hunt there. Except for if my name is drawn and I'm lucky enough to be one of the 2200 people or whatever it is to draw a tag. I am even a member of the South Dakota bowhunters association and I do not agree with their stance on this issue. I understand where they're coming from but my opinion differs.

Regards,  
 Dave Bosmoe 30 year non-resident license buying supporter  
 of State run programs.

Name GREG BERG City, State SAINT CLOUD MN Create Date 02/23/2023 10:58:04 AM

Comment Attachment:

A friend and I have been archery deer hunting SD for over 20 years. Three years ago we started brining my son along. We have hunted both public and private land by meeting many nice landowners who have become friends. We see very little pressure and don't see a reason to limit licenses. Especially on public lands that we assist in paying for thru license fees. If this proposal is approved it will only tighten opportunities for the average hunter. Please consider leaving the licensing as is where hunters need to apply early to hunt on public land.

Name DAVID DRUMMOND City, State OAK RIDGE TN Create Date 02/24/2023 7:16:04 AM

Comment Attachment: Letter\_to\_SD\_DNR\_e81fad985.docx

I am opposed to this change based on the data and statistics provided by the South Dakota DNR. I have attached a copy of a letter outlining my position in more detail.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name NATHAN GAPP City, State MADELIA MN Create Date 02/24/2023 1:17:27 PM

Comment Attachment:

Sounds to me like sd resident archery hunters have more of an issue with non residents hunting mule deer than white tail on public lands? would it make sense to have separate tags for nonresidents that differentiate between what animal can be taken, instead of a statewide any deer? Some have commented that sd nonresident is one the least expensive tags for nonresident, but both Minnesota and Wisconsin's non resident archery tags are less expensive. Which makes me wonder if they are talking about mule deer. Will there be preference points if you don't get drawn that carry over to the next year? The main reason I hunt SD is that my parents live there so it allows me to see them and spend time outdoors. I would like to continue this tradition with my brother and family as long as possible. Residents already get the month of September to hunt public before nonresidents to me that is a huge advantage, bucks do not shift from there summer patterns until mid-September, and they are not contesting with pheasant hunters and waterfowlers during that month . Just a few thoughts thank you for considering nonresident hunters when you make your new regulations.

Name JUSTIN ROBINSON City, State MARTIN SD Create Date 02/24/2023 3:31:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please cap non resident archery deer tags and protect our mule deer herd, I live in Bennett County and we have mule deer but not near as many as whitetails and there numbers are getting smaller every year I want less non resident hunters. The locals try to protect or mule deer and only harvest mature bucks, non residents whom never see a mule deer shoot the first pencil horned buck they see and it's not working or worth the money!

Name PAUL FETERL City, State LENNOX SD Create Date 02/24/2023 5:13:19 PM

Comment Attachment:

We must limit our out of state hunters

Name CODY PUTNAM City, State EVANSVILLE WI Create Date 02/24/2023 5:48:20 PM

Comment Attachment:

In regards to the deer proposal I feel that it is short sighted. I've hunted the SD archery since 2011 without fail. I've noticed over the year's that overcrowding has gotten worse. In 2018 when the season started Sept 1 I thought that would help disperse hunters as some don't hunt the hot parts of the season. The following year when non residents had to start later was the worst year of hunting in regards to overcrowding. However it was all resident pressure that I noticed. This trend has continued on since that point. I feel the influx of both resident and non resident hunter's should be in a draw to hunt the public lands much like the rifle season is. As a non resident I've hunted many places, watching the degradation of SD's resources from within has been tough to see. Resident and non hunter's are all in need of management of their number's. Between the "new"campground south of Wall just Noth of the park boundaries that has been a extreme problem with trash, and disrespectful people who have no regards for the environment. The entire area has went from a wildlife mecca to the dead sea. The amount of trash and human waste covering the landscape is wrong. Hopefully my voice is heard and taken in account.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name JASON TINKLENBERG City, State HARRISBURG SD Create Date 02/25/2023 7:35:21 AM

Comment Attachment:

This...????

In 2021 Nonresident archery hunters shot more Mule Deer bucks in South Dakota than in Montana and Wyoming...COMBINED!! The Mule Deer population in those two states hovers around 600,000 animals. We have around 80,000 mule deer here in SD. Please contact your commissioners and ask for common sense caps placed on nonresident archery deer and antelope licenses ahead of the March 9 commission meeting Let's protect our mule deer and antelope resource and the South Dakota hunting experience for all hunters, resident and nonresident included. Public comment can be submitted here:

Name CARTER STONECIPHER City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 02/25/2023 1:10:51 PM

Comment Attachment:

The archery tag process for out of state hunters is damaging to the mule deer population, we do not have enough mule deer in the state of South Dakota to be allowing this many out of state hunters to come here and fill a tag. I also think that we should get rid of all mule deer doe tags. There is no overpopulation problem with mule deer, therefore absolutely no reason to allow anyone to shoot a mule deer doe. Please allow South Dakota to go back to a quality mule deer state. With all of different diseases and illnesses that the deer populations are facing they do not need the state of South Dakota allowing the residents and non residents to kick them while they are down. Please lower the amount of tags that are given out in order to maintain a healthy population of mule deer in this state.

Name DEREK GARNER City, State WILLOW LAKE SD Create Date 02/26/2023 8:51:18 AM

Comment Attachment:

I think our archery tags need to be drawn for any deer by resident and non resident to protect our mule deer and antelope. The hunting and fishing is taking getting worse every year with all the out of state people getting tags and large daily limits of fish over the counter In our state ..

Name STEVE MUNTIFERIN City, State ST. CLOUD MN Create Date 02/26/2023 4:54:25 PM

Comment Attachment:

Sorry if you received my previous half finished comments. my computer died mid comment.  
1) You are proposing a solution for a problem that doesn't exist or at least doesn't exist in all areas equally. I bow hunt is NW South Dakota on public access areas. It is rare to see other bow hunters but relatively easy to find areas to hunt. If there are too many hunters in other areas, then address that problem, possibly limited draw tags by permit areas. 2. If you proceed with this ill conceived plan, at least restrict applicants to one choice only. if you don't, many applicants will choose the anywhere tag and second choice tag on private property. this would unfairly disadvantage hunters who only hunt public access acreage. 3. If there is an actual problem (too many hunters, not enough acres to bow hunt) then why not raise license fees and establish more walk-in hunt areas where they are needed? your proposal reads like a plan written by ranchers looking to expand their hunting business

Name JAKE GOSTISHA City, State APPLETON WI Create Date 02/27/2023 4:33:51 AM

Comment Attachment:

How does the organization plan to supplement the lost revenue from limiting the non-resident archery license? In 2021, 5,815 non resident hunter purchased an archery license. limiting that to 2,200 would mean the organization is not collecting \$268 for 3,615 licenses that they otherwise would have. This accounts for \$968,820 in lost revenue.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ROBERT EDDY City, State SPEARFISH SD Create Date 02/27/2023 1:35:29 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please reject the current SDGFP Archery Deer proposal, and limit Non-Resident hunters to 8% of the previous years Resident archery numbers. Also, reduce the Access Permit numbers on Limited Uses areas to protect the Mule Deer buck population. Thank You!

Name MICHAEL WILSON City, State BELLEVUE NE Create Date 02/27/2023 2:15:38 PM

Comment Attachment:

The issuance of tags should be made based on science...period. Who gets the tags should be based on a reasonable percentage consistent with other western states. 10-15% of tags is a normal allocation for non residents especially when much of the public land is federally owned. Residents have enjoyed decades of low pressure hunting basically having thousands of acres of publicland to themselves. Now that residents see a few hunters in the popular areas they want special consideration. As someone who has hunted as a resident and non resident in SD for 20 years I can assure you there is plenty of room for all hunters. Don't listen to a selfish or lazy few. I do not support further tightening of archery deer regulations. Non residents bring millions of dollars into SD, there is plenty room and game if you just get ifc the roads!

Name ETHAN ESCUE City, State WHEELING WV Create Date 02/27/2023 2:47:57 PM

Comment Attachment:

The proposed limit of non-resident public land tags, I feel should be "any deer" tags and excluded from "whitetail only" tags, especially West River vs East River.

Name ADAM CHAPUT City, State IRON MOUNTAIN MI Create Date 02/27/2023 5:17:41 PM

Comment Attachment:

Harvest statistics for non resident archery bucks show that only one buck is harvested for every five licenses sold. No. Resident archery hunters are not the problem. Residents buying multiple buck tags for rifle season are what is reducing the deer population.

Name STEVE GATES City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 02/27/2023 6:40:25 PM

Comment Attachment:

It seems that the resident bow hunter in South Dakota is being pushed out for the out of state pay to hunt. I know every dollar counts but I am thinking of the future generations... Is there going to be opportunity for them to hunt. We need to limit non resident deer tags in east and west river. I cannot hunt the family ranch any more because pay to play hunters are taking over. Something needs to be done.

Name JON PAUL PRINGLE City, State HANLEY FALLS MN Create Date 02/28/2023 8:00:20 AM

Comment Attachment:

Sd has very few nonresident tags keep the archery the way it is If so limit the resident tags also



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name RILEY                      JOHNSEN                      City, State WOONSOCKET SD                      Create Date                      02/28/2023 10:19:19 AM

Comment    Attachment:

Less tags all around for mule deer so the population stays at a good level but also let's deer get mature to their full potential. Make NR tags more expensive. They are cheap compared to multiple other states for non residents.

Name BEN                                      KRUEGER                                      City, State ABERDEEN                                      SD                                      Create Date                                      02/28/2023 11:27:06 AM

Comment    Attachment:

I oppose the proposed changes to NR Archery deer. The only issue I see is regarding Mule Deer numbers, why are whitetail tags even in question? The biggest issue I see is the 10% of all lands is PUBLIC. By limiting NR tags, we are also limiting \$'s that could be used to purchase/lease public lands. The biggest issue in the state of SD is the overall loss of habitat. I have lived in this state since 2009 and the amount of CRP that has been converted to cropland is astounding. We as hunters (NR & Resident) need to rally against BIG AG if we ever want to have the abundance of HUNTABLE public land and the wildlife we want.

Name PATRICK                                      CROTTY                                      City, State AURORA                                      CO                                      Create Date                                      02/28/2023 4:45:07 PM

Comment    Attachment:

I do not support limitation for non resident archery tags. If the issue is actually about herd management then you should be looking at reducing EVERYONEs tags, including Residents. Its crazy how many deer tags a resident can get. I would support a buck only tag for archery.

Name CONNOR                                      BURGESS                                      City, State RAPID CITY                                      SD                                      Create Date                                      02/28/2023 7:52:05 PM

Comment    Attachment:

Hello, my name is Connor Burgess and I'm a SD resident born and raised outside of Rapid City. I have been an avid hunter ever since I could walk in the woods with my father and I cherish every aspect of what our home state has to offer when it comes to hunting. I truly am passionate about the animals we are able to pursue and especially harvesting them with a bow. I understand that these last few years have been tough on deer with CWD and EHD, to which there are really no answers on how we can truly stop these brutal diseases from spreading and what they have done to our deer herds. This is why I simply don't understand how our state could allow so many non-resident bow hunters to harvest significantly higher numbers of deer with a bow than in our neighboring states MT and WY (that have larger populations of deer in the first place). In my opinion, that is absurd. Bow hunting is more popular than it has ever been and yet we as a state seemingly allow more and more non-residents to march all over and damage deer numbers that are already declining. I understand conservation and how tags give us financial stability to do things with our herds. But- at what point does that matter when us residents, who are actually living here, see our deer numbers lowering? Social media and hear say points all eyes to South Dakota because of the "opportunities" we offer for out of staters. I understand the state makes good money off of non-resident tags, but I think it's time to think more about our resource "Mule Deer". I know you all have a lot on your hands and I'm not just saying these things because I dislike nonresident hunters, I'm saying them because I care about what is to come in my future as well as my childrens'.

An idea I would consider is making Mule Deer tags a draw for non-residents. Every non-resident has his or her eye set on killing a Mule deer with a bow because they all can kill a whitetail where they are from every single year.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We greatly appreciate what you all do for the wildlife and lands we get to call home.

Sincerely, Connor





**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name STEPHEN WIETGREFE City, State PEMBROKE FL Create Date 03/01/2023 1:55:58 PM  
PINES

Comment Attachment:

I am an avid deer and pheasant hunter and hunt with family in the Aberdeen area twice a year. I stay in local hotels eat at local restaurants rent a car and purchase all the necessary tags and licenses. To lose the opportunity to hunt on public land, where I've never seen a single deer hunter in all my years hunting there to date, would be devastating and I would have to find another state to hunt unfortunately, because private land is so limited.

Name CHAD BESSLER City, State LAPORTE MN Create Date 03/02/2023 2:23:49 PM

Comment Attachment:

My family and I have been coming to SD and archery hunting for the past 10 years. We bring several kids under the age of 16 with us. Everyone keeps saying we need to expand opportunities for our youth and then they limit tags. The success rate for archery is so much lower than gun, i don't understand why they keep taking these opportunities away.

Name DAVID STAFFORD City, State WINNSBORO LA Create Date 03/05/2023 1:48:40 PM

Comment Attachment:

Limiting non resident archery tags will only decrease revenue to the state. We hunt the western edge of the state and rarely see other hunters along with plenty of quality deer. My father and I are planning on coming up this year but if we fail to be drawn that will be hundreds of dollars in the local economy not collected. We travelled across the state hunting last year and saw minimal other hunters and plenty of game. The year prior we saw piles of hunters but it was due to the opening weekend rush, this perception is what many are complaining I'm sure about over hunting.

Name BRANDON STAFFORD City, State FRANKLINTON LA Create Date 03/05/2023 3:59:01 PM

Comment Attachment:

This reduction in total number of licences to 2200 is an attempt to appease a small but vocal minority if hunters. There are concerns in every single state about over-crowding on public lands and south Dakota is no different. But a state agency is tasked with maintaing seasons not based upon disgruntled hunters feeling, rather the biological needs of species and environments. Reducing non-residents ability to hunt on the public lands they own (BLM, USFS, etc.) is a slap in the face to non-residents and goes against the North American Model of Wildlife Management. I have never actually purchased an Archery deer tag but have assisted others in the pursuit of deer during the Archery season. I witness 0 hunters hunting the individual animals that we pursued. There was other hunters on the same public lands, but we never had any issues with them. I am a wildlife biologist in the State of Louisiana for LDWF and I have hunters voice there concerns constantly about over crowding our states public lands. But i see hunters still harvesting game with high success rates by adjusting thier tactics and utilizing technology and skill(myself included). I understand wildlife commissions have to answer to people in a ways that biologist do not while often having little to no experience in wildlife biology. But I urge whoever is reading this comment (Mild rant) to think about the hunters who love this beautiful state and love to chase white tails and mule deer up and down the hills of SD. Ps. This commenter does not disagree with any reduction or quota in licence sales, only the gross reduction to 2200 total tags.

Thanks,  
Brandon



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name BRANDON STAFFORD City, State FRANKLINTON LA Create Date 03/05/2023 4:00:46 PM

Comment Attachment:

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Thanks,  
Brandon

Name MARK DULON City, State EVERGREEN CO Create Date 03/05/2023 9:37:27 PM

Comment Attachment:

It sounds like non resident archery deer state wide any deer tags are going to be limited moving forward. Me and two of my non resident friends go on a bow hunt every November in the black hills. There are very few bow hunters that we come across and we mostly only hunt whitetail. It sounds like there are concerns with the amount of mule being harvested by non residents on that take and some areas are crowding. My suggestion would be to break the tag up by regions and mule deer and whitetail, so the areas that have lots of whitetail, ie. the black hills can be hunted by a non resident bow hunter. Because that are a ton of deer out there and very few bow hunters. Thanks for your consideration on making a yearly archery hunt by a non resident attainable.

Name NOAH VIS City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 03/06/2023 12:35:04 PM

Comment Attachment:

As a South Dakota resident who was born and raised here and an avid bow hunter since the time I turned 12 I have seen enough change in the last few years to know that we are not headed in the right direction. I do applaud the changes we have made this year but I am asking for more common sense tag allocation especially for our West River animals such as mule deer and antelope. Our current trajectory is simply not sustainable with the mass influx of non resident and resident bow hunters alike. I am asking you to further limit The public land antelope and deer tags given out yearly and do away with unlimited private land tags altogether as we need checks and balances on private land as well as public lands. There is absolutely no reason that the youth and mentor programs are done away with before cutting non residents tag allocations.

Thank you for your time and please take a south dakotans first stand on this issue as well as common sense conservation practices So many generations to come can enjoy this great state and sport

Name ERIC GENTRY City, State EMORY TX Create Date 03/06/2023 4:53:29 PM

Comment Attachment:

I strongly oppose limiting non resident tags for archery deer. Every year we look forward to driving all day to see South Dakota's beautiful land. It's one of our favorite hunts every year. It would be a major shame to see tags being taken away for non residents. It would mean less money for the state and less money for the area we hunt in. Please do not let this pass.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name HUNTER DICKENS City, State PALESTINE TX Create Date 03/06/2023 4:54:54 PM

Comment Attachment:

Non resident tags are not the issue, considering the resident tag numbers have increased significantly more than non residents. Limiting non residents is not going to solve anything.

Name TYLER JONES City, State EMORY TX Create Date 03/06/2023 5:01:19 PM

Comment Attachment:

I travel all over the country hunting deer and I haven't yet hunted a state with more nice whitetail bucks per acre than SD. I'd like to see the science on it, but I feel like splitting up deer into Mule Deer and Whitetail categories would be a good way to reach scientific goals and serve non-residents. We already have a month long disadvantage while paying \$300 for a tag and spending hundreds of dollars in gas, hotel, food, ice, etc. Please don't make it harder on us to get a tag. I love your state and spending a few days there every fall makes my whole season more enjoyable. I really hope there can be a better way to reach objectives and serve us non-residents still. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope you will still allow us the opportunity to come hunt your great state.

Name AUSTIN LITTLEJOHN City, State FOREST LAKE MN Create Date 03/06/2023 6:11:15 PM

Comment Attachment:

Being a nonresident I understand my comment may not be as important but there are some things I disagree with. The whole talk of residents thinking the nonresidents are crowding public lands is hard for me to wrap my head around that. Are all these comments positive its nonresidents? Are you sure its not guys frustrated with running into more people in their so called "spots?" People have started hunting harder and going further than ever, more resources for scouting from a computer and more forums than ever where people discuss locations etc. Sure theres more hunters, but to put the crowding on nonresidents seems like thats an easy way to avoid talking about resident crowding. Its safe to say most nonresidents plan about a 10 day hunt, how many of them plan the exact same 10 days that creates the "nonresident crowding." Now how many residents hunt every weekend they get or long weekends chasing deer, lots i'm sure just like here in Minnesota. I agree give residents priority without a doubt, but the nonresident crowding i don't believe is a valid argument which is an opinion just like the nonresident crowding, how about resident crowding? Here in Minnesota i see people in areas i've never had competition before, are they so sure its not residents playing a bigger role in crowding? To bring nr archery deer tags to 2,200 is an idea but it will not solve the crowding on public. Fish and game has sold more than 2,200 nr archery deer tags every year since 2012. Sure raise tag costs to make up for the huge loss in revenue from selling less nr archery deer tags, that won't help out the towns that also profited off non residents visiting. My final opinion is if you choose to limit nr archery public land deer tags to 2,200 then please limit the nr archery deer tags for private land. Keeping that unlimited turns the private land tags into a pay to play game. Not many people can afford to pay thousands to access private land or do guided hunts. To limit public but not private seems a bit off when changes should be made to give residents more opportunity, or help deer numbers. If nonresident archery deer goes to a draw, look into capping points. If you earn 3 preference points you either use them or lose them, don't create another state with point problems.



**Issue ARCHERY DEER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name KALEB SMITH City, State EMORY TX Create Date 03/06/2023 7:25:15 PM

Comment Attachment:

I strictly oppose the proposed changes to the nonresident archery tag allocations for deer. The number of resident hunters has increased drastically, whereas the nonresident hunters has nowhere near, increased at the same rate in the past few years. Non-residents are not the ones doing damage to mule deer population numbers. If that is the current concern, there are a couple points to be made. Firstly, build your population numbers are declining across the west. It is much more complex in nuanced than just hunting pressure. Secondly, you can look to states like Kansas and Nebraska to see how easy it would be to limit mule deer harvest, while encouraging Whitetail hunting. A simple solution would be to have a mule deer endorsement that is applied for separately, or just restrict the units that a person is able to harvest a mule deer in.

Separately, another huge point is the economic impact of nonresident hunters. Nonresident hunters practically fund conservation in the state. Especially if pheasant hunting is also included here. Stifling the number of nonresident hunters will reduce revenue from license sales, as well as impact local economies, who benefit from food and lodging of these out-of-state hunters.

If mule deer conservation is at the forefront of the state's concern, potentially we should limit pheasant hunting because it disturbs mule deer in their highest stress period of the year. Hundreooof pheasant hunters stomp through prime deer bedding in the winter months.

Please consider these points when making decisions regarding tag allocations. The proposed changes are a slap in the face to loyal SD deer hunters.

**Issue DRAFT AIS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name ELAINE HAYES City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 9:08:13 AM

Comment Attachment:

I believe there is so much more that can be done to control/prevent AIS. The state has really dropped the ball here up to & including fighting citizen groups that form to protect their lake etc. As a side note the infestation designation of Enemy Swim is a joke. No further zebra mussels have been found in the lake since 2 were turned in July of 2022. The standards for labeling a body of water are a joke.

Name BRANDY AINSLIE City, State FEDORA SD Create Date 01/12/2023 6:36:55 PM

Comment Attachment:

It's inhumane . The animals suffer for no good reason. If hunting is a way of life, that's alittle diffrent, but to kill them for a bounty is not right.

**Issue FIREARMS CHANGES TO STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREA**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name DYLAN CAVANAUGH City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 8:37:55 PM

Comment Attachment:

**Issue MOUNTAIN GOAT SEASON**



**Issue MOUNTAIN GOAT SEASON**

**Position SUPPORT**

Name DYLAN CAVANAUGH City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 8:41:51 PM

Comment Attachment:

Pretty clear what needs to be done here. I do hope the season re-opens if the population rebounds. I'm betting hunters aren't solely responsible for the population decline and maybe we should put some efforts into fixing whatever has caused the decline.

**Position OTHER**

Name GREGG YONKOVICH City, State ABERDEEN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 6:46:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please consider continuing to sell preference points for mountain goat hunting, even when the season is closed. I'm happy to spend another \$10 towards the 'chance' I might draw a mountain goat tag in the future. I'm sure GF&P could use the additional funds and I'd prefer to earn preference points vs staying at the same point level as people that choose not to buy a point. I'd suggest the same for bighorn sheep and other similar seasons that close when the animal count is below management objectives.

Name PATRICK MOORE City, State ELLSWORTH SD Create Date 01/15/2023 6:13:17 PM  
AFB

Comment Attachment:

I fully support the closure of the Mountain Goat Season until the population in the Black Hills returns to its sustainment level. This said, unless the plan is for a permanent closure of the season, preference point sales should be allowed to continue. This provides residents an ability to continue to better their chances at this exceptionally rare harvest, all while continuing to provide funds to support the game populations in the state. Preference point sales are voluntary, and those who decide to not participate are able to do so.

**Issue OTHER**

**Position OTHER**

Name TOM GILLESPIE City, State PARKER SD Create Date 01/10/2023 4:30:21 PM

Comment Attachment:

If we want to night hunt CREP or WIA access areas and have to have owners permission where do we get the landowners phone numbers and address ? Thank You

Name KATHY TYLER City, State BIG STONE SD Create Date 01/11/2023 9:48:32 AM  
CITY

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the renewing the predator bounty program. There is no evidence that this program has any merit...none. Killing of animals during a non-fur/baby season is a waste. Please do not renew the program.



Issue OTHER
Position OTHER

Name KELLY HANSON City, State LEAD SD Create Date 01/13/2023 7:32:05 PM

Comment Attachment:

I ?????????????? ?????????????????? ?????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????????????? ??????????????????
????????? ??????????. Feel free to use any of the following information:
1) ?????????????????????? ?????? ??????????????????????, particularly in South Dakota where traps are only required to be
checked every 3 days west of the Missouri River and every 2 days east of the Missouri River (with exceptions for
weather and illness). Animals caught in traps for several days may starve, dehydrate, be attacked by other animals, or
mangle their mouths and limbs in futile efforts to free themselves.
2) ?????????????? ??????? ?? - any animal can fall victim, including endangered species
and companion animals. This is a big enough problem that SDGFP has created videos on how to free your dog from
traps and snares (included in our post comments).
3) ?????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????????????????? ?????????????? ???????????????????????
??????????????????????????????. Tails submitted since the program began in 2019 (note that these kill totals do not include the
young that starved when their mothers were trapped in spring and summer): 146,400 Raccoon; 22,800 Striped Skunk;
17,200 Opossum; 1,623 Red Fox; and 1,598 Badger. https://bit.ly/3vTdhjl
4) The program is a waste of funds. South Dakota conservation and hunting groups, along with wildlife management
professionals around the U.S., have pointed out that ?????????????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ??????????????????????
??????????? ?????????? ?????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ??????????????????????. In its 2014 report to the governor, South
Dakota's own Habitat Work Group said, "Under a bounty system, predator control would not be targeted enough to be
effective. Additionally, bounty systems in other states have been ineffective because the origin of the predators cannot
be verified. Predators from other states could easily be imported for a bounty, which would be counterproductive."

Name BOB BRANDT City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 01/22/2023 1:55:12 PM

Comment Attachment:

My name is Bob Brandt, I will be 70 years old in June, and have been applying for elk tags since the early 1980's and
drew my Hills rifle tag in 1998 with 14 years preference. I finally drew my Hills archery elk tag in 2016, again with 14
years preference. I now have about 12 years preference for rifle elk, and about 25 years for CSP early season
archery. I hope that I get another chance to hunt SD elk while I can still get around in the Hills, but with it taking over
20 years to have a reasonable chance at drawing a tag, my chances are getting slim. I would like to propose a
change in the preference system that would double the preference points for anyone over 70 when the season starts.
while it will not guarantee me a tag it would give a better chance to those of us whom have been plunking down \$15 to
\$20 every year for a long time. Thank you for your consideration. Bob Brandt

Name LATHE RAGELS City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 02/21/2023 8:13:23 PM

Comment Attachment:

Although it is well done that you offer special access to 100% disabled vets it seems interesting that National parks
provide better support for veterans than SD when SD purports to be such strong supporters of veterans. Why in the
world would you not at least mirror the benefits provided for federal parks? Stand up and do the right thing. A vet
should not be expected to prove they are 100% disabled before they can gain preferential access to SD parks.

Name DAIN SCHWAN City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 02/24/2023 1:16:27 PM

Comment Attachment:

Please support licensing caps for non resident deer tags. Thank you



**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

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Name HEIDI MADSEN City, State CARPENTER SD Create Date 01/10/2023 1:25:22 PM

Comment Attachment:

???????????????????? ????? ?????????????????????, particularly in South Dakota where traps are only required to be checked every 3 days west of the Missouri River and every 2 days east of the Missouri River (with exceptions for weather and illness). Animals caught in traps for several days may starve, dehydrate, be attacked by other animals, or mangle their mouths and limbs in futile efforts to free themselves.

The program is a waste of funds. South Dakota conservation and hunting groups, along with wildlife management professionals around the U.S., have pointed out that ?????????????????????? ??????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????? ??????? ?????????????? ??????????????????????. In its 2014 report to the governor, South Dakota's own Habitat Work Group said, "Under a bounty system, predator control would not be targeted enough to be effective. Additionally, bounty systems in other states have been ineffective because the origin of the predators cannot be verified. Predators from other states could easily be imported for a bounty, which would be counterproductive."

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Name SCOTT BAKKER City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 1:50:38 PM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the nest predator bounty program, it is a waste of life, and encourages younger hunters and trappers to trap and kill for fun and not utilizing the animal being killed.



**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name SARA PARKER City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 3:07:18 PM

Comment Attachment:

I'm writing in opposition of the Nest Predator Bounty Program – it is inhumane, wasteful and not based on science. When South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks accepted public input on this program in 2020, less than 7% of the 400+ written submissions were in favor of the program. Some reasons many South Dakotans are opposed to this bounty program:

- 1.The Nest Predator Bounty Program could unbalance our state's ecosystem. There was no scientific study done on the number of these “nest predator” species that currently inhabit South Dakota and no cap on each species to be killed. According to the GFP Operational Dashboard, the following tails have been submitted since this bounty program began in April 2019: 46,400 Raccoon; 22,800 Striped Skunk; 17,200 Opossum; 1,623 Red Fox; and 1,598 Badger. Since the program began each spring, the kill totals don't include the many young that starved to death when their mothers were trapped.
- 2.Trapping is inhumane. In South Dakota, trappers are only required to check traps and snares every 3 days west of the Missouri River and every 2 days east of the Missouri River (with exemptions for illness and bad weather). Animals caught in traps for several days can be attacked by other animals, starve, dehydrate, or mangle their mouths and limbs trying to free themselves.
- 3.South Dakota doesn't require identification on traps, so there is no accountability for trappers who don't follow our state's weak trapping regulations.
- 4.Snares and traps are indiscriminate - any animal can fall victim, including endangered species and companion animals. This is a big enough problem that GFP created videos teaching the public how to free dogs from traps and snares.
- 5.This program was created behind closed doors, without public or scientific input. It was pushed through outside of normal channels, without input from our state legislature.
- 6.There is no scientific tracking of the results to the pheasant population, to measure the success or failure of the program. The 2019 summer brood count didn't show an increase in pheasant numbers and GFP discontinued their annual pheasant brood survey the following year.





**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name DEAN PARKER City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 3:10:22 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am writing asking you not to approve renewing the "Nest Predator Bounty Program" if it is brought forth this year.

Not only is trapping an ineffective method of wildlife conflict management, but it is a cruel way for any animal to die – including pets and other non-targeted animals that will get caught in these traps. Trapping regulations are weak in South Dakota; they are only required to be checked every 2 days east of the Missouri River and every 3 days west of the Missouri River (with exception for weather and illness). Trapped animals suffer from dehydration, starvation and exposure to the elements.

Wildlife management professionals across the U.S. have long acknowledged the ineffectiveness of bounties and predator control, including South Dakota's own Habitat Work Group in its 2014 report to Governor Dugaard. To my knowledge, no science-based evidence has been presented to suggest that the species targeted by this "Nest Predator Bounty Program" (opossums, raccoons, skunks, badgers or red fox) are negatively impacting pheasant populations. Furthermore, each native species plays an important role in our ecosystem. In particular, opossums are a great benefit to any area they inhabit. Their diet includes snails, mice, rats, and insects such as cockroaches, crickets, beetles and disease-carrying ticks.

This program is simply not backed by science-based wildlife management principles. If GFP wants more game birds for hunters, please focus on improving their habitat - not killing indigenous species that play an important role in that habitat.



**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name CINDA WILSON City, State DAVIS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 4:51:51 PM

Comment Attachment:

I ?????????????? ?????????????????? ?????? ?????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????????? ??????????????!

1) ?????????????????? ??? ??????????????????, particularly in South Dakota where traps are only required to be checked every 3 days west of the Missouri River and every 2 days east of the Missouri River (with exceptions for weather and illness). Animals caught in traps for several days may starve, dehydrate, be attacked by other animals, or mangle their mouths and limbs in futile efforts to free themselves.

2) ?????????????? ?????? ?? - any animal can fall victim, including endangered species and companion animals. This is a big enough problem that SDGFP has created videos on how to free your dog from traps and snares (included in our post comments).

3) ?????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????????????? ??????????????????????. Tails submitted since the program began in 2019 (note that these kill totals do not include the young that starved when their mothers were trapped in spring and summer): 146,400 Raccoon; 22,800 Striped Skunk; 17,200 Opossum; 1,623 Red Fox; and 1,598 Badger. <https://bit.ly/3vTdhjl>

4) The program is a waste of funds. South Dakota conservation and hunting groups, along with wildlife management professionals around the U.S., have pointed out that ?????????????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????? ?????????? ??????????????????????. In its 2014 report to the governor, South Dakota's own Habitat Work Group said, "Under a bounty system, predator control would not be targeted enough to be effective. Additionally, bounty systems in other states have been ineffective because the origin of the predators cannot be verified. Predators from other states could easily be imported for a bounty, which would be counterproductive."

Name LINDA GREENE City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/10/2023 5:47:58 PM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program. It is cruel, inhumane.

Name DEBORAH TILTON City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 01/11/2023 8:44:02 AM

Comment Attachment:

I feel this program has gone on long enough

Name CHRIS KROHMER City, State MITCHELL SD Create Date 01/11/2023 12:38:37 PM

Comment Attachment:

Regarding the Nest Predator Bounty Program. Get rid of it. Use the money on pheasant habitat. This program is cruel and a complete and total waste of money. Please, someone exercise some common sense, before we don't have a skunk or possum or small native animal left in the state.



**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name JULIE GRAFF City, State SIOUX FALLS SD Create Date 01/11/2023 9:54:04 PM  
BLOCK

Comment Attachment:

I strongly oppose ?????????????????? ?????? ?????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????????? ?????? ??????????. ?????????????????? ?????? ??????????????????, particularly in South Dakota where traps are only required to be checked every 3 days west of the Missouri River and every 2 days east of the Missouri River (with exceptions for weather and illness). Animals caught in traps for several days may starve, dehydrate, be attacked by other animals, or mangle their mouths and limbs in futile efforts to free themselves.

#NestPredatorBountyProgram #TrappingIsCruel #SDGFPcomission #CitizenAdvocacy #SoDakFACT

Name BRANDY AINSLIE City, State FEDORA SD Create Date 01/12/2023 6:38:28 PM

Comment Attachment:

Name DEBRA HIGH City, State PLANKINTON SD Create Date 01/13/2023 2:01:35 AM

Comment Attachment:

I oppose renewing the Nest Predator Bounty Program for 2023

Name RENEE LEFTHAND City, State FREEMAN SD Create Date 01/13/2023 9:39:02 PM

Comment Attachment:

Traps are cruel way to die ....not checking for 3 days is irresponsible and lazy ....I m sure some probably don't even do that ....traps are dangerous for all pure and simple

Name JEANETTE WILLIAMS City, State VERMILLION SD Create Date 01/15/2023 9:00:23 AM

Comment Attachment:

Please, please, please stop the nest predator bounty program. It is not working and it teaches children to kill innocent small animals. Be strong enough to stand up to our governor.

Name KRISTINE STAPELBERG City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 01/15/2023 3:30:13 PM

Comment Attachment:

I can't believe I have to do this for yet another year, but I will keep doing this as long as GF&P continues to persist with this unnecessary and irresponsible Nest Predator Bounty Program. It's inhumane, unnatural, and short-sighted. It continues to prove South Dakota is a backwards and puerile state.

Name KIRAN KELLY City, State RAPID CITY SD Create Date 01/20/2023 9:43:54 PM

Comment Attachment:

I am opposing renewing the Nest Predator Bounty Program for 2023.



**Issue OTHER**

**Position OPPOSE**

Name KEVIN MARTIN City, State PIEDMONT SD Create Date 03/06/2023 12:52:14 PM

Comment

Attachment:

There needs to be some serious changes when it comes to limiting nonresident tags for Big Game on private land and public land. It is a disgrace for how long this state has prioritized nonresident hunters over resident hunters. All in the name of the almighty dollar. Ever since moving here, three years ago, my oldest daughter has all but lost interest in big game hunting in the state because she sees in her eyes it is state cares more about nonresidents and their money more than residents. Because of the actions of this state, you guys very well may lose an entire generation of hunters because of greed...

South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission  
523 E Capitol Ave  
Pierre, SD 57501

Esteemed Commissioners:

Good afternoon, I'm Justin Broughton, President of South Dakota Bowhunters. I'd like to start by saying thank you to the commissioners and department for considering my testimony regarding the proposals for archery antelope and archery deer. I fully support both proposals to place a cap and draw on the public land non-resident archery tags for deer and antelope. I would also like to see the current proposals strengthened in two specific areas.

Firstly, we need to ensure that the unlimited private land tags are only being used on private lands and to ease the burden on our thinly spread CO's in enforcing these rules. We should implement the special buck format for all private land only archery tags requiring the applicant to list the landowner or outfitter with whom they plan to hunt on their application. This framework is simple, already in place, and already managed by the department under the firearm special buck deer and antelope tag structure. We should also raise the price of these tags to match the \$500 price point of the existing special buck tags. This would help to offset the revenue loss from placing the license cap on archery deer and antelope. The attorney for the landowner and outfitter alliance I believe also mentioned this as an attractive option at the December commission meeting that would likely not impact tag sales at all. Price increases have been occurring in nearly every western state as of late, and they have had zero impact on demand.

Secondly, I don't feel the cap goes far enough in limiting the number of licenses. Especially for our antelope resource. There is an 8% cap in place for NR firearm licenses, we would like to see something similar for archery. Reducing the NR cap to 2,000 for deer and reducing the antelope cap to 200 tags gets us very close to that 8% cap number. Our organization, and others based upon public comments, would like to see the cap numbers reduced further to be in line with current firearm limitations.

The explosive growth we have seen in NR archery deer and antelope hunters is not sustainable long term. We need to act now to limit the impact this growth is having on our limited mule deer and antelope resource as well as preserving the public land hunting experience for resident and non-resident hunters alike. EVERY western state with deer and antelope tags has a draw in place for those licenses except South Dakota. We do not have the unlimited resources to continue to offer these tags and expect our resident and non-resident hunters to continue to have opportunities to hunt and enjoy the experience of public land hunting in South Dakota. Acting now preserves our resource and the hunting heritage and experience everyone has come to appreciate in our great state.

I respectfully request that the commission approve both proposals after amending to require the special buck format and pricing for the private land only licenses and further reducing the proposed caps for deer to 2,000 and reducing the cap for antelope to 200 to bring them more in line with firearms restrictions. Thank you for time and consideration.

Justin Broughton

President, South Dakota Bowhunters Inc.

South Dakota Game Fish and Parks Commission  
523 E Capitol Ave  
Pierre, SD 57501

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Justin Broughton

President, South Dakota Bowhunters Inc.

To SD GF&P Commission and GF&P Staff:

I commend the commission and staff for attempting to tackle an issue that is a direct threat to our resource. An issue that we are certainly not alone in as evidenced by the majority of midwestern/western states having dealt with, or in the process of dealing with non-resident tag allocations for big game. The SD Bowhunters have done an excellent job of highlighting the issue at hand with hard stats. Stats that have not been rebuffed or denied by the department. As residents, we certainly don't want to deter non-residents from coming to our state to enjoy big game hunting, however it is imperative that these numbers are managed appropriately now with the rising interest in the sport of archery as it is showing to have a direct biological impact to mule deer populations in the areas of the state where the pressure is higher, particularly on public lands. My two requests to the commission on the Archery deer proposal are as follows:

- Require a landowner Name and Phone Number to be included with the application for the unlimited private land Non-Resident Archery Tag. This is a bare minimum MUST!
  - This will give the CO's at least something to go off of when trying to determine where a particular deer may have been harvested. As discussed at the last commission meeting, the fine for hunting "out of unit" is very minimal and largely un-impactful at roughly \$125. This low of a fine is baffling and unacceptable for this type of offense. It is reasonable to assume that under the current makeup of the proposal (not requiring proof of private land access) that we would see instances of people abusing this and simply purchasing the private land tag and taking their chances and hunt on certain public ground areas. Although the GF&P staff stated at the last commission meeting that they don't see a large occurrence of this, they also failed to mention how understaffed they were with CO's in the majority of these high pressure areas, so they also would show a large decrease in the amount of citations in general in these areas.
- Lower the 2200 tag allocation down to the 8% NR allocation that was already established for the firearms seasons. OR at a BARE minimum, lower it slightly further to 2,000 tags to bring us at least slightly closer to that number.
  - The 8% rule was put in place for a reason. This was also put in place when archer numbers were no where NEAR where they are today. In addition, the technology behind archery was certainly nowhere near as advanced as we see it today. Had the sport of archery been as popular and technologically advanced back when this rule was established, it is completely reasonable to assume and highly likely it would have been put in place on Archery as well. This would also put us right in line with most other similar states that have Mule Deer-Antelope-Whitetail opportunities for Non-Residents. This change gives a reasonable and comparative amount of Non-Resident opportunities that other similar midwestern and western states have.

Again, I respect you and commend you for attempting to tackle this issue. Our state will be better off with these changes.

Thank you,

Jason Stone  
Chamberlain, SD

February 22, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,  
re

I am writing in response to a proposal to institute a limited draw for non-resident bowhunter access to public land in South Dakota starting with the 2023/24 hunting season. First let me say I have hunted mule deer in South Dakota for several years as both a resident of Ohio and Tennessee. I have over 30 years of experience of bowhunting in Colorado and Nebraska as well. All of our hunts have been DIY on public lands. Some of the things that we liked about South Dakota are the modest amount of hunting pressure, particularly during the week days, along with a good huntable population of mule deer and adequate public land access.

**I am opposed to the addition of a limited draw for Non-Resident bowhunters and think it is not needed and really serves no useful purpose:**

- The deer herd is stable and growing as indicated by the 2021 South Dakota Fish and Game report.
- Hunter success rates and hunter satisfaction rates are consistent and as high as anytime over the past 10 years.
- Non-resident are not putting undo pressure on deer populations as we only accounted for about 3.6% of the total harvest last year and about 80% of that harvest was whitetails.
- If resident hunters still feel that there is overcrowding in September, then non-resident numbers are not the problem. We have been banned from hunting public land for the entire month of September for the past year or two.
- Resident bowhunters tend to hunt week-ends over most of the season and that could create some overcrowding in some locations. On any given week-end residents probably out number non-residents about 20 or 25 to 1 statewide. This assumes residents tend to hunt most week-ends and non-residents only hunt one or two weekends per season.
- Although it's perfectly legal to use limited access permits to limit the number of non-resident hunters, it is extremely unfair unless it is for sound management reasons.
  - About 70% of South Dakota fish and game funding comes from outside the state including Federal Pittman-Robertson funds and non-resident licensing fees.
  - South Dakota gets about 5 times as much Federal money as would be allocated based on population alone because the Pittman-Robertson act, passed in 1937, was established to provide minimum levels of fish and wildlife management funds in every state with low population states receiving higher proportions.
  - Seventy-five percent of Pittman -Robertson funds are paid by people who don't hunt.
  - About 90 % of the money to lease walk-in land comes from Federal funds or non-resident hunting licenses.



- When Pittman-Robertson was passed I don't think anyone envisioned that in the future 99% of the population would only be able to access hunting in the Rocky Mountain west occasionally, if ever.
- Implementation of this restricted draw could reduce license revenues by as much as \$1 million per year plus reduce tourism spending by up to \$2 million per year on things like hotels, bars, restaurants, groceries, gas, diesel, camping, etc.

Please use science and data to identify and solve the problem. If week-end crowding is the issue, then there are better ways to improve the situation without unduly punishing non-resident bowhunters. **My proposal would be to make it illegal for non-resident bowhunters to hunt public land on Saturdays for the months of September and October, but continue to allow non-residents unlimited access to public land including the month of September.** It is very easy to police. If you see a non-resident license plate in public land or walk-in parking, call the game warden. That way wardens don't have to go to these areas and check all non-residents permits to tell where they are there legally or not. Non-residents will have to use Saturday as a travel day, go site seeing or find some private property to hunt if possible for one day.

Thank You,

David E Drummond  
108 Westview Ln  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

My comments reflect the things I see changing each year regarding wildlife in our state but are more directed towards mule deer populations in western SD.

Hunters are becoming more proficient each year. We have had technological advances in archery equipment: better optics, range finders, quieter and faster bows. We have more material and resources than ever before to learn from and be better with harvest data, population density maps, Youtube film, and podcasts. Google imagery and apps such as OnX and Base Map with little homework can help scour an entire area from your own couch in minutes.

The social media driven world we live in has given “influencers” a platform to glorify killing at the sake of our wildlife in SD. I have yet to find an influencer who posts kills of 1-3 year old Mule deer in velvet, also promote the well-being of deer herds in our state. This has a huge effect on our younger generation and others who are growing up with this being shoved in there face.

The deer are not keeping up with our technology and hunting pressure. We are killing close to double the amount of mule deer bucks with archery equipment now vs 8 years ago. Our season starting September 1<sup>st</sup> has put an immense amount of pressure on mule deer buck survival. They are in summer patterns and the areas they bed make them very prone to being killed in our state. We have rifle seasons lasting 3 weekends in the middle of the rut. We have a muzzleloader season lasting for the entire month of December. We have an archery season which now lasts for over 120 days. All of this and we still as residents have ample opportunity to draw up to two preferred tags for guns and two buck tags for archery.

Something has to be changed with the way we are managing mule deer in our state. We have to cap the amount of hunters coming from out of state to archery hunt on public land, and also take a hard look at limiting us residents to only one statewide archery buck tag. I think more emphasis needs to be put on quality, better quality in numbers, higher buck age class, and more does. Combining quality with more opportunity in the form of public land to hunt is what I see as the perfect scenario. We are depleting our mule deer resource at an alarming rate from our timing of seasons, hunter skill, technology, influencers, and high tag numbers.

Brady Will

Volga, SD

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS**

A Public Hearing will be held at the Mathews Training Center, Foss Building, 523 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501 on March 9, 2023 at 2:00 PM (Central), to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:03:01:16. Restrictions on use of firearms, air guns, crossbows and bow in the state park system – Exceptions.

Effect: The proposed change would expand hunting opportunities within the state park system. Changes would also include designating Newton Hills State Park, Rocky Point Recreation Area, and Lake Poinsett Recreation Area as shotgun with shotshells and archery-hunting only parks and Revheim Bay Recreation Area as an archery only area.

Reason: Staff have identified several areas across the state where additional hunting opportunities could occur in the state park system during times of year when hunting is prohibited without conflicting with non-hunting activities.

2. ARSD 41:04:02:23. Fall River County public water safety zones.

Effect: The proposed change would expand the no boating safety zone near the dam on Angostura Reservoir.

Reason: The increased safety zone would reduce potential dangers from boating too close to the dam, five control gates, and canal siphon.

3. ARSD 41:06:01:17. Access permits required for specific deer hunting units and public lands.

Effect: The proposed change would require any archery hunter who is hunting public land to first obtain an access permit.

Reason: The changes are part of a larger package to address concerns over the growing number of archery hunters.

4. ARSD 41:06:20:02. Open units – Exceptions. (West River Prairie Deer Season)

Effect: The proposed change would expand deer hunting opportunities within the portions of Oahe Downstream Recreation Area west of highway 1806.

Reason: Staff have identified several areas across the state where additional hunting opportunities could occur without conflicting with non-hunting activities.

5. ARSD 41:06:22:01. Archery deer hunting season established – Number and type of licenses – Access permits.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number and type of archery deer licenses available to nonresidents.

Reason: The changes are part of a larger package to address concerns over the growing number of archery hunters.

6. ARSD 41:06:22:01.02. Nonresident archery deer hunting season restrictions.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the application date for when a nonresident could obtain a public land archery license.

Reason: The changes are part of a larger package to address concerns over the growing number of archery hunters.

7. ARSD 41:06:22:03.01. License purchase restrictions. (Archery deer)

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number and types of archery licenses available to deer archery hunters. The proposed change would also modify the application requirements to require nonresidents to provide the name and contact information from a landowner they've received permission to hunt.

Reason: The changes are part of a larger package to address concerns over the growing number of archery hunters.

8. ARSD 41:06:24:01 Archery antelope hunting season established -- Open area -- Number and type of licenses available.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of nonresident archery antelope licenses available and create a lottery for drawing.

Reason: The changes are part of a larger package to address concerns over the growing number of archery hunters.

9. ARSD 41:06:24:04. Application requirements and restrictions. (Archery antelope)

Effect: The proposed change would require nonresidents who obtain a private land license to provide the name and contact of South Dakota landowner whom they've received permission to hunt.

Reason: The rule change would ensure that a nonresident has made contact with a landowner to seek permission prior to the hunting season.

10. ARSD 41:06:29:03. Number and type of licenses available. (Mountain Goat)

Effect: The proposed change would close the mountain goat season.

Reason: The department conducted aerial surveys and determined the number of hunting licenses needed to be modified in an effort to align with the mountain goat management plan population objectives.

11. ARSD 41:06:40:05. Restrictions. (Mourning dove)

Effect: The proposed change would expand hunting opportunities within the portions of Oahe Downstream Recreation Area west of highway 1806.

Reason: Staff have identified several areas across the state where additional hunting opportunities could occur without conflicting with non-hunting activities.

Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions, arguments, and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) at the hearing. Persons unable to attend the hearing may mail data, opinions, arguments, and their views to the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501, or by going to the GFP website at

<http://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions>. All persons who desire to submit written data, opinions, arguments, and their views by mail or email are encouraged to mail or transmit the same in sufficient time so that it is received by and in the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks 72 hours prior to the date of the hearing. Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions, arguments and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) to the Commission for their consideration. All written and email comments must include the name, hometown/city, and state of the person submitting the comments.

The above rule proposals are available for review on the internet by going to <https://rules.sd.gov/> and copies of the proposed rules may be requested from the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Any individuals with disabilities who will require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the hearing should submit a request to the undersigned at 605.773.3718 or 605.223.7684 (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf).

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.

(SEAL)



Kevin Robling, Secretary

This Notice of Public Hearing is published at the approximate cost of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

## DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH, AND PARKS NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

This meeting will be held in person, via zoom/conference call, and Livestream. Listen to the meeting beginning at 1:00 p.m. CST via Livestream at <https://www.sd.net/remote1/> or join via zoom by clicking on the link below. Depending on your application, you may be required to enter the meeting ID and password. Remember to **enter your display name and mute your microphone**. To help keep background noise and distractions to a minimum, make sure you **mute your microphone and turn off your video** when you are not speaking.

**Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 1 pm CST, and Friday, March 10, 2023, at 8 am CST.**

Zoom Meeting Link <https://state-sd.zoom.us/j/93912915359?pwd=K2FVZzdQSXJTY0NwWG5mSWpSazUwdz09>  
or join via conference call      Dial 1 669 444 9171      Meeting ID: 939 1291 5359      Passcode: 0565645

**Public Input:** To provide comments, join the meeting in person, via zoom, or via conference call per the info above. To conduct the public hearing and/or open forum as efficiently as possible, we ask those wishing to testify to **register by 1:00 pm CST the day of the meeting by email to [Liz.Kierl@state.sd.us](mailto:Liz.Kierl@state.sd.us)**. **Testifiers should provide their full names, whom they represent, their city of residence, and which proposed topic they will address.**

**Written comments** can be submitted at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record, comments must include the complete name and city of residence and meet the **submission deadline of seventy-two hours before the meeting (not including the day of the meeting)**.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2023.

s/b Stephanie Rissler  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Rissler, GFP Commission Chair