



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

NOVEMBER 6-7, 2025 | RAPID CITY, SD
OUTDOOR CAMPUS WEST

MEETING INFO

This agenda is subject to change without prior notice.

Date and Time: November 6, 2025, from 2-3 pm MT and November 7, from 8-11 am MT

Meeting Location: Outdoor Campus West, 4130 Adventure Trail, Rapid City, SD 57702

Webinar Info: We will be using Zoom Webinar® for this meeting. As a participant, you will not have audio or video capabilities by default. During the open forum and public hearing, if you'd like to testify, please 'Raise Your Hand' using the button at the bottom of the screen, or by pressing *9 on your phone. To lower your hand via phone, press *9 again. When it's your turn to speak, the meeting host will unmute you, allowing you to have audio but no video. If your phone is muted when called upon, press *6 to unmute.

- *9 to 'Raise Your Hand' or 'Lower Your Hand.'
- *6 to Unmute or Mute

Please inform Gail Buus at gail.buus@state.sd.us by 1 pm MT if you plan to speak during the meeting. This helps us to accurately identify and call on speakers during the session. Thank you for your cooperation!

Zoom Webinar: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call In: +16699009128,,91264176710# US

Meeting ID: 912 6417 6710

Passcode: 970458

Video Conference ID: 91264176710@zoomcra.com

THURSDAY AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order (2 pm MT / 3 pm CST)

Division of Administration

Action Items

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Public Hearing (2pm MT/3 pm CST)

This portion of the meeting is designated for public comment finalizations.

Open Forum (2 pm MT / 3 pm CST)

This portion of the meeting is designated for public comment on petitions, proposals, and other items of interest not on the agenda.

FRIDAY AGENDA

Division of Administration (Friday 8 am MT/9 am CST)

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives>
3. Additional Commissioner Salary Days

Informational Items

4. Staff Introductions
5. 2026 Commission Schedule Review
6. Open Meetings Annual Review

Open Forum

This portion of the meeting is designated for public comment on petitions, proposals, and other items of interest not on the agenda.



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

NOVEMBER 6-7, 2025 | RAPID CITY, SD
OUTDOOR CAMPUS WEST

Finalizations

7. Custer State Park Bison Trophy and Non-Trophy Harvest

Division of Parks and Recreation

Action Items

8. Administrative Action for CSP Trophy and Non-Trophy Bison Hunt Seasons

Informational Items

9. Division Meeting Awards Recognition
10. Angostura Cabin 2-Year Rate Extension on BOR Property
11. CSP Resort RFP Update
12. 2025 Mid-Week and Weekend Camping Units
13. October Camping Unit and Revenue Reports

Division of Wildlife

Informational Items

14. Jackrabbit Trapping and Hunting Seasons
15. Hemorrhagic Disease Update
16. CWD Action Plan
17. Reports From the Field
18. License Sales Reports

Solicitation of Agenda Items

Now is the time to submit agenda items for the Commission to consider at a following commission meeting.

Adjourn

The next Regular Commission Meeting will be held on December 4-5, 2025, starting at 1 pm CST at the Capitol Building, Room 414, in Pierre, SD.



Commission Meeting Minutes

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

523 E Capitol Avenue | Pierre, South Dakota 57501

October 9, 2025 | Beeler Community Center | Lemmon, SD

Agenda Item #2

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Rissler called the meeting to order at 1:17 pm MT at the Beeler Community Center, in Lemmon, SD on October 9, 2025. Commissioners Stephanie Rissler, Jon Locken, Jim White, Travis Bies, Bruce Cull and Julie Bartling were in attendance. With six commission members present, a quorum was established. The public and staff could listen via SDPB Livestream and participate via conference or in person, with approximately 50 total participants attending via Zoom or in person.

1. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

[Action Item]

Chair Rissler requested the disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest, but none were brought forward.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

[Action Item]

Chair Rissler called for any additions or corrections to the regular minutes of the September 2025 meeting. Minutes are available at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/archives/>.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2025 REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Additional Salary Days

[Action Item]

Chair Rissler called for additional salary days from the Commissioners. Two additional salary days were approved for Commissioner Cull for attending South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation Meetings.

MOTIONED BY LOCKEN, SECONDED BY BIES TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL SALARY DAYS. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Staff Introductions

[Info Item]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, introduced two new employees, Tate Lies who serves as the Equipment Technician out of the Black Hills Trails Office in Lead and Haylee South who serves as the Assistant Park Manager at Angostura Recreation Area.

Tom Kirschenmann, Director Wildlife Division, introduced two new staff members to the Division. Those new staff include Molly Boyum, Naturalist at the Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City and Nick Preble, Habitat Conservation Technician at the Ft. Pierre office.

Public Hearing

No Public Hearing was held as there were no finalizations on October's meeting agenda.

Open Forum

Senior Staff Attorney Nick Michels opened the floor at 1:55 pm MT for discussion from those in attendance and online in matters of importance to them that are listed on the agenda, not as a finalization or may not be on the agenda.

There was not anyone online or in person requesting to testify in the open form.

Senior Staff Attorney Michels closed the open forum at 1:57 pm MT.



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5&6. Custer State Park Trophy Bison Bull Harvest & Non-trophy Bison Bull Harvest

[Action Item: Proposal]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, proposed a rule package for the Custer State Park Bison Bull hunts that initiated from a citizen petition requesting a 60% resident only preference in the first draw with the remaining 40% of the licenses being open to both residents and non-residents. Additionally, park staff evaluated the bison herd and range health and set a new maximum number of bison bull licenses at 15 for Trophy and 30 for Non-trophy that could be issued on an annual basis. The desire to increase these bison license opportunities comes from a growing demand for these hunting licenses along with having a healthy herd.

MOTIONED BY CULL, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL WITH THE FINALIZATION BEING PRESENTED IN NOVEMBER. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Custer State Park 60th Buffalo Roundup & Tourism Promotional Videos [Info Item: Parks]

Matt Snyder Regional Park Supervisor gave a presentation updating the Commission on the 27th Annual Mickelson Trail Trek and the 60th Buffalo Round Up. The Mickelson Trail Trek was held September 19-21 with 580 registered riders. The riders experienced beautiful fall weather and excellent trail conditions. Staff received many compliments on trail conditions and overall coordination of the event. This year's ride saw 60% of the riders on e-bikes vs. 40% on traditional bikes.

The 60th Buffalo Round Up and 32nd Arts Festival was held September 25-27. The Round Up saw a large crowd of over 22,000 spectators to watch the wranglers bring in 1,400 bison. The day was plenty warm, but the event went smoothly. Staff worked with South Dakota Public Broadcasting again this year and added a radio station 1700 AM. Information about the event was broadcasted as well as a play-by-play action of the Round Up. It was very well received. Also, more spectators experienced visiting the corral complex after the Round Up. The 32nd Arts Festival did experience record attendance at 19,225 visitors and vendors at 168 over the three days. Local digital marketing showcasing the event contributed to the success. Great weather and a great line up of entertainment made for a great fall weekend in Custer State Park.

8. Custer State Park Resort Lease Update

[Info Item: Parks]

Sean Blanchette, Parks Division Business Administrator, provided an update to the Custer State Park Resorts RFP preparation process. GFP has entered a contract with Axias Inc., from the 6 proposals received by the Department. Blanchette shared background information on Axias and indicated that site visits have begun with 1/3 of the structures inspected. A final report From Axias is due in January, with the information to be incorporated into the upcoming concession lease RFP. Blanchette stated that GFP is currently finalizing contracts for both the Possessory Interest appraisal and Personal Property valuation. Both contracts will be finalized in the very near future with reports to be delivered by the end of the year. Blanchette also reminded the Commission of the target timeline for releasing the Concession opportunity RFP in February 2026.

9. 2026 Marketing Theme

[Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, introduced the marketing theme concept for the 2026 season that will celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary. A committee of park staff are diligently working on a slogan, activities and events that will be promoted in the 2026 season to draw additional park users into State Parks.



Commission Meeting Minutes

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October 9, 2025 | Beeler Community Center | Lemmon, SD

10. September Park Camping Unit and Revenue Reports

[Info Item: Parks]

Jeff VanMeeteren, Director of Parks & Recreation, presented the September monthly and year-to-date report numbers for the Division of Parks & Recreation related to camping units and revenue. September camping units were down 14% for the month and 5% YTD. The Parks Division revenue is up 10% overall for the month of September and 17% YTD. Park entrance license sales remain very strong especially daily license sales in general at Custer State Park specifically. The standard graphs and charts were shared with the Commission to depict how park revenue has come in for the Division overall and the impact of the new non-resident park entrance license fees as compared to other entrance fees.

11. Mentored Hunting Process

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Chad Switzer, Wildlife Deputy Director, provided an update on the changes made by legislation and the GFP Commission for the mentoring hunting program that were implemented July 1, 2025. Communicating the changes to our customers is a huge priority, including social media, GFP website, email to customers, and directly assisting customers with developing a profile for the mentee, and linking accounts with parents or mentors, and purchasing the mentored license.

12. Pete Lien and Sons Shooting Complex

[Info Item: Wildlife]

John Kanta, Terrestrial Section Chief, and Mike Klosowski, Regional Wildlife Supervisor, provided an update on the Pete Lien & Sons Shooting Sports Complex and highlighted construction progress and the success of the first large match USPSA Area 3 Championship. The event drew 324 competitors from 14 states and Canada, featuring 17 unique stages and approximately 130,000–140,000 rounds fired over the course of the competition. Participants ranged from professional shooters to first-time competitors, demonstrating the wide appeal and accessibility of the event. Supporting video such as drone footage, a young shooter spotlight, and participant testimonials showcased the positive experience and impact of the range.

13. Pheasant Hunting Outreach Efforts

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Nick Harrington, Communications Manager, provided an update on the department's pheasant hunting outreach efforts in preparation for the coming season. Harrington discussed the department's Upland Outlook, partnership with Travel South Dakota and regional tourism agencies, and detailed initiatives including Hunt the Greatest, Rooster Rush, and A Pheasant's Year social media series. Harrington stressed the department is excited for this season, and sharing this message with hunters through multiple channels and platforms.

14. Public Access Areas

[Info Item: Wildlife]

Mark Norton, Hunting Access and Farm Bill Coordinator presented an update on the state's public access areas. GFP Habitat staff and partners across the state continue building relationships with private landowners and enrolling more private land into public hunting access programs than ever. For the fall of 2025 the Big Sioux River Watershed CREP will have over 4,600 acres enrolled, the James River Watershed CREP will have over 86,000 acres enrolled, the Elk Hunting Access Area has over 100,000 acres enrolled, the Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Area has over 25,000 acres enrolled, the Controlled Hunting Access Program has over 28,000 acres enrolled, and the Walk-in Area program has over 1.4 million acres enrolled. Combining all private land enrolled in these public hunting access programs sets a record of over 1.66 million acres in 2025. GFP has also provided public access to over 40,000 acres of previously land-locked public land in 2025.

15. License Sales Update

[Info Items: Wildlife]

Director Kirschenmann provided a quick review of license sales, focusing on fishing and small game hunting licenses. Overall license sales remain good. Kirschenmann described how the department will monitor



Commission Meeting Minutes

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October 9, 2025 | Beeler Community Center | Lemmon, SD

licenses sales over opening weekend which typically provides an indicator of participation and sales for the remainder of the year.

16. Adjourn

[Action Item]

A Regular Commission Meeting will be held via zoom webinar on November 6, 2025, at 2pm MT and at the Outdoor Campus West, in Rapid City, SD starting at 8 am MT on November 7, 2025.

MOTIONED BY BIES, SECONDED BY BARTLING TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 3:54 PM MT ON OCTOBER 9, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted respectfully,

Kevin Robling, Department Secretary



Commission Meetings 2026

JAN 8-9	RAMKOTA CONVENTION CENTER PIERRE	JUL 9-10	WATERTOWN
FEB	NO MEETING	AUG	NO MEETING
MAR 5-6	STATE LIBRARY COMMONS PIERRE	SEPT 3-4	WINNER
APR 2-3	MATTHEW'S TRAINING CENTER PIERRE	OCT 8-9	OUTDOOR CAMPUS EAST SIOUX FALLS
MAY 7-8	EVENT BARN CUSTER STATE PARK	NOV 5-6	STATE LIBRARY COMMONS PIERRE
JUN 11-12	MADISON	DEC 3-4	PIERRE

For more details or previous meeting archives,
visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/>

All dates and locations subject to change with 30 days prior notice

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION FINALIZATION

Custer State Park Bison Chapter 41:06:42 and 41:06:60

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal Public Hearing Finalization	October 9, 2025 November 7, 2025 November 7, 2025	Lemmon Rapid City Rapid City
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Proposed Changes

Duration: 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 hunting seasons.

Season Dates:

Trophy: a licensee is restricted to two consecutive days for the hunt*

November 16, 2026 – January 15, 2027

November 15, 2027 – January 14, 2028

Non-trophy: a licensee is restricted to one day for the hunt*

October 5 – November 13, 2026

October 4 – November 12, 2027

*all licensees shall be accompanied by an authorized Custer State Park official while hunting.

Open Area: Custer State Park

Licenses:

Ten trophy bull licenses available by lottery.*

Two licenses allocated to residents in a first draw.*

One trophy bull license available by raffle. § 41:06:62:03

Twenty non-trophy bull licenses available by lottery.*

Seven allocated to residents in a first draw.*

Zero non-trophy cow licenses

* Increase total number of licenses available and increase the percentage of resident licenses are recommended on the following action sheet.

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Open to residents and nonresidents.
2. No person may hunt bison within 200 yards of any public access road or building in Custer State Park.

3. Bison may be hunted with a weapon which is at least .270 caliber and which produces at least 2,200 foot-pounds of muzzle energy. Bison may also be harvested with archery equipment as described in [41:06:05](#).

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Establish a resident allocation of 60% of first draw licenses for both Trophy and Non-trophy bison bull licenses.
2. Modify administrative rule to create a maximum number of “trophy bull bison” licenses of 15.
3. Modify administrative rule to create a maximum number of “non-trophy bull bison” licenses of 30.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Increase the annual trophy and non-trophy bull license allocation numbers to allow for additional hunting opportunities.

Additionally, a resident submitted a petition which the GFP Commission adopted as a proposal for public comment requiring that 60% of both Trophy and Non-trophy first draw licenses would be allocated to residents only.

DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:06:42:02. Number of licenses.~~Ten~~ Each season, no more than fifteen trophy bull bison licenses ~~are available~~ may be issued by lottery, with ~~two trophy bull bison~~ no less than sixty percent of the licenses to be issued allocated to residents in a first draw.

Source: 11 SDR 80, effective December 16, 1984; 15 SDR 3, effective July 21, 1988; 15 SDR 210, effective July 10, 1989; 18 SDR 4, effective July 18, 1991; 23 SDR 197, effective May 27, 1997; 24 SDR 156, effective May 17, 1998; 39 SDR 204, effective June 11, 2013; 46 SDR 116, effective April 29, 2020; 51 SDR 13, effective August 14, 2024.

General Authority: SDCL 41-2-18(1)(2)(17), 41-17-1.1(4).

Law Implemented: SDCL 41-2-18(1)(2)(17), 41-17-1.1(4).

41:06:60:02. Number and type of licenses.~~Twenty~~ Each season, no more than thirty non-trophy bull bison licenses ~~are available~~ may be issued by lottery, with ~~seven non-trophy bull bison~~ no less than sixty percent of the licenses to be issued allocated to residents in a first draw.
~~No cow bison licenses may be issued.~~

Source: 29 SDR 160, effective June 3, 2003; 39 SDR 204, effective June 11, 2013; 42 SDR 146, effective May 5, 2016; 44 SDR 17, effective August 7, 2017; 51 SDR 13, effective August 14, 2024.

General Authority: SDCL 41-2-18(1)(2)(17), 41-17-1.1(4).

Law Implemented: SDCL 41-2-18(1)(2)(17), 41-17-1.1(4).

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue – Concern of license allocation between residents and nonresidents.
2. Historical Considerations – Historically, the number of resident trophy bull licenses was set at two and non-trophy bull licenses was set at seven.
3. Biological Considerations – There is expected to be a no effect on bison populations based on the change in resident versus nonresident license allocation.
4. Social Considerations – There will be relatively more opportunity for residents and less for nonresidents based on historic draw success.
5. Financial considerations – There will be a positive financial change based on the rule change.

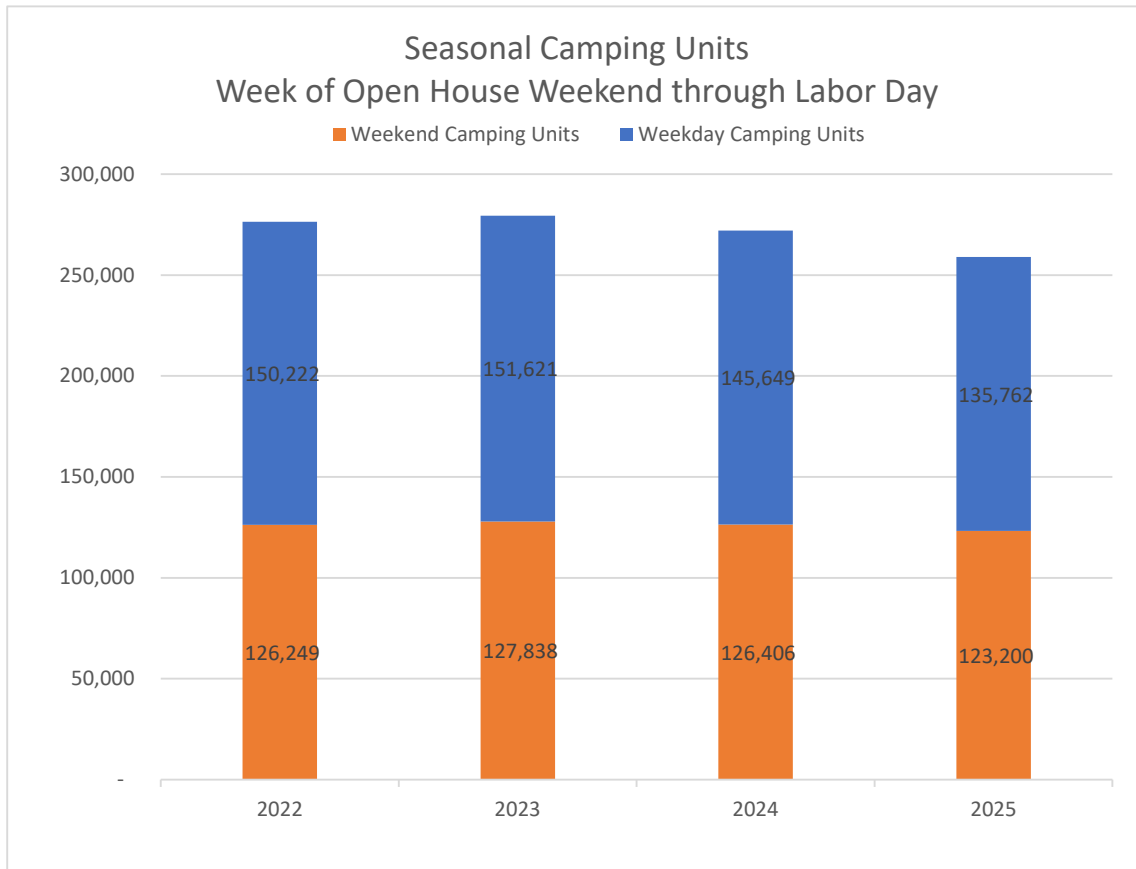
FISCAL IMPACT

The sale of 2 additional trophy bull licenses and 5 additional non-trophy bull licenses will increase revenue from license sales. Those license numbers are recommended by administrative action on the following action sheet.

APPROVE	_____	MODIFY	_____	REJECT	_____	NO ACTION	_____
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APPROVE _____ MODIFY _____ REJECT _____ NO ACTION _____

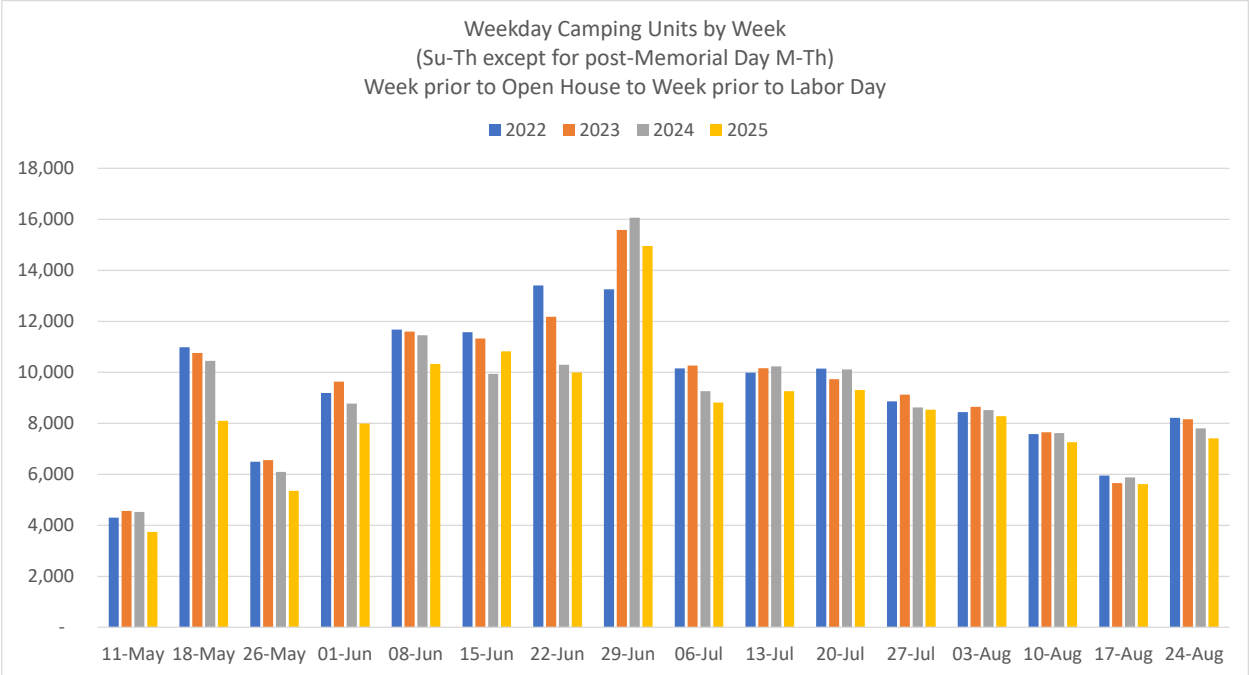
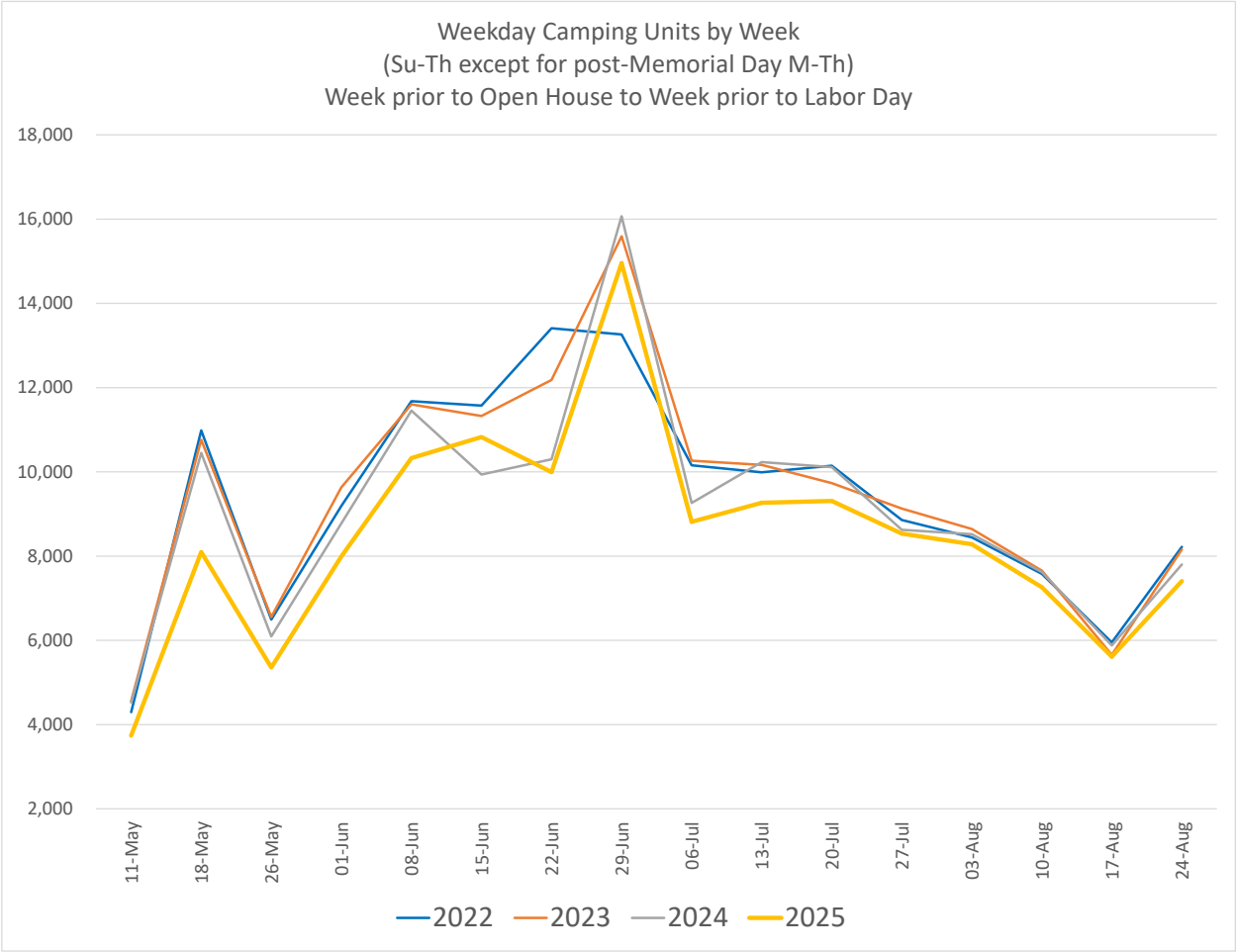
Seasonal Camping Comparisons for 2025



Weekday Camping

Seasonal Weekday (Sun-Thu) Camping Unit Comparison 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025										
	By Week				% Change 3 yr avg *	Cummulative				% Change 3 yr avg *
	2022	2023	2024	2025		2022	2023	2024	2025	
11-May	4,298	4,564	4,523	3,739	-16.2%	4,298	4,564	4,523	3,739	-16.2%
18-May	10,982	10,760	10,449	8,094	-24.6%	15,280	15,324	14,972	11,833	-22.1%
26-May	6,492	6,556	6,096	5,356	-16.1%	21,772	21,880	21,068	17,189	-20.3%
01-Jun	9,192	9,634	8,777	7,990	-13.2%	30,964	31,514	29,845	25,179	-18.2%
08-Jun	11,679	11,602	11,452	10,327	-10.8%	42,643	43,116	41,297	35,506	-16.2%
15-Jun	11,571	11,327	9,936	10,827	-1.1%	54,214	54,443	51,233	46,333	-13.1%
22-Jun	13,408	12,180	10,298	9,993	-16.5%	67,622	66,623	61,531	56,326	-13.7%
29-Jun	13,259	15,589	16,065	14,953	-0.1%	80,881	82,212	77,596	71,279	-11.2%
06-Jul	10,155	10,266	9,262	8,813	-10.9%	91,036	92,478	86,858	80,092	-11.1%
13-Jul	9,988	10,166	10,232	9,264	-8.5%	101,024	102,644	97,090	89,356	-10.9%
20-Jul	10,147	9,733	10,113	9,309	-6.9%	111,171	112,377	107,203	98,665	-10.5%
27-Jul	8,859	9,128	8,626	8,534	-3.8%	120,030	121,505	115,829	107,199	-10.0%
03-Aug	8,442	8,644	8,520	8,282	-3.0%	128,472	130,149	124,349	115,481	-9.5%
10-Aug	7,580	7,654	7,619	7,259	-4.7%	136,052	137,803	131,968	122,740	-9.3%
17-Aug	5,950	5,659	5,878	5,613	-3.7%	142,002	143,462	137,846	128,353	-9.0%
24-Aug	8,220	8,159	7,803	7,409	-8.1%	150,222	151,621	145,649	135,762	-9.0%
Total	150,222	151,621	145,649	135,762	-9.0%					

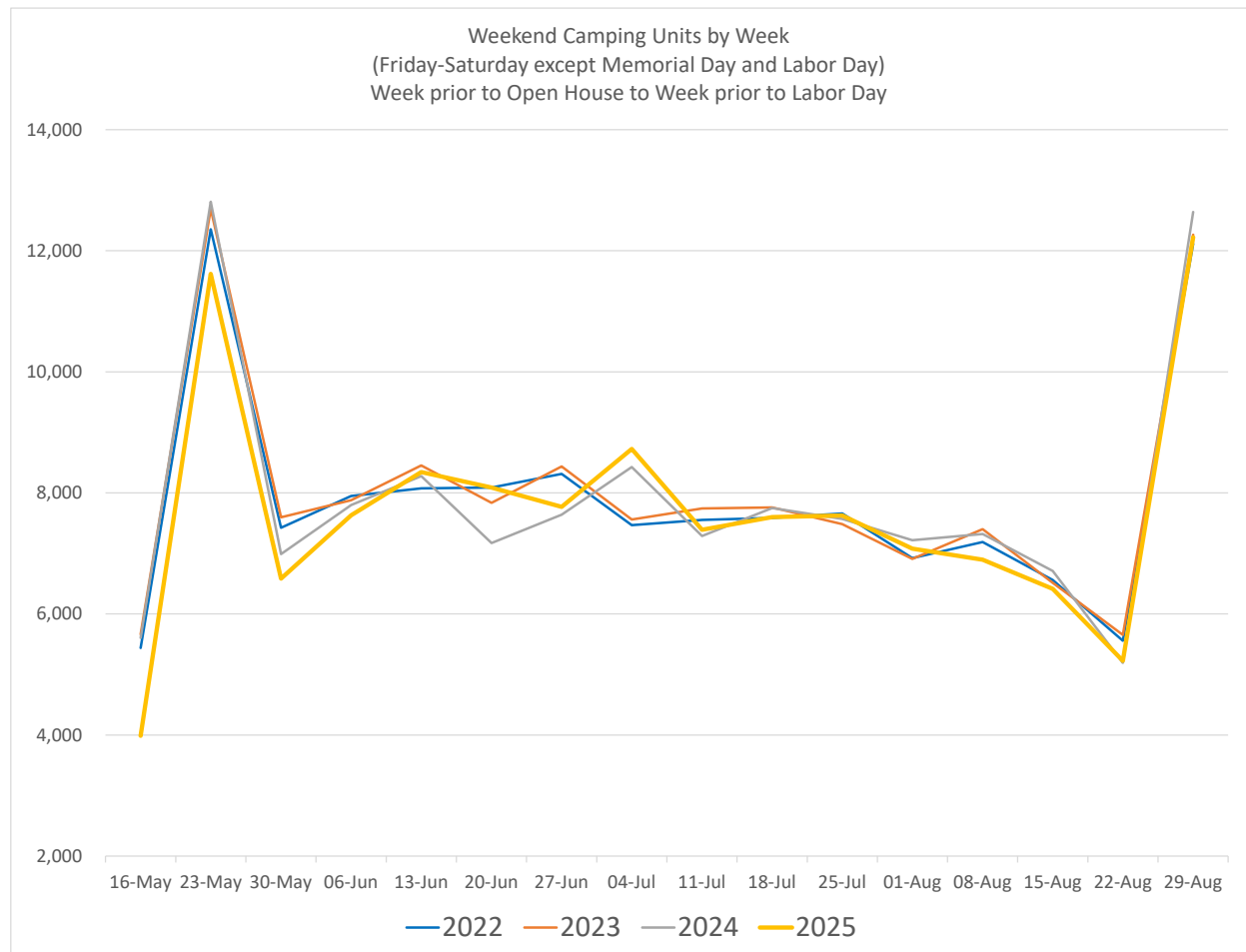
*Percent Change from 2025 to the average of 2022, 2023, and 2024



Weekend Camping

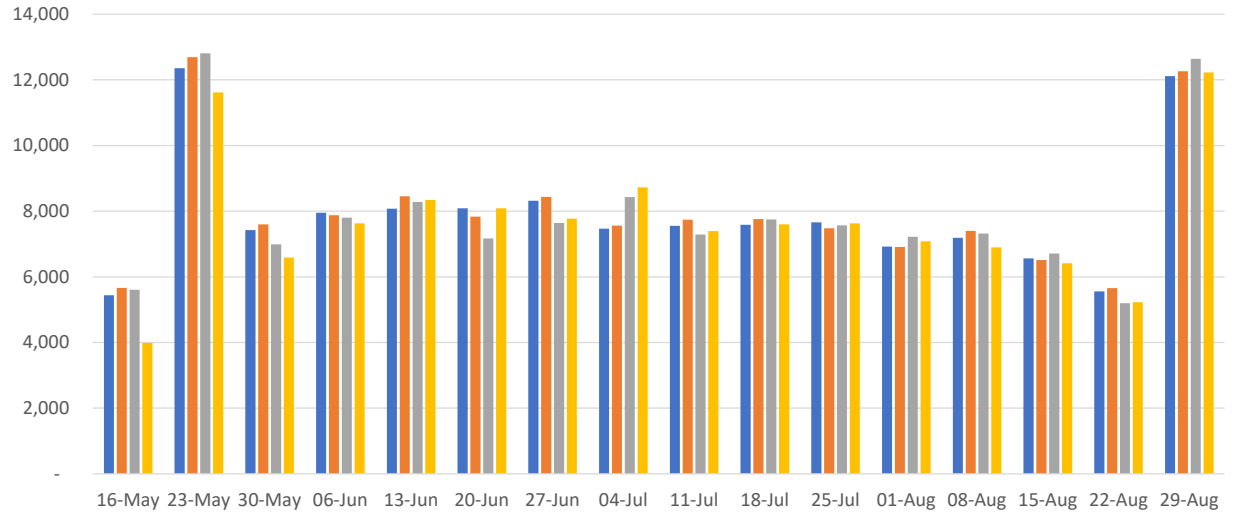
Seasonal Weekend (Fri-Sat) Campin Unit Comparison 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025										
	By Week				% Change 3 yr avg *	Cummulative				% Change 3 yr avg *
	2022	2023	2024	2025		2022	2023	2024	2025	
16-May	5,439	5,664	5,605	3,987	-28.4%	5,439	5,664	5,605	3,987	-28.4%
23-May	12,353	12,690	12,809	11,618	-7.9%	17,792	18,354	18,414	15,605	-14.2%
30-May	7,423	7,598	6,989	6,585	-10.2%	25,215	25,952	25,403	22,190	-13.1%
06-Jun	7,949	7,878	7,799	7,630	-3.1%	33,164	33,830	33,202	29,820	-10.7%
13-Jun	8,073	8,452	8,278	8,343	0.9%	41,237	42,282	41,480	38,163	-8.4%
20-Jun	8,087	7,835	7,171	8,087	5.1%	49,324	50,117	48,651	46,250	-6.3%
27-Jun	8,314	8,437	7,640	7,769	-4.4%	57,638	58,554	56,291	54,019	-6.0%
04-Jul	7,467	7,560	8,427	8,727	11.6%	65,105	66,114	64,718	62,746	-3.9%
11-Jul	7,552	7,741	7,288	7,392	-1.8%	72,657	73,855	72,006	70,138	-3.7%
18-Jul	7,587	7,758	7,748	7,599	-1.3%	80,244	81,613	79,754	77,737	-3.5%
25-Jul	7,661	7,482	7,569	7,626	0.7%	87,905	89,095	87,323	85,363	-3.1%
01-Aug	6,923	6,910	7,218	7,080	0.9%	94,828	96,005	94,541	92,443	-2.8%
08-Aug	7,188	7,400	7,321	6,896	-5.6%	102,016	103,405	101,862	99,339	-3.0%
15-Aug	6,561	6,514	6,710	6,413	-2.8%	108,577	109,919	108,572	105,752	-3.0%
22-Aug	5,559	5,655	5,194	5,225	-4.5%	114,136	115,574	113,766	110,977	-3.1%
29-Aug	12,113	12,264	12,640	12,223	-0.9%	126,249	127,838	126,406	123,200	-2.9%
	126,249	127,838	126,406	123,200	-2.9%					

* Percent Change from 2025 to the average of 2022, 2023, and 2024



Weekend Camping Units by Week
(Fri-Sat except for Memorial Day and Labor Day Fr--Sun)
Week prior to Open House to Week prior to Labor Day

■ 2022 ■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025





October Camping

Agenda Item #13

10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024	10/1/2025 - 10/31/2025
Nights	Nights
22005	20814

District	Facility Name	Camping Units	Camping Units	%
1	Fort Sisseton State Park	117	149	27%
	Pickrel Lake Recreation Area	288	213	-26%
	Roy Lake State Park	378	496	31%
	Sica Hollow State Park	63	66	5%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	27	40	48%
2	Fisher Grove State Park	58	44	-24%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	168	177	5%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	213	297	39%
	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	86	126	47%
	Hartford Beach State Park	338	288	-15%
3	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	41	40	-2%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	313	362	16%
	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	55	80	45%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	205	199	-3%
	Oakwood Lakes State Park	547	551	1%
4	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	29	32	10%
	Lake Herman State Park	384	349	-9%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	330	271	-18%
	Walkers Point Recreation Area	117	147	26%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	9	2	-78%
5	Buryanek Recreation Area	64	89	39%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	18	1	-94%
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	16	10	-38%
	Snake Creek Recreation Area	438	388	-11%
	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	778	719	-8%
6	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	769	776	1%
	Palisades State Park	1017	1045	3%
	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	0	2	NA
	Newton Hills State Park	1342	1337	0%
	Union Grove State Park	129	108	-16%
7	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	1416	1255	-11%
	Clay County Park	167	173	4%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	2141	2055	-4%
	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	329	289	-12%
	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	9	1	-89%
8	Springfield Recreation Area	48	61	27%
	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	5	6	20%
	North Point Recreation Area	296	361	22%
	North Wheeler Recreation Area	6	7	17%
	Pease Creek Recreation Area	56	44	-21%
9	Randall Creek Recreation Area	211	0	-100%
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	11	3	-73%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	0	11	NA
	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	6	30	400%
	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	0	2	NA
10	Farm Island Recreation Area	539	509	-6%
	West Bend Recreation Area	330	268	-19%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	107	85	-21%
	Minneconju Lakeside Use Area	0	6	NA
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	861	922	7%
11	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	14	10	-29%
	Spring Creek Recreation Area	35	85	143%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	9	6	-33%
	Indian Creek Recreation Area	391	218	-44%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	60	33	-45%
12	Little Moreau Recreation Area	0	10	NA
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	51	139	173%
	West Pollock Recreation Area	19	35	84%
	West Whitlock Recreation Area	229	238	4%
	Bear Butte State Park	82	36	-56%
13	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	0	59	NA
	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	56	6	-89%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	335	291	-13%
	Shadehill Recreation Area	814	712	-13%
	Custer State Park	4221	3905	-7%
14	Angostura Recreation Area	786	483	-39%
	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	56	56	0%
	Total:	22005	20814	-5%



October YTD Camping

1/1/2024 - 10/31/2024

Camping Nights

353744

1/1/2025 - 10/31/2025

Camping Nights

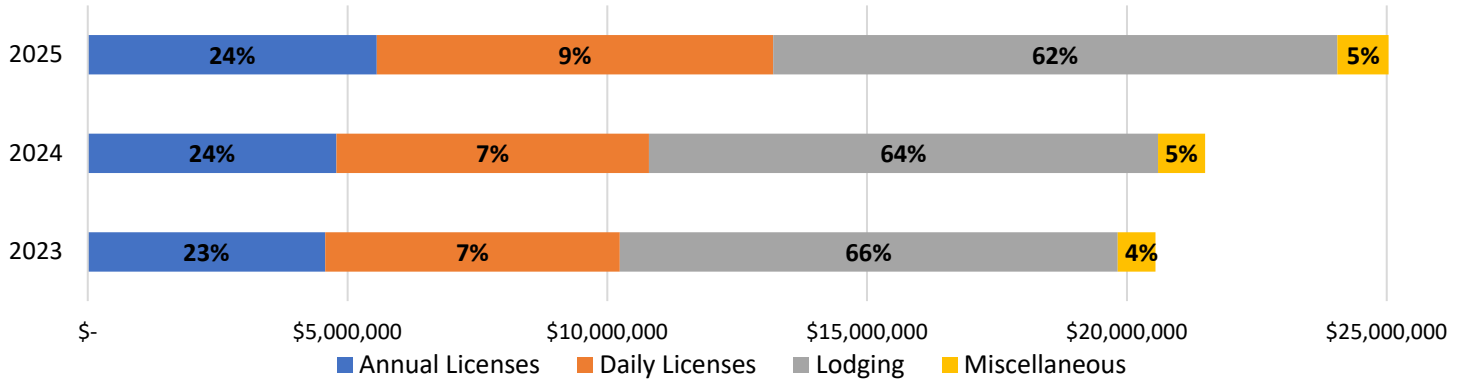
337451

District	Facility Name	Camping Nights	Camping Nights	%
1	Fort Sisseton State Park	1568	1577	1%
	Pickereel Lake Recreation Area	5881	5221	-11%
	Roy Lake State Park	8459	8326	-2%
	Sica Hollow State Park	288	291	1%
	Amsden Dam Lakeside Use Area	407	281	-31%
2	Fisher Grove State Park	1132	902	-20%
	Lake Louise Recreation Area	2227	2216	0%
	Mina Lake Recreation Area	3232	3284	2%
	Richmond Lake Recreation Area	1702	1754	3%
	Hartford Beach State Park	6779	6448	-5%
3	Lake Cochrane Recreation Area	2149	1956	-9%
	Pelican Lake Recreation Area	6468	6219	-4%
	Sandy Shore Recreation Area	1747	1714	-2%
	Lake Poinsett Recreation Area	7432	7135	-4%
	Oakwood Lakes State Park	9304	8874	-5%
4	Lake Carthage Lakeside Use Area	869	788	-9%
	Lake Herman State Park	5782	5730	-1%
	Lake Thompson Recreation Area	7456	6827	-8%
	Walkers Point Recreation Area	2983	2654	-11%
	Burke Lake Recreation Area	97	53	-45%
5	Buryanek Recreation Area	2787	2571	-8%
	Dude Ranch Lakeside Use Area	250	171	-32%
	Elm Creek Lakeside Use Area	52	78	50%
	Platte Creek Recreation Area	1510	1254	-17%
	Snake Creek Recreation Area	8182	7166	-12%
6	Big Sioux State Recreation Area	6867	6899	0%
	Lake Vermillion Recreation Area	11367	11232	-1%
	Palisades State Park	9622	10408	8%
	Twin Lake Lakeside Use Area	0	22	NA
	Good Earth State Park	1	0	-100%
7	Newton Hills State Park	10584	10064	-5%
	Union Grove State Park	1337	1257	-6%
	Chief White Crane Recreation Area	12641	11791	-7%
	Clay County Park	2077	1782	-14%
	Lewis and Clark Recreation Area	40937	39116	-4%
8	Pierson Ranch Recreation Area	4749	4315	-9%
	Sand Creek Lakeside Use Area	84	139	65%
	Springfield Recreation Area	1436	1250	-13%
	Tabor Lakeside Use Area	75	56	-25%
	North Point Recreation Area	9850	9745	-1%
9	North Wheeler Recreation Area	892	932	4%
	Pease Creek Recreation Area	1820	1640	-10%
	Randall Creek Recreation Area	6047	4800	-21%
	South Shore Lakeside Use Area	302	267	-12%
	Star Valley Lakeside Use Area	49	31	-37%
10	Whetstone Bay Lakeside Use Area	397	430	8%
	White Swan Lakeside Use Area	141	145	3%
	Farm Island Recreation Area	7841	7222	-8%
	West Bend Recreation Area	7446	6681	-10%
	Cow Creek Recreation Area	3142	3040	-3%
11	Minneconju Lakeside Use Area	0	6	NA
	Oahe Downstream Recreation Area	13927	13415	-4%
	Okobojo Point Recreation Area	1386	1181	-15%
	Spring Creek Recreation Area	1150	1125	-2%
	East Whitlock Lakeside Use Area	60	55	-8%
12	Indian Creek Recreation Area	7924	7563	-5%
	Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area	204	212	4%
	Little Bend Lakeside Use Area	0	7	NA
	Little Moreau Recreation Area	0	10	NA
	Swan Creek Recreation Area	927	1146	24%
13	Walth Bay Lakeside Use Area	33	25	-24%
	West Pollock Recreation Area	1116	1135	2%
	West Whitlock Recreation Area	4823	4795	-1%
	Bear Butte State Park	1406	1165	-17%
	Hugh Glass Lakeside Use Area	0	381	NA
14	Llewellyn Johns Recreation Area	473	425	-10%
	Rocky Point Recreation Area	7086	6552	-8%
	Shadehill Recreation Area	7783	7298	-6%
	Custer State Park	56162	55084	-2%
	Angostura Recreation Area	18464	16855	-9%
15	Bailey's Lakeside Use Area	0	51	NA
	Sheps Canyon Recreation Area	2373	2211	-7%
	Total:	353744	337451	-5%

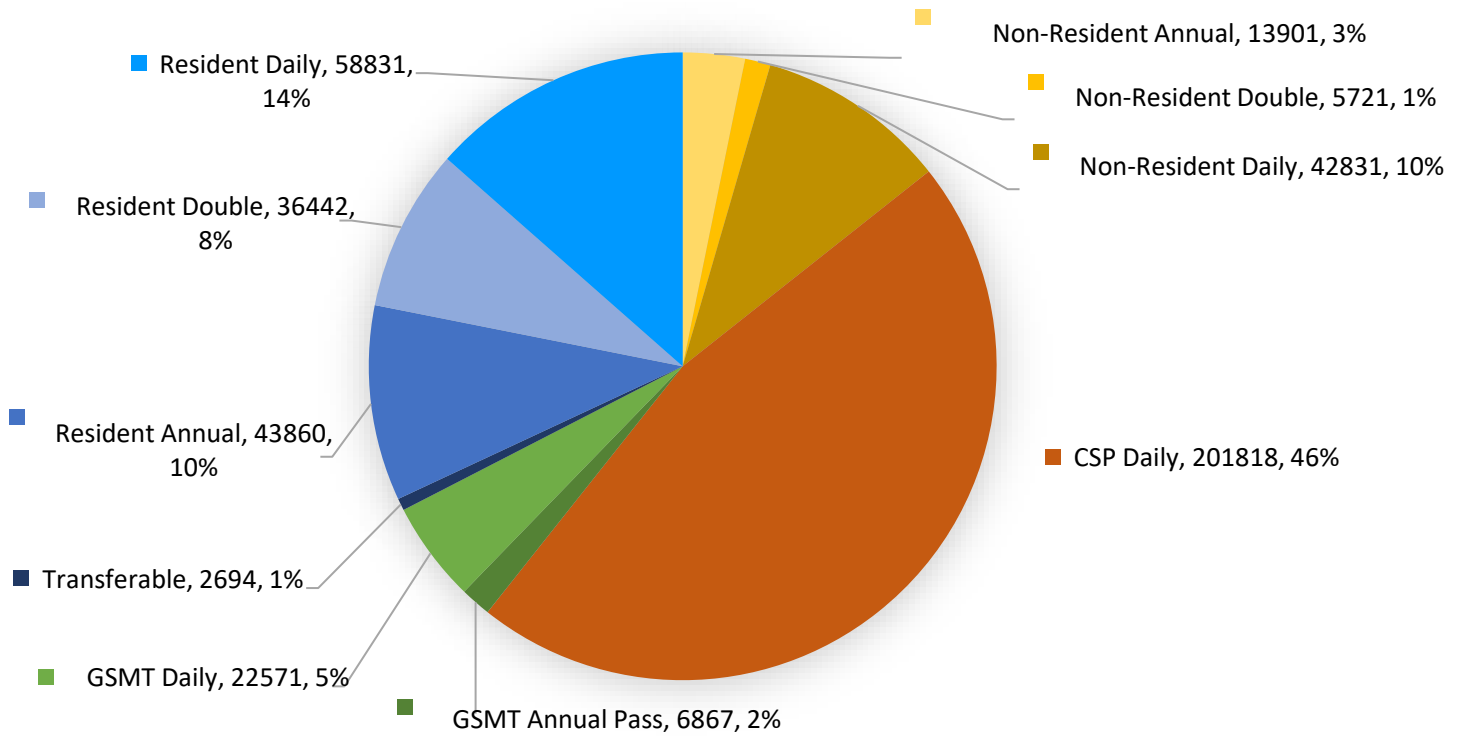
Division of Parks and Recreation					
October 2025 Revenue by Item					
	2024		2025		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	
Resident Annual	2,636	\$ 90,860	1,731	\$ 65,386	
Non-Resident Annual	-	\$ -	740	\$ 43,155	
Resident Double	1,349	\$ 72,266	933	\$ 55,642	
Non-Resident Double	-	\$ -	216	\$ 19,320	
Transferable	61	\$ 4,844	74	\$ 6,635	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	1,167	\$ 17,505	1,065	\$ 21,280	
2nd Annual	4	\$ 72	-	\$ -	
Annual Licenses	5,217	\$ 185,547	4,759	\$ 211,418	14%
Resident Daily License	8,639	\$ 69,056	3,579	\$ 35,720	
Non-Resident Daily License	-	\$ -	2,968	\$ 44,475	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	133	\$ 1,995	85	\$ 1,685	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	4,893	\$ 19,572	3,854	\$ 19,270	
Motorcoach Permit	500	\$ 1,500	1,527	\$ 5,716	
CSP 7 Day Pass	16,537	\$ 330,288	13,397	\$ 333,950	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	312	\$ 6,240	414	\$ 8,280	
Rally Bike Band	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
One-Day Special Event	7	\$ 300	7	\$ 700	
Festival Daily	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	
Daily Licenses	31,021	\$ 428,951	25,831	\$ 449,796	5%
Licenses	36,238	\$ 614,498	30,590	\$ 661,214	8%
Camping Services		\$ 408,829		\$ 392,611	-4%
Pet Fees	84	\$ 833	96	\$ 957	15%
LODGING		\$ 409,662		\$ 393,568	-4%
Picnic Shelters		\$ 220		\$ 520	136%
Boat Rentals		\$ 288		\$ 168	-42%
Firewood	3,115	\$ 18,000	2,429	\$ 16,252	-10%
Gift Card	26	\$ 3,355	24	\$ 3,580	7%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		\$ -		\$ -	
Recreational Equipment Rentals		\$ 971		\$ 383	-61%
Retail		\$ 6,249		\$ 6,102	-2%
Call Center Fee	1,162	\$ 2,318	1,870	\$ 4,398	90%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		\$ -		\$ -	
MISCELLANEOUS		\$ 31,401		\$ 31,403	0%
TOTAL		\$ 1,055,561		\$ 1,086,185	3%

Annual Licenses					
October YTD 2025 Revenue by Item					
	2024		2025		%
	Number	Dollar	Number	Dollar	
Resident Annual	63,024	\$ 2,233,149	43,860	\$ 1,712,012	
Non-Resident Annual			13,901	\$ 799,082	
Resident Double	39,150	\$ 2,099,906	36,442	\$ 2,165,706	
Non-Resident Double			5,721	\$ 509,068	
Transferable	2,700	\$ 214,150	2,694	\$ 240,648	
GSM Annual Trail Pass	7,276	\$ 109,035	6,867	\$ 136,795	
2nd Annual	8,409	\$ 131,886	-	\$ -	
Annual Licenses	120,559	\$ 4,788,126	109,485	\$ 5,563,311	16%
Resident Daily License	117,513	\$ 931,596	58,831	\$ 586,088	
Non-Resident Daily License			42,831	\$ 641,910	
Unattended Vehicle Daily	1,195	\$ 17,925	1,353	\$ 26,945	
GSM Daily Trail Pass	22,067	\$ 88,250	22,571	\$ 112,711	
Motorcoach Permit	16,402	\$ 49,203	23,966	\$ 74,249	
CSP 7 Day Pass	199,981	\$ 3,995,900	201,818	\$ 5,012,165	
CSP 7 Day Bike Band	20,071	\$ 387,924	24,094	\$ 479,970	
Rally Bike Band	26,426	\$ 534,252	33,780	\$ 675,595	
One-Day Special Event	143	\$ 7,049	91	\$ 9,100	
Festival Daily	-	\$ -	2,427	\$ 11,475	
Daily Licenses	403,798	\$ 6,012,099	411,762	\$ 7,630,208	27%
Licenses	524,357	\$ 10,800,225	521,247	\$ 13,193,519	22%
Camping Services		\$ 9,785,713		\$ 10,836,453	11%
Pet Fees	1474	\$ 14,688	1716	\$ 17,110	16%
LODGING		\$ 9,800,400		\$ 10,853,564	11%
Picnic Shelter		\$ 15,919		\$ 14,365	-10%
Boat Rentals		\$ 14,203		\$ 16,828	18%
Firewood	42,487	\$ 244,849	36,313	\$ 243,349	-1%
Gift Card	153	\$ 14,611	146	\$ 12,911	-12%
Spring Creek Boat Slips		\$ 156,946		\$ 155,768	-1%
Recreational Equipment Rentals		\$ 40,737		\$ 35,246	-13%
Retail		\$ 233,628		\$ 220,482	-6%
Call Center Fee	19,111	\$ 37,990	14,027	\$ 87,804	131%
Cabin/Trailer Lease Permits		\$ 143,954		\$ 217,969	51%
MISCELLANEOUS		\$ 902,837		\$ 1,004,722	11%
TOTAL		\$ 21,503,463		\$ 25,051,805	17%

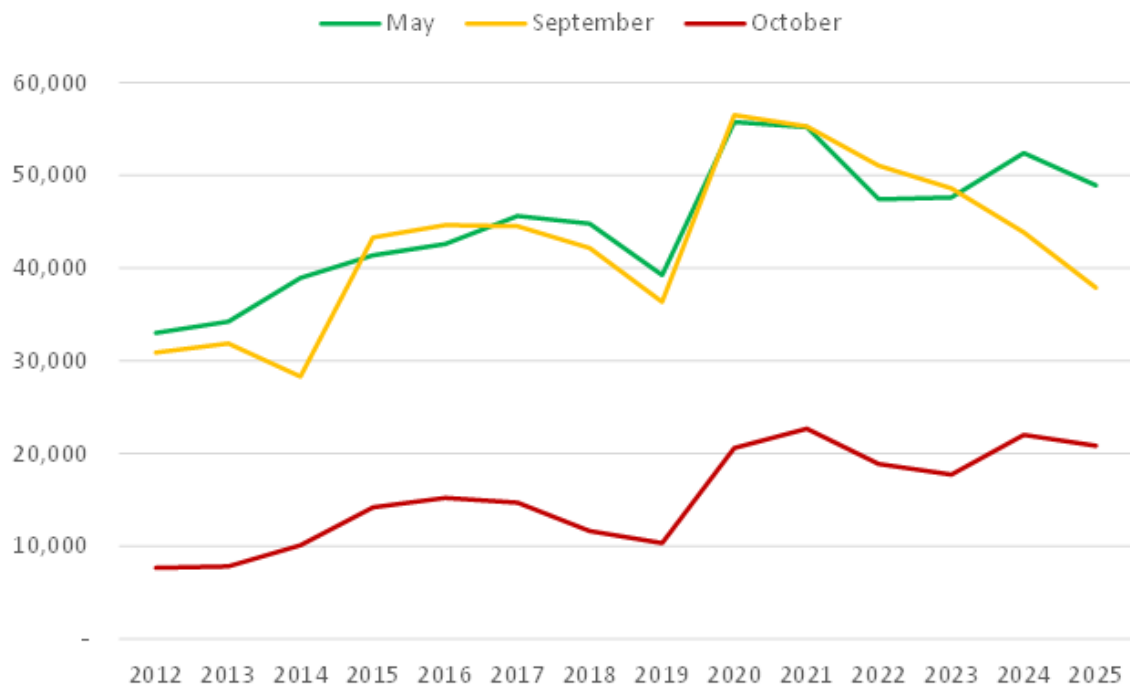
October 2025 YTD Revenue Comparison



October 2025 YTD License Sales



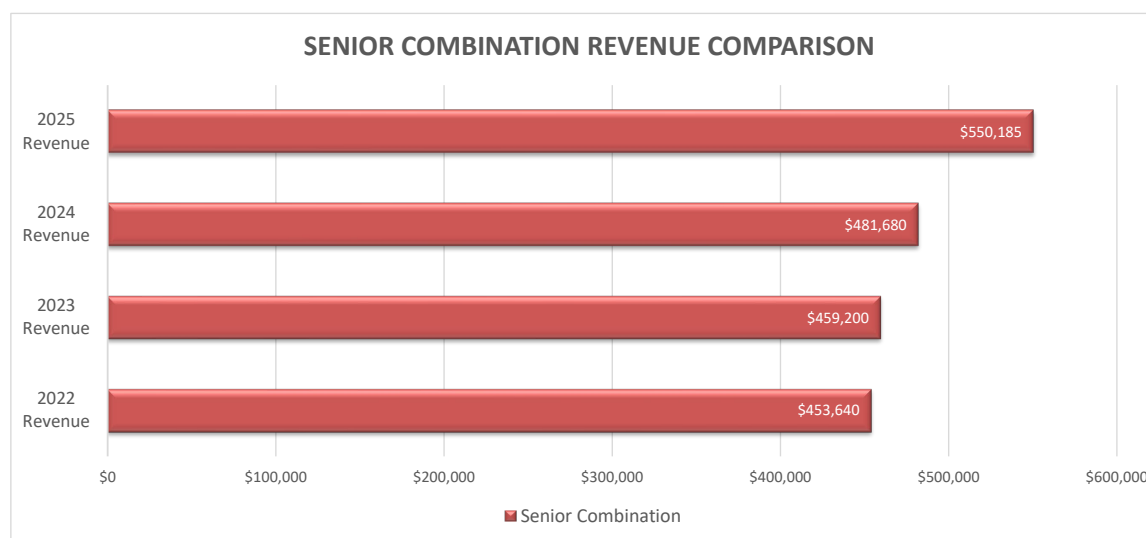
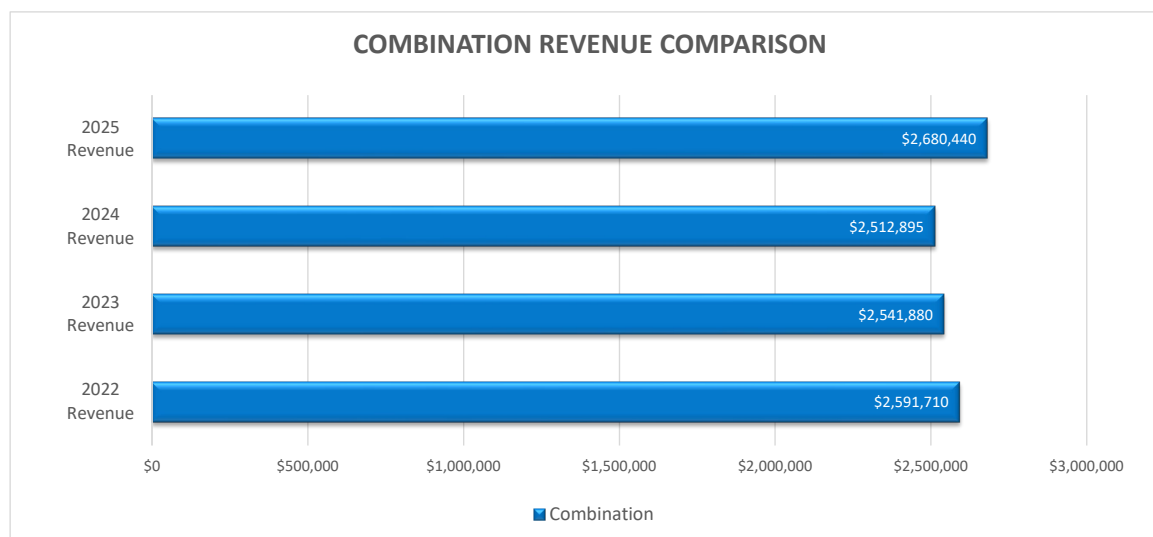
Shoulder Season Camping



COMBINATION LICENSES

December 15 - October 31

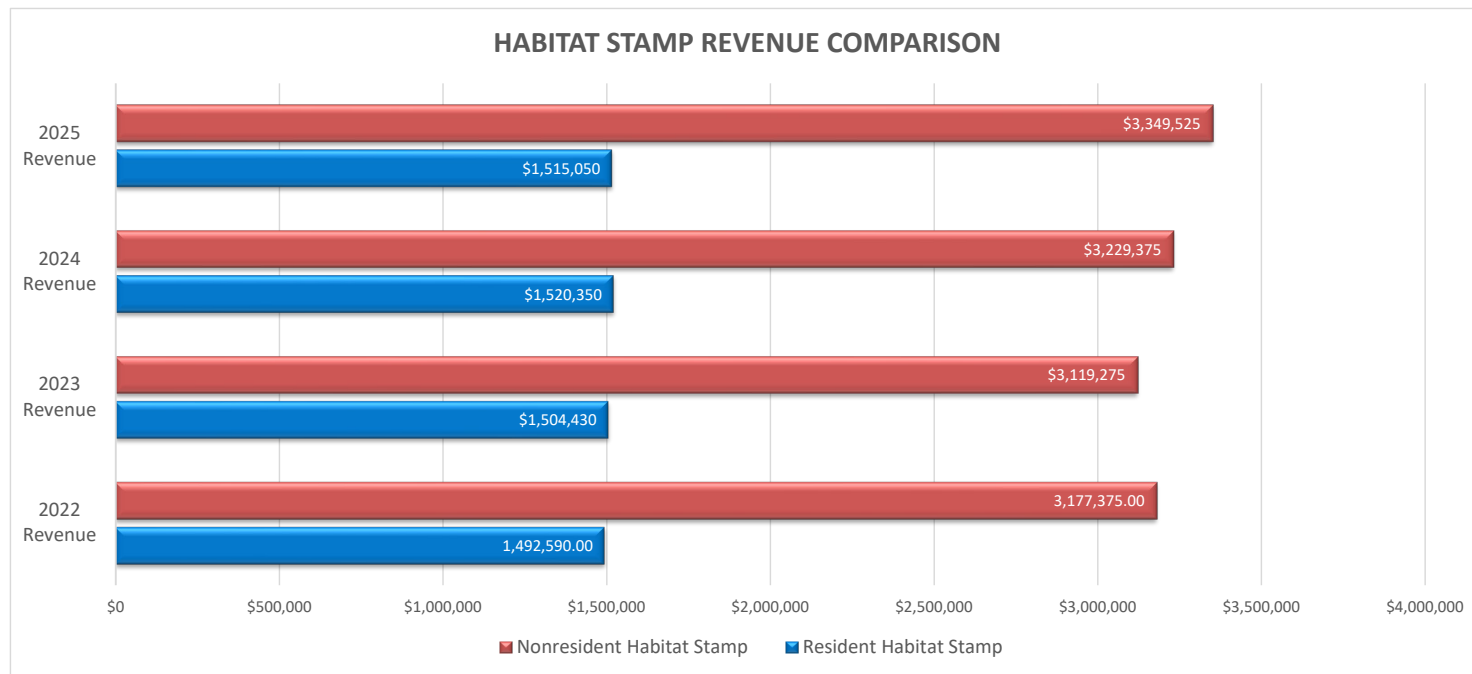
License Type	2022	2023	2024	3-yr Avg	2025	2025 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
							2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	
Combination	47,122	46,216	45,689	46,342	44,674	\$2,680,440	(1,015)	(1,668)	\$167,545	\$131,612	-4%
Senior Combination	11,341	11,480	12,042	11,621	12,795	\$550,185	753	1,174	\$68,505	\$85,345	10%
Combination License Totals	58,463	57,696	57,731	57,963	57,469	\$3,230,625	(262)	(494)	\$236,050	\$216,957	-1%



HABITAT STAMP

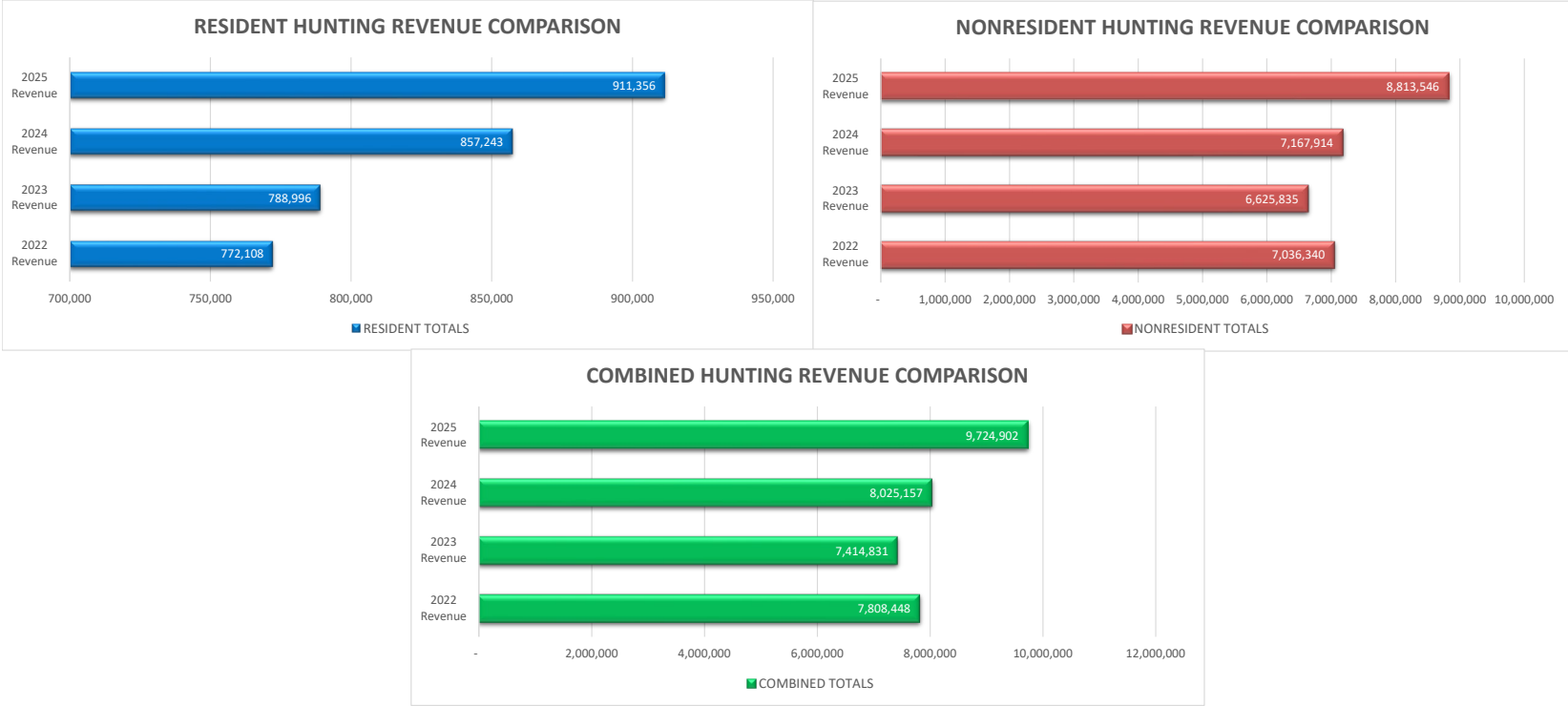
December 15 - October 31

License Type	2022	2023	2024	3-yr Avg	2025	2025 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
							2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	
Resident Habitat Stamp	149,259	150,443	152,035	150,579	151,505	\$1,515,050	(530)	926	(\$29,150)	\$50,930	1%
Nonresident Habitat Stamp	127,095	124,771	129,175	127,014	133,981	\$3,349,525	4,806	6,967	\$192,240	\$278,693	5%
Habitat Stamp Totals	276,354	275,214	281,210	277,593	285,486	\$4,864,575	4,276	7,893	\$163,090	\$329,623	3%



SMALL GAME LICENSES
December 15 - October 31

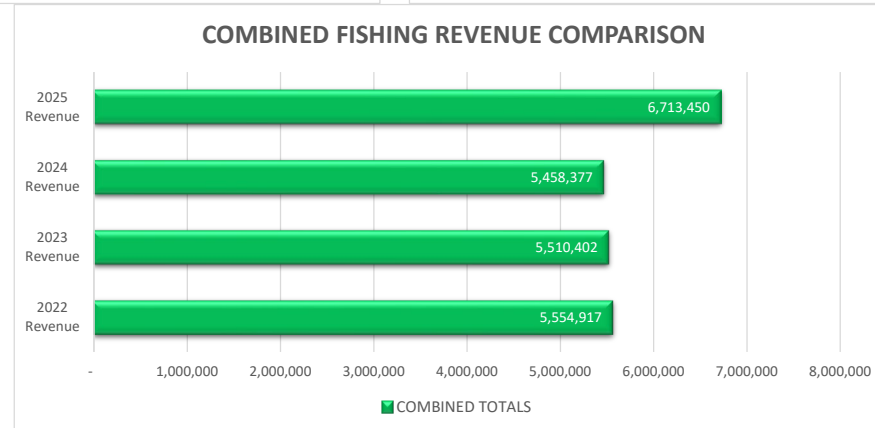
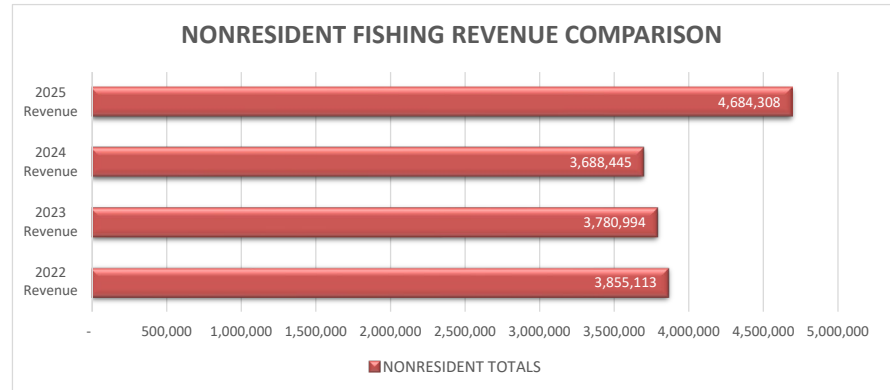
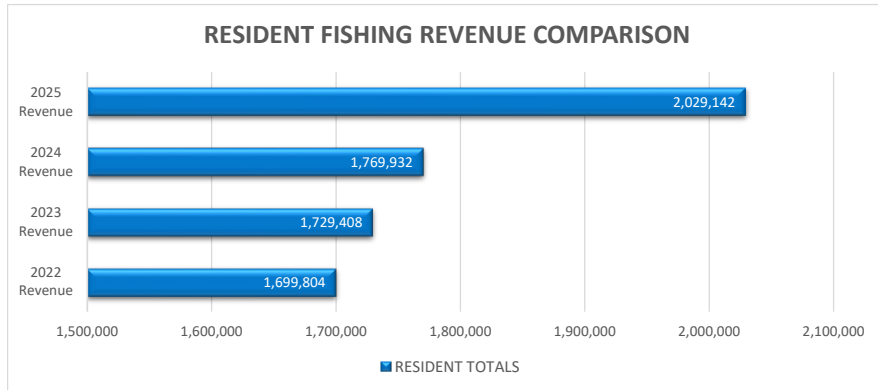
License Type						+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change	
	2022	2023	2024	3-yr Avg	2025	2025 Revenue	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	from 3 Yr. Avg
Small Game	15,433	16,343	18,166	16,647	18,002	\$648,072	(164)	1,355	\$48,594	\$98,710	8%
1-Day Small Game	572	441	570	528	654	\$9,810	84	126	\$2,970	\$3,478	24%
Youth Small Game	5,514	5,384	5,673	5,524	5,257	\$26,285	(416)	(267)	(\$2,080)	(\$3,200)	-5%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	776	\$3,880	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Furbearer	3,487	3,189	3,365	3,347	3,457	\$107,167	92	110	\$6,217	\$6,757	3%
Predator/Varmint	1,888	1,733	1,516	1,712	1,337	\$8,022	(179)	(375)	\$442	(\$540)	-22%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	1,333	1,605	1,337	1,425	1,000	\$5,000	(337)	(425)	(\$1,685)	(\$2,125)	-30%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	21,534	21,021	21,469	21,341	20,624	\$103,120	(845)	(717)	(\$4,225)	(\$3,587)	-3%
RESIDENT TOTALS	49,761	49,716	52,096	50,524	51,107	\$911,356	(989)	232	\$50,233	\$99,494	0.46%
Small Game	49,435	46,371	50,865	48,890	52,677	\$7,480,134	1,812	3,787	\$1,325,469	\$1,564,404	8%
Youth Small Game	1,974	1,844	1,973	1,930	1,892	\$18,920	(81)	(38)	(\$810)	(\$383)	-2%
Mentor Small Game	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	293	\$2,930	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shooting Preserve 1-Day Nonresident	840	670	701	737	847	\$42,350	146	110	\$10,104	\$8,448	15%
Shooting Preserve 5-Day Nonresident	10,228	9,653	9,511	9,797	10,180	\$977,280	669	383	\$254,444	\$232,683	4%
Shooting Preserve Annual Nonresident	337	261	237	278	302	\$44,092	65	24	\$15,415	\$10,414	9%
Furbearer	3	3	5	4	5	\$1,625	0	1	\$250	\$617	36%
Predator/Varmint	3,977	4,101	4,138	4,072	4,565	\$209,990	427	493	\$44,470	\$47,110	12%
Migratory Bird Certificate: 3-Duck	310	444	456	403	378	\$1,890	(78)	(25)	(\$390)	(\$127)	-6%
Migratory Bird Certificate: Traditional	3,353	6,678	8,117	6,049	7,160	\$35,800	(957)	1,111	(\$4,785)	\$5,553	18%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	70,457	70,025	76,003	72,162	78,299	\$8,815,011	2,296	5,844	\$1,644,167	\$1,868,718	8.10%
COMBINED TOTALS	120,218	119,741	128,099	122,686	129,406	\$9,726,367	1,307	6,720	\$1,694,400	\$1,968,212	5.48%



FISHING LICENSES

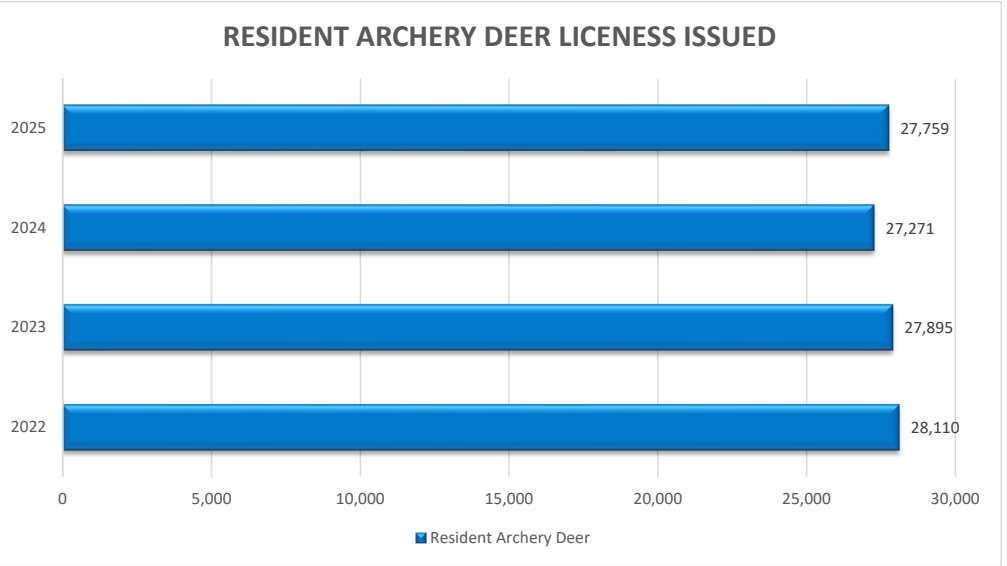
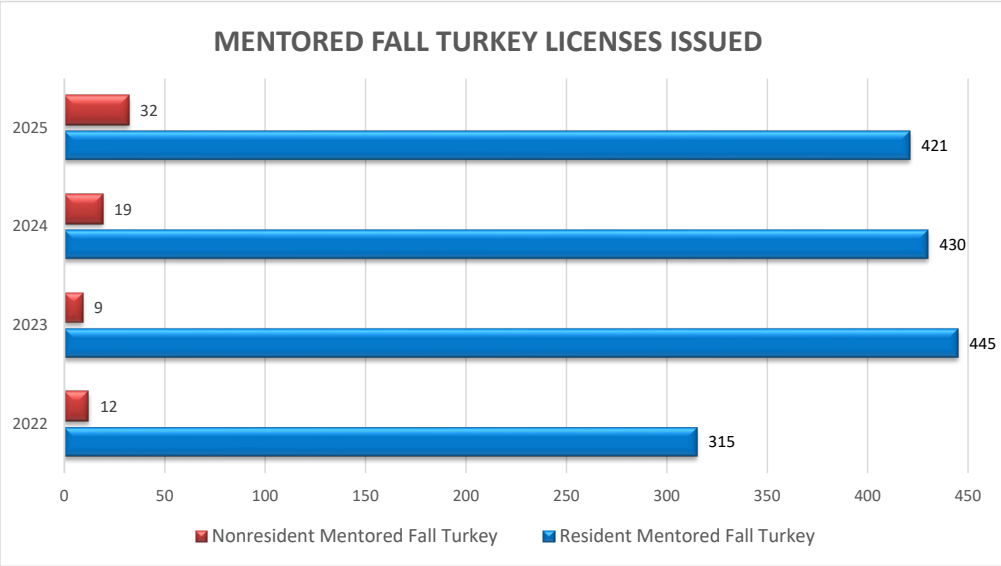
December 15 - October 31

License Type	2022	2023	2024	3-yr Avg	2025	2025 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change
							2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	
1-Day Fishing	6,460	6,901	7,760	7,040	7,098	\$70,980	(662)	58	\$8,900	\$14,657	1%
Annual Fishing	53,054	53,831	54,897	53,927	55,539	\$1,721,709	642	1,612	\$184,593	\$211,744	3%
Senior Fishing	13,551	13,911	14,228	13,897	13,909	\$236,453	(319)	12	\$65,717	\$69,693	0%
RESIDENT TOTALS	73,065	74,643	76,885	74,864	76,546	\$2,029,142	-339	1,682	\$259,210	\$296,094	2.25%
1-Day Fishing	37,315	36,305	36,411	36,677	26,258	\$682,708	(10,153)	(10,419)	\$100,132	\$95,876	-28%
3-Day Fishing	18,673	18,423	18,114	18,403	20,928	\$941,760	2,814	2,525	\$271,542	\$260,837	14%
Annual Fishing	38,316	37,589	36,353	37,419	38,248	\$3,059,840	1,895	829	\$624,189	\$552,745	2%
NONRESIDENT TOTALS	94,304	92,317	90,878	92,500	85,434	\$4,684,308	(5,444)	(7,066)	\$995,863	\$909,457	-7.64%
COMBINED TOTALS	167,369	166,960	167,763	167,364	161,980	\$6,713,450	(5,783)	(5,384)	\$1,255,073	\$1,205,551	-3.22%



2025 BIG GAME LICENSES

License Type	2022	2023	2024	3-yr Avg	2025	2025 Revenue	+/- Licenses		+/- Revenue		% Change from 3 Yr. Avg
							2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	2024 vs 2025	3 Yr. Avg vs 2025	
Resident Mentored Fall Turkey	315	445	430	397	421	\$2,105	(9)	24	(\$45)	\$122	6%
Nonresident Mentored Fall Turkey	12	9	19	13	32	\$320	13	19	\$130	\$187	140%
Resident Mentored Deer	5,033	5,206	5,053	5,097	2,979	\$14,895	(2,074)	(2,118)	(\$10,370)	(\$10,592)	-42%
Nonresident Mentored Deer	139	190	251	193	309	\$3,090	58	116	\$580	\$1,157	60%
Resident Archery Deer	28,110	27,895	27,271	27,759	25,715	1,076,051	(1,556)	(2,044)	\$76,271	\$61,698	-7%
Resident Archery Antelope	1,830	2,127	2,165	2,041	2,279	102,555	114	238	\$4,560	\$9,533	12%
Nonresident Archery Deer Private Only	n/a	2,007	2,081	2,007	1,913	716,663	(168)	n/a	(\$48,048)	n/a	n/a
Nonresident Archery Antelope Private Only	n/a	395	389	392	412	154,500	23	n/a	\$6,578	n/a	n/a



Public Comments

Eliminate Closed Area on Lake Francis Case

Matt Christopherson

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

It's not worth the confusion there is today

Other

Ryan Roehr

Aberdeen SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/Kettle Lake should NOT be closed as it has been proven in the past that it serves as a recreation purpose for everyone equal(many quality fish have been caught in there over many years and I have pictures to prove this). I checked with the marshall county SA office and no reports of trespassing on dry ground(this isn't about dry ground its about public trust waters) by water. What has been the total amount of money lost due to recreational use? Like to see financial records as proof as required by the water law rules. This was previously decided by the gfp commission that the lake to remain open for public use equally. Plus the supreme court of SD clearly ruled that ALL water is held in the public trust and no one has superior rights to the water. Plus I have Federal proof that this lake /complex is actually a meandered lake by the 1800's surveyors. Previous meeting I presented that document/s. So this couldn't be closed either way. Thank you for your time,
Ryan Roehr

Zachery Hunke

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Caittail-Kettle
It would be foolish to section off any part of Caittail-Kettle. The lake and the area in quesiton is excellent fishing. The departement and commissioners should instead highlight the excellent resource this lake is. The lake itself could certainly handle more recreational users and it is a wonderful asset to South Dakota.

Rich Widman

Brookings SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am opposed to the closure of a portion of Cattail-Kettle Lake (Marshall co) to recreational use. We must reverse the unconstitutional closures of Public Waters and return them to the great people of this state! And to have this meeting in Lemmon where constituents are highly unlikely to be able to make, is highly suspicious and irresponsible of the commission. So I ask you to dismiss this petition.

Nick Mauris

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Nick Fosness

Britton SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

This is a long time publicly accessible water with an improved access. I have been fishing this water for almost 30 years. Past precedence on kettle/cattail to close has been denied. This closure should also be denied as it blocks public access.

Thank you.

Nick Fosness

Derek Landeen

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

This allows access to land locked public land. Please deny this petition to closing access on the cattail-kettle and lost lake proposal by Arla Schuster.

Ryan Kaeding

Blair NE

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the closure of recreational access to cattail kettle lake are.

Kyle Schroeder

Florence SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/Kettle has already been established as public waters. It has been stocked with states dollars. I have been fishing there for 30 years. It could set a bad precedence for other public waters to fall into. More access not less.

Mark Smedsrud

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am opposed to the Schuster petition to close part of cattail kettle chain. This is called a chain for a reason, it has been a meandering body of water for centuries, long before we inhabited the area. Closing the central part of the lake, effectively eliminates public navigation and recreational uses that have been present for years.

Joe Critser

Webster SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the closure of any portion of Cattail Kettle Lake for recreational use

Brett Kellner

Sisseton SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I do not want cattail/kettle lake closed. This is a wonderful lake to take your family and go fish for multiple species. I pay for a park sticker every year and like to come here. Please do not close.

Scott Hall

Milbank SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I do not agree with shutting down a part of Cattail Kettle lake. These waters have been open for along time and I feel the only reason certain people want them shut down is greed! My wife, son, daughter have fished this exact body of water that Arla Schuster wants privatized for years. Please keep these waters open. Thank you

Brandon Huffman

Webster SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the partial closing of Cattail- Kettle Lake by Arla Schuster. Closing this parcel of land would effectively land lock the Game Production Area Lost Lake to the north, from the public. Currently the only access to the above mentioned Lost Lake GPA, is by way of boat, launched from the State Park ramp on Kettle Lake. Closing of this Schuster parcel has no other motive, other than to close the public's access to the Lost Lake GPA.

Jesse Spurgin

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/Kettle Lake - This is a long time publicly accessible water, with an improved access, which I have enjoyed for over 20 years as a resident South Dakotan and is my favorite lake to enjoy my favorite past time on. Past precedence on kettle/cattail to close has been denied as it blocks access to public waters. As prior rulings support, this request should be denied as well. Sincerely, Jesse Spurgin

Ryan Larson

Belle Fourche SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

PARTIAL CLOSING OF CATTAIL-KETTLE LAKE. I strongly oppose the closing of access to Cattail-Kettle Lake. The more we allow this to happen, the more landowners will work the system to get most lakes closed to the public. Thank you

Randy Schaefer

Madison SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Regarding the petition to close parts of Cattail-Kettle Lake: this Section 8 Lake, including the areas petitioned to close, has been used for fishing and recreation by the public for all decades it's been navigable. My kids and now grandkids have their own favorite fishing spots on this lake - most of which are in the areas petitioned for closure. A similar petition to close areas of this lake was denied by the Commission in 2017. Each year SD sportsmen lose more and more access to areas they've recreated upon for years. I ask that you give greater consideration to the needs and wishes of tens-of-thousands of license-purchasing SD residents - our fishing/hunting public - than those of a single petitioner who would be the only one to gain from such a closure. Thanks for considering. Randy

Mike Schatz

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail-Kettle Lake

Please leave the public land as is, downsize it doesn't benefit the SD Outdoorsman enjoy the entire lake.

Jonathon Harmon

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose on the closure of some of cattail and kettle lake I fish most of that lake and have been out on it many times with many people shooting carp one of the best lakes in the state for it

Chase Hewer

Brandon SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I don't see the cattail-kettle topic for meandering closure. I am opposed to the petition and would like to keep it the all of that body of water open to everyone to enjoy!

Jacob Kelly

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Im am opposed to the proposed water closer on cattail kettle. The areas proposed will make it difficult to maintain lawful use of this body with out being overly concerned with this issue which puts an undo hardship on the people of South Dakota. This lake needs to remain open for all to use.

Distin Batterman

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/Kettle

Shannon Poppinga

Harrisburg SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Commissioners

I am writing in regards of the cattail kettle petition. First of all I knew nothing about this until now. Hopefully it is not too late to stop this closing. I have many great memories from fishing areas of this lake. Some which are in the highlighted area. I feel it is a big mistake to close this off from the state public. This lake has been a public lake for decades and I hope to take my 2 year old daughter on the same trips I experienced as a kid. It would be sad if even more of these waters are closed and not accessible. I appreciate the work you do but hopefully you listen to all that are against this closing. Thanks.

Tim Brown

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/Kettle lake. I do not support this as it will close public access to this lake. Thank you

Hunter Mitchell

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/kettle: Don't close access to parts of cattail/kettle.

Jeremy Franken

Watertown SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose for closure of Cattail Kettle

Jesse Hanssen

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Petition for partial closure of Cattail-Kettle lake

Opposed to the petition because we need wholesome outdoor activities for our youth now more than ever. Youth need encouragement to experience the outdoors and engage in conservation programs. Closure of waters that have historically been open to public recreation further limits access and opportunities for youth. Closure also diminishes appeal and accessible waters for residents and non-residents and threatens the businesses in the area that benefit from tourism and serving those sportsmen.

Steven Palmer

Pierre SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail kettle lake closure. I oppose closing.

Ryan Stanek

Sioux City IA

Position: oppose

Comment:

This comment is in regards to closing a section of water on the cattail-kettle lake complex. It's a horrible idea to start closing down sections of this lake. A popular YouTuber Ben Milliken has posted numerous videos from this lake and drawn quite a bit of attention to this region. People such as myself are now regular annual fisherman who help support the local economy. Fisherman are generally quiet in regards to their favorite fishing hole but this lake is the premier trophy bass destination of South Dakota, just look at the tournament results. To think that South Dakota is going to start closing off parts of the lake is completely backwards from what should be done. With proper advertisement this place stands to be an absolute gem of a national attraction for bass fisherman and nature lovers. It is a completely unique type of lake. What is the purpose of conservation if people don't get to enjoy it?

Ryan Stanek

Sioux City IA

Position: oppose

Comment:

This comment is in regards to closing a section of water on the cattail-kettle lake complex. It's a horrible idea to start closing down sections of this lake. A popular YouTuber Ben Milliken has posted numerous videos from this lake and drawn quite a bit of attention to this region. People such as myself are now regular annual fisherman who help support the local economy. Fisherman are generally quiet in regards to their favorite fishing hole but this lake is the premier trophy bass destination of South Dakota, just look at the tournament results. To think that South Dakota is going to start closing off parts of the lake is completely backwards from what should be done. With proper advertisement this place stands to be an absolute gem of a national attraction for bass fisherman and nature lovers. It is a completely unique type of lake. What is the purpose of conservation if people don't get to enjoy it?

Mitchell Frewaldt

Grenville SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Opposed to closing of public access to kettle-cattail lakes

Chris Gukeisen

Pierre SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

PETITION FOR PARTIAL CLOSING OF CATTAIL-KETTLE LAKE

There needs to be more info to the public, and more time to process what this is about. We deserve more of a notice on this issue. Please push it out to a later date.

Tyler Soulek

Watertown SD

Position: other

Comment:

I believe landowners need something to make up for land lost but taking water and fishing rights isn't the answer. These "closed" waters just turn into high dollar "guides" the people and taxes pay for those fish, let's poison the water or take out as many fish as possible

Brian Murphy

Volga SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail Closure- oppose

Matt Swenson

Waubay SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the closing of Cattail lake

Shawn Schmidt

Webster SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Leave kettle cattail open it is ridiculous to keep shutting down public water. These landowners have options and most aren't paying hardly anything for taxes in this stuff.

Matt Swenson

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail/kettle. Keep open to public

Troy M Diede

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Regarding the petition of partial closure of Cattail/Kettle waterway.

South Dakota you have sovereign authority and are codified by statute to protect the public right to recreate on water bodies. Please do not allow this closure petition to limit your people from the basic rights of human life.

Sincerely,
Troy Diede

Jeffrey Clow

Harrisburg SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the partial closing of the Cattail-Kettle Lake recreational area.

Michele Carda

Estelline SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

This is not okay to give such a short notice about kettle and catttail lake. Also to be hosting the hearing in lemmon, which is not near those lakes is not okay because that doesnt give anyone around that area any voice to make any comment. Also to close for recreational use on that lake is not okay, because how are people going to cross the lake to fish. This is absurd and needs to be dropped and not past.

Lee Lohff

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Closing Cattail-Kettel lake access: I am opposed. Continued privatization of public lands, and attempting to petition the state to do so during harvest, indicates a person who knows such a move would be unpopular with the public and is attempting to do so when opposition will be difficult to find. This serves no purpose other than taking from many to give to few. Public opposition to land giveaways included as pork in the Big Beautiful Bill should indicate the public's deep antipathy towards such giveaways. Keep public land and waters public.

John Woodman

Aberdeen SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Cattail lake closer on east side.we have hunted and fished in that area since 1970 .How can existing water areas be closed now?

Jim Forrette

Milbank SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Schuster petition to close part of cat tail kettle
Stop the insanity in this area!!! This is public water
Do not close
Do not close
Do not close

Grant Farmer

Sakem SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I absolutely oppose the closing of Cattail Kettle Lake for public use. This little known lake is a gem that has been gaining out of state notoriety and become a destination for many out of state anglers for its incredible small mouth and largemouth (both of which are a commonly caught and released species). Closing this lake to public access would be detrimental in many ways. Here are a few to say the least.

1. This lake is becoming a renowned bass fishery drawing in out of state anglers that inject revenue into the economy.
2. Bass anglers make up a huge portion of anglers across the country. The continued closure of the prolific bass fisheries in our state will stunt the economic growth of the department of wildlife... both in the revenue, and long term economic growth of the community. Having worked in the area I know just how many out of state anglers came to fish Reetz Lake before it closed, and those anglers were discouraged to see a the fishery they came to angle on closed.
3. The revenue bass anglers will bring will continue to grow as these phenomenal lakes gain noteriety. The revenue produced by these anglers can be used to help supplement the walleye and perch that these lakes are known for in this state. Therefore increase the health of our lakes, and increasing the commerce in areas like Webster.
4. Webster as a town relies on lakes like Cattail Kettle to bring anglers to the town. The entire economy relies on anglers coming to these destination lakes and spending money in town while they are there to enjoy the amazing lakes. Closing Cattail Kettle Lake will set a precedent that South Dakota GFP cares more about the needs of a select few over the needs of its citizens. Now more than ever we need to increase public land rather than decrease it. I have lived in states that continually take from its outdoorsman.

In closing, this motion being brought to the table in Lemmon must not be passed. We as anglers have a voice and to discard it and pass the closing of Cattail Kettle would be a catastrophic blunder. If anyone would like to contact me to speak tomorrow on behalf of bass anglers statewide I would be more than happy to give my statement over the phone as I work in Mitchell. I would greatly value the opportunity to speak to those voting on this issue.

Francis Barnett

Aberdeen SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose the closing of a portion of Cattail-Kettle lake to recreational use.

Jordan Fast

Volga SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Please keep South Dakota waters public. CATTAIL-KETTLE LAKE and all public water open to the public. As the Commission, I urge you to vote no.

David Peck

Cherokee IA

Position: oppose

Comment:

Just heard of the 60% of bison tags dedicated to residents (and 40% to NR/R blend). These expensive tags are highly sought by NR....and R not nearly as much. NR will eventually fade away as they will not be drawn. Moving the goalposts after 13 Or 14 years to appease a few residents seems like a bad idea to me.

James Hoffman

Yankton SD

Position: other

Comment:

Recently in Yankton county at Lewis and Clark Lake, there has been an influx of squirrel hunters that do not have park stickers using state land to hunt and harvest squirrels. I would argue that without paying for park stickers (your due), anything harvested is stolen and should be treated as a poaching charge. Without paying for proper access they shouldn't be able to utilize public lands.

Wildlife Action Plan

Eric Penniston

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please do more to support mule deer populations in western SD.
Give out as many white-tail only tags for west river as possible so they stop pushing the mulies out.
Reduce the amount of west river any deer rifle tags so the mulies can re-populate once the white-tail have been removed.

Thanks