

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS**

A Public Hearing will be held at the RedRossa Convention Center, 808 West Sioux Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501 on January 11, 2018 at 2:00PM (CST), to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. Amend ARSD 41:06:16:02.01 – Low Plains duck hunting season established.

Effect: The proposed amendment would modify the Low Plains South Zone hunting season to begin on the third Saturday instead of the second Saturday.

Reason: There has been interest expressed from the public to add hunting opportunities on the end of the duck hunting season over the past few years. Information obtained through public meetings and an on-line input process indicated interest to explore this adjustment for the South Zone area.

2. Amend ARSD 41:06:16:03 – Daily bag limit.

Effect: The proposed amendment would increase the pigtail bag limit from one to two.

Reason: The daily bag limit for pintail has been adjusted from 1 to 2 per day through the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the federal framework establishing waterfowl hunting seasons. The GFP Commission has proposed this adjustment to conform to the federal framework and provide the opportunity to harvest the maximum allowable pintail per day.

3. Amend ARSD 41:06:16:07 – Goose hunting season, Conservation Order, and August Management Take established.

Effect: The proposed amendment would remove Lawrence and Meade Counties from Unit 1 and place them in Unit 2.

Reason: Interest expressed from the public has been brought forward to move hunting opportunity from early fall to late season hunting in western South Dakota. This

adjustment would expand the Unit 2 Canada goose hunting season to include Meade and Lawrence County and allow Canada goose hunting into mid-February.

4. Amend ARSD 41:06:50:03 – Daily and possession limits.

Effect: The proposed amendment would reduce the daily limit from fifteen to eight birds and change the possession limit from forty-five to three times the daily limit of Canada geese.

Reason: This proposed rule adjustment will update the possession limit language to coincide with the daily limit. Federal regulations allow three times the daily limit for a possession limit and the adjusted language in rule would define the possession limit to be three times the daily limit.

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 transmit by email to wildinfo@state.sd.us. 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, home town/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 18 day of December, 2017.



Kelly R. Hepler, Secretary