

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

A Public Hearing will be held at the Ramkota Hotel and Watertown Event Center, 1901 9th Avenue SW, Watertown, SD 57201 at 2:00 pm (Central Time) on April 7, 2022. Individuals wishing to participate may attend in person or by teleconference. Teleconference information can be found at <https://gfp.sd.gov/commission/information/>. The public hearing is to consider adoption, amendment, and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:02:01:07 – Licensing agents report of sales – Fees remitted.

Effect: The proposed change will modify when and how funds are remitted from licensing agents.

Reason: The department has implemented a new e-commerce website and the proposed rule change is necessary to ensure the functionality of said website. Furthermore, it streamlines the accounting processes for the department and the licensing agents.

2. ARSD 41:02:01:12 – Emergency authorization books.

Effect: The proposed change would repeal the administrative rule.

Reason: The department has implemented a new e-commerce website for the purchase of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. As a result, the emergency authorization books are no longer needed and any related administrative rules should be repealed.

3. ARSD 41:03:04:05.01 – Campsite reservations – Payment of camping fees – Cancellation fees.

Effect: The proposed change simplifies the cancellation policy for campsites and cabins.

Reason: Current administrative rule applies different cancellation fees for different campsites, cabins, and lodges. The proposed change unifies the cancellation policy to

better serve the customers and provides greater flexibility more aligned with industry standards.

4. ARSD 41:04:02:05 – Brooking County public water safety zones.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the public water safety zones in Brookings County.

Reason: A new boat ramp was constructed at the Lake Poinsett Recreation Area thus requiring the modified safety zone.

5. ARSD 41:04:02:09 – Butte County public water safety zones.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the public water safety zones in Butte County.

Reason: A new boat ramp was constructed at the Belle Fourche Reservoir thus requiring the modified safety zone.

6. ARSD 41:04:02:18 – Day County public water safety zones.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the public water safety zones in Day County, specifically on Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Bird Refuge.

Reason: In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the department seeks to increase recreational opportunities while still meeting the objectives of the refuge system.

7. ARSD 41:05:02:68 – Missouri River refuges.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the Oahe Dam State Waterfowl Refuge.

Reason: A petition was brought by an interested person to expand the Oahe Dam State Waterfowl Refuge. As a result, the commission desired to hear from the public regarding a proposed modification of the refuge.

8. ARSD 41:06:26:01 – Black Hills elk hunting season established – Number and types of licenses – Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of licenses available.

Reason: The proposed change is reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

9. ARSD 41:06:26:02 – Open Units (Black Hills elk).

Effect: The proposed change would modify the open units available during Black Hills elk hunting season.

Reason: The proposed change is reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

10. ARSD 41:06:27:01 – Custer State Park elk hunting season established – Number and type of licenses – Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of licenses available. The proposed change would also modify the season dates for the hunting season.

Reason: The proposed changes are reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

11. ARSD 41:06:28:01 – Custer State Park early archery elk hunting season established – Number and type of licenses – Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of licenses available for this hunting season.

Reason: The proposed change is reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

12. ARSD 41:06:43:01 – Archery elk hunting season established – Number and type of licenses available – Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of licenses available for this hunting season.

Reason: The proposed change is reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

13. ARD 41:06:56:03 – Number and type of licenses (Bighorn sheep).

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of licenses available for this hunting season. Furthermore, the proposed change would eliminate the ability to obtain a preference point when applying for Unit BHS-ZZ1.

Reason: The proposed change is reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location. Furthermore, removal of this preference point option streamlines the application process and aligns better the department's new e-commerce system. Preference points can still be obtained through traditional means.

14. ARSD 41:06:56:05 – Mandatory briefing and check-in (Bighorn sheep).

Effect: The proposed change will modify when a hunter has to complete a mandatory briefing prior to hunting in the Bighorn Sheep season.

Reason: The proposed change provides better customer service to the hunters by allowing flexibility as to when the briefing can occur.

15. ARSD 41:06:59:01 – Prairie elk hunting season established – Number and type of licenses available – Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change will modify the number of licenses available for this hunting season. The proposed change will also the open dates for each open unit as well as create a new unit for hunting.

Reason: The proposed changes are reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

16. ARSD 41:06:59:02 – Open units (Prairie elk).

Effect: The proposed change will modify open unit descriptions. Furthermore, the proposed change will add the description of a new hunting unit.

Reasons: The proposed change are reflective of the department's objectives in wildlife management for this specie and geographic location.

17. ARSD 41:07:03:03 -- Daily, possession, and length limit restrictions on special management waters -- Additional restrictions described.

Effect: The proposed change would modify certain walleye restrictions on Lake Francis Case while ice fishing.

Reason: The proposed change was brought by an interested person through the petition process. The commission adopted the petition to garner input from the general public regarding this proposed change. The commission modified the proposal at their March 2022 meeting to include removing all requirements specific to ice fishing on Lake Francis Case.

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, 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 ^{03/11/2022} day of March, 2022.



Kevin Robling

Kevin Robling, Secretary

Notice of Public Hearing is published at the approximate cost of \$_____.