

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

On May 2, 2024, at 9:00 AM (Mountain Time), a quorum of the Game, Fish and Parks Commission will be present at Custer State Park - Event Barn, 13389 US Highway 16A, Custer, SD, to participate in a Governance Meeting.

A Public Hearing will be held at Custer State Park - Event Barn, 13389 US Highway 16A, Custer, SD, May 2nd, 2:00 (Mountain Time), to modify deer license numbers for the East River Prairie and Archery Deer Hunting Seasons.

A Public Hearing will be held at Custer State Park - Event Barn, 13389 US Highway 16A, Custer, SD, May 2nd, 2:00 (Mountain Time), to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:06:07:01. Eligibility.

Effect: Clean-up administrative rule for the terms “bull” and “nontrophy”.

Reason: Allows for rule consistency in Custer State Park Non-Trophy Bison Harvest.

2. ARSD 41:06:07:03. Minimum weapon size for bison.

Effect: Consider the use of archery equipment during the Custer State Park trophy and non-trophy bison harvest season.

Reason: Archery equipment has not been allowed during the Custer State Park trophy and non-trophy bison harvest season. However, there is a desire to use archery equipment to harvest a bison during the Custer State Park trophy and non-trophy bison harvest season.

3. ARSD 41:06:37:01. Season established.

Effect: Modify the season dates and times of the Custer State Park Coyote Hunting Season.

Reason: A primary objective in Custer State Park is to provide maximum wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities. Coyote predation may adversely affect some prey populations and limit wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities.

4. ARSD 41:06:37:04. Open area -- Exceptions.

Effect: Modify § 41:06:37:04 because the hunting area restrictions are redundant to restrictions described in Custer State Park restrictions § 41:06:07:10.

Reason: A primary objective in Custer State Park is to provide maximum wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities.

5. ARSD 41:06:42:01. Season established.

Effect: Modify the allowable hunting days for trophy bison.

Reason: The change will allow increased opportunity for scheduling of hunts.

6. ARSD 41:06:42:02. Number of licenses.

Effect: Modify the number of licenses for trophy bison.

Reason: Allows for additional hunting opportunities.

7. ARSD 41:06:09:01 – Grouse hunting season established.

Effect: Modify the season date.

Reason: The proposed change will simplify season dates and provide consistency among grouse, partridge, quail, and pheasant season end dates.

8. ARSD 41:06:11:01. Quail hunting season established.

Effect: Modify the season end date.

Reason: The proposed change will simplify season dates and provide consistency among grouse, partridge, quail, and pheasant season end dates.

9. ARSD 41:06:12:01. Partridge hunting season established -- Open area and dates.

Effect: Modify the season date.

Reason: The proposed change will simplify season dates and provide consistency among grouse, partridge, quail, and pheasant season dates.

10. ARSD 41:06:17:01. Snipe hunting season established.

Effect: Modify the word "common" before snipe.

Reason: The common snipe is generally found in Europe and the Wilson's snipe is generally found in North America.

11. ARSD 41:06:17:03. Daily bag limit.

Effect: Modify the daily bag limit.

Reason: Allow for the harvest of all snipe species.

12. ARSD 41:06:17:04. Possession limit.

Effect: Modify the possession limit.

Reason: Allow for the possession limit of all snipe species.

13. ARSD 41:06:26:01. Black Hills elk hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses -- Season dates.

Effect: Modify the number of "any elk" and "antlerless elk" licenses and units.

Reason: The number of elk licenses and units are established in administrative rule.

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

Effect: Modify the number of "any elk" licenses and the option to provide up to thirty "antlerless elk" licenses.

Reason: The Commission will review the number of licenses and tag types and allocations amongst hunting units.

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

Effect: Modify the number of "any elk" and "antlerless elk" licenses and units.

Reason: Allow the GFP Commission to alter the number of elk licenses and tag types and allocations amongst hunting units.

16. ARSD 41:06:34:01. Cottontail rabbit hunting season established.

Effect: Modify the Cottontail Rabbit Hunting Season on publicly accessible land.

Reason: Allow for a longer season to hunt cottontail rabbit.

17. ARSD 41:06:35:01. Tree squirrel hunting season established.

Effect: Modify hunting seasons.

Reason: Allow for a longer season to hunt tree squirrel.

18. ARSD 41:06:37:01. Season established.

Effect: Modify the Custer State Park coyote hunting seasons.

Reason: Removal of additional coyotes may result in higher survival and subsequently larger populations of prey species including white-tailed and mule deer, elk, turkey, bighorn sheep, and antelope.

19. ARSD 41:06:37:04. Open area -- Exceptions.

Effect: Modify redundant Custer State Park Coyote Hunting Season restrictions.

Reason: Removal of additional coyotes may result in higher survival and subsequently

larger populations of prey species including white-tailed and mule deer, elk, turkey, bighorn sheep, and antelope.

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

Effect: Modify archery elk hunting licenses and tag types

Reason: Allow the GFP Commission to alter the number of elk licenses.

21. ARSD 41:06:43:02. Open units.

Effect: Clean-up Administrative Rule to match unit boundary descriptions for Black Hills Archery Elk with Black Hills Firearm Elk.

Reason: Allow the GFP Commission to alter the units of elk licenses.

22. ARSD 41:06:47:01. Special Custer State Park antlerless elk hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses available -- Season dates.

Effect: Modify "antlerless elk" licenses.

Reason: The proposed number of elk licenses and tag types and allocations amongst hunting units is established in administrative rule.

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

Effect: Modify the number of "any elk" and "antlerless elk" licenses.

Reason: The proposed number of elk licenses and tag types and allocations amongst hunting units is established in administrative rule.

24. ARSD 41:06:59:02. Open units.

Effect: The proposed number of elk licenses and tag types and allocations amongst hunting units is established in administrative rule.

Reason: Modify elk season hunt units and dates.

25. ARSD 41:06:60:02. Number and type of licenses.

Effect: Modify the number of non-trophy bison licenses.

Reason: The proposed change offers trophy and nontrophy bull licenses to allow for additional hunting opportunities.

Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit amendments, data, opinions, arguments, and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) at the hearing. Persons unable to attend the hearing may mail amendments, 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 amendments, 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 amendments, 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 8th day of April, 2024.



(SEAL)

Kevin Robling, Secretary

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