

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

A Public Hearing will be held at the Dakota Event Center, 720 Lamont Street South, Aberdeen, SD 57401 at 2:00 pm (Central Time) on Thursday, June 5, 2025, to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:03:03:03.01. Park entrance license exemptions.

Effect: Modify the eligibility of the disabled veteran lifetime state park entrance license to recipients of the Purple Heart.

Reason: This proposal would clear up confusion about duplicate service-related disability and Purple Heart recipients.

2. ARSD 41:03:04:03. Camping permit fees.

Effect: Modify the eligibility of the disabled veteran lifetime state park entrance license and associated discounted camping fees to include recipients of the Purple Heart.

Reason: This proposal would clear up confusion about duplicate service-related disability and Purple Heart recipients.

3. ARSD 41:07:02:01. Inland waters.

Effect: Allow year-round fishing in the dredge-hole area of Lake Francis Case between the railroad bridge and the Interstate 90 bridge and causeway in Brule and Lyman Counties.

Reason: Increase angling opportunities and simplify regulations that have caused many non-locals and non-residents to unintentionally violate the law.

3. ARSD 41:08:01:02 – Muskrat trapping season established.

Effect: Modify unit description

Reason: Based on survey responses there were a projected 1,888 resident and 5 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2023-24 seasons.

4. ARSD 41:08:01:07 – Beaver trapping and hunting season established.

Effect: Modify the beaver trapping and hunting season in the Black Hills Fire Protection District.

Reason: Based on survey responses an estimated 4,142 beaver were harvested during the 2023-24 season by furbearer license holders. Of furbearer licenses holders, one individual reported trapping a beaver in the Black Hills.

5. ARSD 41:08:01:08.05. River otter trapping and hunting season established -- Harvest limit -- Tagging requirements.

Effect: Modify the harvest limit for river otters.

Reason: Data from river otter population assessments show the river otter population is stable and can support an increase in harvest.

Persons interested in presenting amendments, data, opinions, and arguments for or against the proposed rules may appear in-person at the hearing, or mail or e-mail them 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. All written and email comments must include the name, hometown/city, and state of the person submitting the comments.

After the written comment period, the Commission will consider all written and oral comments it receives on the proposed rules. The Commission may modify or amend a proposed rule at that time to include or exclude matters that are described in this notice.

For Persons with Disabilities: This hearing will be located at a physically accessible place. Please contact the Department of Game, Fish & Parks at least 48 hours before the public hearing if you have special needs for which arrangements can be made by calling 605-773-3718.

Copies of the proposed rules 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 by calling 605-773-3718.

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