

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

A Public Hearing will be held at the Good Earth State Park, 26924 480th Avenue, Sioux Falls SD on April 2, 2020 at 2:00PM to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. 41:06:26:01. Black Hills elk hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses -- Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the total 'any elk' and 'antlerless elk' in the Black Hills hunting season.

Reason: The modification is necessary to meet population objectives as laid out in the elk management plan.

2. 41:06:26:02. Open units.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the unit structure within the Black Hills elk hunting season.

Reason: The adjustment of unit area boundaries is necessary to achieve management objectives.

3. 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 total number of 'any elk' licenses for Custer State Park elk hunting season.

Reason: Modifications to the number of licenses are conducted every two years to adjust for elk population management.

4. 41:06:43:01. Archery elk hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses available -- Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the total number of 'any elk' and 'antlerless elk' licenses available for the archery elk hunting season.

Reason: Modifications to the number of licenses are conducted every two years to adjust for elk population management.

5. 41:06:59:01. Prairie elk hunting season established -- Number and type of licenses available -- Season dates.

Effect: The proposed change would modify the number of 'any elk' and 'antlerless elk' licenses issued and would modify some season dates during the prairie elk hunting season.

Reason: Modifications to the number of licenses and a review of season dates are conducted every two years to adjust for elk population management.

6. 41:06:59:02. Open units. (Prairie Elk)

Effect: The proposed change would add a new unit for those portions of South Dakota west of the Missouri River not associated with another prairie elk unit. The proposed change would also modify unit 9 in Butte and Lawrence county. Unit 15A would also be modified. Unit 27A would also be modified. Unit 30A would be eliminated and instead be included in the west river prairie unit.

Reason: The adjustment of units is a tool that is used in management activity and to maximize hunter participation. Furthermore, modifications of units help to meet the objectives as identified in the elk management plan.

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. On April 2 at 2:00pm there will be provided a place where the public may comment on during the public forum portion of the meeting. The locations are: in person at the Good Earth State Park; via teleconference at the GFP Main Office, Foss Building, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD; via teleconference at the GFP Rapid City Regional Office (Outdoor Campus West) at 4130 Adventure Trail, Rapid City, SD; and via teleconference at the GFP Watertown Regional Office, 400 West Kemp, Watertown, SD.

Persons unable to attend the hearing or one of the telephonic remote locations 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 9th day of March, 2020.



Kelly R Hepler

Kelly R. Hepler, Secretary

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