

Public Comments

Administrative Rules Review

Georgine Young

Huron SD

Position: support

Comment:

I would like to see where we are given the opportunity of free fishing,camping and hunting. I believe we had free fishing before but tht was taken away.

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk SD

Position: other

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

This is a comment on changes to beaver trapping seasons, being proposed to make beaver seasons more consistent. We think you are trying to make all beaver trapping start on November 1st. We think this leaves other season inconsistencies. The East River beaver season is 6 months, the Black Hills Beaver season is 3 months and the West River beaver season is 365 days. River otters are incidentally trapped in beaver traps. 365 days of beaver trapping is given as a reason it would be difficult to re-introduce otters West River. The reason for this longer West River season is alleged to be, that West River ranchers complain more about "conflict" beavers. Why not require them to apply for permit to take a "conflict" beaver, as provided in SDCL 41-8-23, rather than have year long trapping?
Why not make the East-West River seasons match and make both of them 6 months. Why not make trapping on all public lands three months later in the winter, like the Black Hills National Forest. Beavers provide for habitat for many other species and federal and state public lands are often supposed to be managed at least in part for wildlife and water quality/quantity.

Fall Turkey

Pat Malcomb

Sioux Falls SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose shutting down Tripp County for fall turkey hunting there are plenty of birds to support giving some tags out. If you think its an issue make them male turkey tags.

James Elsing

Lemmon SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Wolfgang & Kathleen Schmidt

Nemo SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

In the many years we have lived in the Black Hills, we have usually seen some turkeys in our area. This year, we have seen NONE. There are NO HENS, NO BABIES, absolutely NOTHING. We are AGAINST ANY FALL TURKEY SEASON. The numbers indicate that there is a less than 35% "success" rate. Why are you allowing a turkey hunting season when there are so few out there anymore? Does the research not tell you this should be put on hold until they increase in numbers?

Other

Paul St.Pierre

Brookings SD

Position: other

Comment:

YST MEMBERS SHOULD GET FREE ACCESS TO THE PISCKTOWN SWIMMING AREAS.

Lynn Bruguier

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Sandra Knudsen

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Support YST and access, use of river.

Markayla Yellow Horse

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Andrea Archambeau

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

As a tribally enrolled member we are the original owners of this land, we should be given unlimited free access for eternity. This is our home. Visitors should have to pay if they want access and have no right to comment on whether we gain free access or not.

Randy Schmiesing

Chokio MN

Position: other

Comment:

canceling road side survey for pheasants is wrong step I wont hunt pheasants in SD with it gone

Dear Managers

Hiding your pheasants numbers will discourage new out of state hunters from coming to state. Most people want to know if they are wasting their time in going to an area that has no Pheasants. I was talking to person who only has limited amount of vacation time for hunting and said he isnt blindly going to south dakota picking a spot to hunt and waste his time.

I am a conservationist who believes how do you fix a problem . know the facts and change your habitat problem.

Not Bury your heads in the sand.

Are you going to get rid of the water fowl numbers next. I wont hunt that season if you do that also.

Your money will dry up no out of state hunters

Arnold Veen

Milbank SD

Position: other

Comment:

Hello, Just want to air out a problem with your West river archery deer CF196 access permitting system. The issue is as follows: I hunt the Slim Butt area of the Custer National Forest in which I need a CF196 access permit.

It requires that I buy a West River Archery Deer license before applying which I did.

I then applied for the CF196 access permit and now I received a unsuccessful draw result on my application for CF196.

I now have a West River Archery tag that I can not use for my hunting area of the Slim Butts. Money spent!! This is backwards It should allow hunters to apply for the Access Unit CF196 before buying a tag to keep from spending the money on the Achery Tags that will not allow you to hunt your chosen area in this case Custer National Forest Land (35L).

I assume there is no refunds at this point?

It probably not your problem but I will send this to your dept as well as the GFP commission also.

Thanks for listening.

ArnoldVeen, 14789 482 ave., Milbank, South Dakota, 57252

Dustin Dierks

Sioux Falls SD

Position: other

Comment:

Dear SDGFP,

I think that the Hunt for Habitat raffle is a great idea and opportunity. As a resident of SD, I am hoping to someday have the opportunity to hunt elk in my home state. I have several years of preference points, now which I pay for.

I have a father who passed away last year who had one opportunity in his lifetime to hunt elk in South Dakota, his life-long state of residence. And unfortunately, he drew during the Atlas blizzard year in the Black Hills which significantly altered his plans and life long dream.

However, he never did get the chance to hunt archery elk as he never drew a tag. Hence, I do have concerns with the opportunity you afford non residents in this raffle. For those of us who have tried many years to draw a tag, and who have observed family members do the same over a lifetime, it is difficult to comprehend the opportunity a non resident has to hunt SD elk for a \$20.00 raffle ticket.

I understand the economics involved; however, I do recommend and suggest you reevaluate. In my opinion, the difference of \$10.00 between a resident and non resident raffle opportunity for a cherished South Dakota elk tag is offensive.

Thank you

Dustin Dierks
Sioux Falls SD

Tyra Honomichl

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

It was brought to my attention that native americans should have free access to the river. I was talking to a tribal member and they have valid opinions and feelings. As you know most of the native population dont have a lot of financial resources, so to be able to help them in this way would be good for everyone. It will help build a bridge between cultural difference and build new connections with each other. With everything that is happening today with BLM movement, you would be able to support the movement. Which will also help you bring new visitors to this beautiful area which in turn gives you more business and revenue. I admit I dont know a lot about business but I know if more people visit the more money you yet. This is a win-win situation. Thank you for your time and hope to hear from you soon.

Matthew Provost

Seattle WA

Position: support

Comment:

"As long as the water flows and the grass grows".. We know where our Motherland is.

Would you pay money to visit your birthplace?

Jessi Jo

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Stefanie Morales

Wichita KS

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tasheena Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brenda Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

River Otter Season

John Hopple

Black Hawk SD

Position: support

Comment:

Hello Secretary Hepler, Chairman Jesen an Commissioners.
as President of the South Dakota Trappers Association I speak for our members in supporting the river otter season proposed by GFP. In addition I would like to add the following comments.

This was not asked for by us or proposed by us. I have read the public comments and wanted to address some attacks we have taken. This was a proposal by GFP based on science and experts in wildlife biology. There was no emotion, just facts and figures. GFP has the right to decide seasons and harvest for ALL creatures that fall under its purview. As such this is much the same as setting the west river deer season or antelope season dates and number of tags. Research, facts and figures are used to come to those decisions. It is not made by the hunters but by the experts at GFP who are funded by sportsman's tax dollars. We trust these folks to provide this information on all other species why the backlash for this one animal? Just as some seasons/harvest limits for certain species are changed every year so may the river otter be in future seasons. It is the right of GFP to manage the wildlife and should be so unabated. So in conclusion, Yes the SDTA strongly supports the GFP's decision to establish an otter season based on the information presented by its experts who do these studies and analyzing of facts/figures emotion free every day.

Thank You

John Hopple

SDTA President

Alan Lekness

Sisseton SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Cybele Knowles

Tucson AZ

Position: oppose

Comment:

Attached please find 282 comments from supporters of the Center for Biological Diversity urging you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. Thank you for your attention.

Steven Peterson

Ramona SD

Position: support

Comment:

Having an otter season for the outdoorsmen of South Dakota is a great step forward. The otter population in the state has grown significantly and steadily since their first release. I have been trapping in South Dakota for 47 years. The opportunity to catch my first otter in the state would be a unforgettable experience.

Vince Logue

Oelrichs SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am the president of the WSDFHA and our membership is between 175 and 200 members. I am supporting this proposal for the season on river otter. I believe it is vital as a viable control plan to manage the increase in the river otter population in South Dakota.

Kelsey Vig

Opal SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of a river otter season as a plan ready in place to help manage a balanced habitat for fish populations. Wildlife management is crucial for the health of all species.

Jacob Helms

Reva SD

Position: support

Comment:

I think trapping the River otters would be beneficial not only for the state but also the public. We have to control the numbers or the population will get way out of hand and once it's out of hand it's hard to come back from that.

Katie Helms

Reva SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am a firm believer in keeping animals at a controllable level.

Kathleen Schmidt

Nemo SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

There are so few otters in the Black Hills that there they should be protected for the future. There should be no trapping season on these wonderful little creatures. Please let them live so that they may increase in numbers so we do not lose this endangered species.

Brian Gundvaldson

Egan SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in full support of season. I believe we have the otters and would be nice if trappers could keep the incidentals that are already being caught, and use the resource to it's full potential.

Vickie Hauge

Deadwood SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am writing to question why there is a trapping season for the River Otter in the West of the Missouri River? We have not seen the otter here since 2018. I do also question The GFP management reasoning when their estimate of possibly 40 Otters in the whole state of South Dakota. 40 is a very small number & when they are trapped out, so you introduce them back so that 10 years later, they get trapped again? Our Otters are being killed accidentally in traps that are set out for other animals all ready. The methods used to count these endangered animals is in my view, leaves much to be desired. Really not knowing if there are even 40 out there, it would be prudent for you to stop this trapping season all together. The trappers in South Dakota are given what ever they want & the non trappers who are amazed by these beautiful creatures in our state, have to live with it. Do you represent all South Dakotans? I think not!
Please reconsider this & show is that we are all being represented by you.

Thank you.

Vickie Hauge
Deadwood

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk, SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society
Black Hawk, SD

Dear GFP Commission

We are attaching our first letter in opposition to the northern river otter trapping season. Our first letter discusses how the otter delisting was done illegally, due to violation of public notice requirements. You would be tiering a trapping season to an illegal delisting rule and we advise against doing that.

We are also attaching 5 documents to our letter - These attachment's will include

1. Native Sun News Article on River Otters
2. 2006 Public Notice of December's GFP Commission Meeting
3. 2020 Public Notice of May's GFP Commission Meeting
4. List of Statutes for Chapter 1-26
5. List of Statutes for Chapter 34A-8

However your portal only allows one attachment per comment, thus I must use 5 postings to attach 5 attachments.

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk, SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am submitting an attachment to our first letter

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk, SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

I am submitting an attachment to our previous letter

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk, SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

I am submitting attachments to our first letter.
One at a time

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk, SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

I am submitting attachments to our first letter

Nancy Hilding

Black Hawk SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

We are submitting our first comment letter on the river otter trapping season. I thought I had sent it already, but I have not yet gotten a receipt for it, thus for safety I send it again.

This is a comment letter discussing how the delisting of the river otter was done illegally, as you did not provide the required 30 days public notice. We think it improper to tier a trapping season to an illegal delisting rule. This letter has 5 attachments. We already sent 4 of them and got receipts for those. We could not successfully send a 5th attachment, so we e-mailed it to Rachel Comes. The attachments are about

1. Native Sun News Article on River Otters
2. 2006 Public Notice of December's GFP Commission Meeting
3. 2020 Public Notice of May's GFP Commission Meeting
4. List of Statutes for Chapter 1-26
5. List of Statutes for Chapter 34A-8

Wendy Luedke

Lead SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am against otter delisting & the delisting was not done procedurally (inadequate public notice)

2. I would like otter season to be postponed until we have a higher number of otters in SD & otters are recovered in both east & west river.

3. I would like the trapping area be limited to a smaller area and not apply to west river and not apply along the Missouri River.

4 There should be West River otter reintroduction project(s), especially to La Creek NWR before any West River trapping.

5. Otters are killed accidentally in beaver, raccoon and mink traps. As a result the beaver trapping season in West River should be shortened.. The current West River season - except Black Hills - is 365 days, East River season is 6 months. The Black Hills Season is 3 months. The reason for this longer west river season is alleged that West River ranchers complain more about "conflict" beavers. Why not require them to apply for permit to take a "conflict" beaver, as provided in SDCL 41-8-23, rather than have year long trapping?

6. All beaver traps that are not set during an otter season, should have the trip wire off to the side, rendering them less likely to incidentally take otter.

7. Any otter taken by humans..incidental trapping, vehicle kills, be counted against the next season's "harvest limit".

8. The 2020 SD Otter Management Plan...has inadequate information in it.

9. The wildlife watchers, photographers & hikers make up a much larger sector of the population and their wildlife enjoyment should be considered and given respect by SD GFP. And enough otters should be kept to expand to West River . Please recognize that viewing otters provides the benefits to quality of life for residents and reasons to visit for tourists.

10. I would like an actual otter monitoring plan in place before beginning otter trapping, this has not been done yet.

11. In doing so, you should ask for consultation with SD Tribes and USFWS.

Julie Anderson

Rapid City SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

To: SDGF&P regarding 2020-2029 River Otter Management Plan

I object to this plan because of the reason for its inception, which is to pay trappers for the pelts of the otters inadvertently killed in beaver traps. The population does not warrant delisting, nor are the population numbers given reliable. GF&P admits monitoring otters is difficult, and a better system will eventually be developed. A reliable monitoring system should be established before any thought is given to delisting. There should also be efforts made to prevent otters from falling victim to beaver traps by moving the trap trigger. This would alleviate the need for delisting in the first place. To subject otters to excruciating pain and suffering and risk the extinction of the species in this state to put money into the pockets of a few is cruel, foolhardy and unnecessary.

The time and opportunity has come for this agency to address the majority of people who want to see wildlife in their natural habitat. SDGF&P should scrap the current plan in favor of creating and establishing a river otter tour. This is a much more profitable endeavor, as people love to watch otters, and current tours in other states charge from \$100 to \$150 per person. This would also open up opportunities for professional photography tours as well, which could bring in additional revenue. This would also provide a chance to study the river otter and its population numbers in depth, and at the same time become a reliable source of income. River Otter tours would also spur growth in the state's tourism industry by providing new jobs.

Please take this opportunity to move this agency into a new direction that will provide economic sustainability and find a whole new group of people wanting to experience South Dakota's rich wildlife heritage.

Thank You,

Julie Anderson
845 Virginia Lane
Rapid City, SD
57701

Nancy Hilding

Rapid City SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

I am attaching our second letter on the proposed river otter trapping season

Use of Parks and Public lands

Lisa Arrow

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Agnes Nelson

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

Should have free access to the River and Fishing.

Shavonne Flying Hawk

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of the Yankton Sioux being able to utilize the Parks on the reservation. If it wasn't for the Pick Sloan Act, we would still be living by the water. Allowing our people access to lands that have been given by treaty, is vital to our nation. We already have "free" access to the Pipestone Quarry. We just show our tribal ID. I think we should only have to show tribal ID to access these areas.

Amelia Parry

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Elliott Rainbow

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support this option

Merna Hare

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I'm in favor of waving fees to Yankton Sioux Tribal members.

Sasheen Thin Elk

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in Support of the fee waiver, because we never gave up our treaty rights. I am in support of Yankton Sioux Tribe members having the fees waived. For our tribal members, Land is more than just ground beneath our feet. We try and protect our land and water, not for us but for future generations. We have strong ties to our land and have remained resilient even when our own lands were taken from us. Conflicts over the use and ownership of Native lands are not new. Land has been at the center of virtually every significant interaction between Natives and non-Natives since the earliest days of European contact with the indigenous peoples of North America. By the 19th century, federal Indian land policies divided communal lands among individual tribal members in a proposed attempt to make them into farmers. The result instead was that struggling tribes were further dispossessed of their land. In recent decades, tribes, corporations, and the federal government have fought over control of Native land and resources in contentious protests and legal actions, This would be a good step forward for all people's involved.

George Cournoyer Jr

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

We never gave up our treaty rights to the river

Lois Weddell

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the waiver of fees for members of the Yankton Sioux Tribe in our local state parks at Pickstown, SD due to the fact that they were built on our tribal lands, our people were displaced due to the construction of that dam and we have never wavered in declaring our right to fish and hunt on our part of the river.

Patti Mattus

Wsgner SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Misty Bruguier

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of having entrance fees waived for YST members. It feels good that this idea would even be considered & like with anything nowadays there will either be supportive opinions or rotten ones. I will be more than appreciative or thankful if this passes.

Charles Hopkins

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Summer Zephier

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Etraya Olson

Vermillion SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Ronald Knudsen Jr

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

Let us have our water rights free fishing swimming anything to do with the water

Elizabeth Hughes

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jenna Leibel

Wagner SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Julie Weddell

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

As a member of the Yankton Sioux tribe, it has always been important to take my kids to the river and teach them its importance in our culture. Having full, open access would allow all tribal members more of an opportunity to teach our kids and to strengthen our connection with the river.

Sandra Anderson

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

The treaties should be honored.

Ryan Knudsen

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Mike Marshall

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

In support of Yankton Sioux tribe members having fees waived

Jaymie Phillips

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Yankton Sioux Tribal members fee waived for parks.

Celeste Reynolds

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Maria Rivas

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

In support of having the fees waived for Yankton sioux members. This is native land we're in support of. We should have never been charged a fee!

Lindsey Morrow

Flandreau SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support having fees waved for all tribal members.

Donis Drappeau

Vermillion SD

Position: support

Comment:

I definitely support waiving fees for Yankton Sioux tribal members, of which I am an enrolled member.

Destiny Holiday

Dante SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Ernest Neault LII

Ravinia SD

Position: support

Comment:

I lived in this area all my life and i feel and believe it is only fair for you to let our yankton sioux tribal members use our river with cost out of our pockets .. Do to the fact that we have fought and lost many battles over land and jurisdiction with the government and. Because of that many people lost their land and homes, this river is like a piece of our home our living our way of food and enjoyment .. Why would you make us pay for what was already in our lives before this border war of our land and rivers . just to put my coin in the pocket of the gov.

Nichola Leroy

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Support Yankton Sioux Tribe having the fee

Bethann Standing Cloud

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

My family enjoys going to the river, we always pick up trash after ourselves and other trash that was left. We love fishing and swimming.

Becky Monnens

Hermosa SD

Position: support

Comment:

Support YST members having fees waived. Uphold their treaty rights to the river.

Mary Kurniawan

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Support Yankton Sioux Tribal members use of public lands without need of a licence.

Paula Packard

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Allowing Yankton Sioux Tribe free access to parks n recreational areas

Andrew Wood

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

The free access of the SD Parks and Recreation, would give the Yankton Sioux people, great advantages of recreation, physical, mental enjoyment to share with their children.

Donald Necklace

Wagner SD

Position: other

Comment:

I am a Yankton Sioux member and I feel members should be able to have full access to the parks and recreation at anytime. We should have the fee waived because we never gave up the Treaty Rights to our river. Should include fishing and camping.

Aiyana Jack

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of Yankton Sioux Tribe members having the fees waived for fishing and hunting.

Gordena Hare

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

In favor of.. thank you.

Cecily Engelhart

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

In support of Yankton Sioux tribal members having fees waived, as we have never surrendered our treaty rights to access the river. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Lonnie Provost

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

this land was taken from my people to built the dam. The excess land was originally suppose to go back to my people. But of course that didn't happen & now we are required to pay for access to the river. I fully support that tribal members get free access to the river to fish or other recreational activities. Honor our rights. Honor the treaties.

Debbie White

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I feel it would be beneficial to have a lifeguard on duty at specific beaches, such as St. Francis beach, to assist or provide comfort for those less educated on water safety. I also think boats should not be allowed to Shore dock a boat within designated swim areas.

Chelaine Knudsen

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am strongly in favor of Tribal members gaining free access to the Missouri river to exercise freely the inherent rights such as fishing & swimming as they were/are the original inhabitants of these lands. These lands were forcefully taken from them. Tribal members were removed of their family plots, their ancestral hunting & fishing grounds, and relocated for the use of the Fort Randall Dam and parks. At minimum, Tribal members should be allowed to utilize them for free. At the very minimum they should be allowed to fish & swim in the same river that their ancestors once relied on for survival. At the very minimum, we should give them the access to that connection, free of charge.

Chauncey Clark

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jason Smith

Lake Andes SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Melissa Sanchez

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Candace Dvorak

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of Yankton Sioux tribal members gaining free access to the SD state parks and such.

Jessica Little

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

I strongly support the use of water rights as they were lhanktonwan lands before parks were even here. We as Indigenous people have the right to swim, fish and camp on our lands for free.

Tara St Pierre

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Our lands were taken away from us and we were forced to be on a specified location. If we cannot utilize our own land that was our originally to begin with we shoaled at least get free access to it. Our ancestors, our land and our rights are things that got stripped away from us, allow us to at least not have to pay to access our own land.

Sara Williamson

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Marissa Cournoyer

Brookings SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Blaine Bruguier

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Ray Diaz

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

It is our land and we should not have to pay for fishing,camping,swimming,boating ,etc.

Justina Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

Its on tribal land why arent we allowed to fish for free or or any recreational activity. Some of us depend on that meat because its expensive in stores.

Olivia Good Cane Milk

Springfield SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Vikki Eagle Bear

Norris SD

Position: support

Comment:

I strongly support free access to the Missouri River for all state residents.

Ronald Sully

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please WAIVE the fee for tribal members...

Alexis Rouse

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jewel Shears

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kathleen Bernie

Lawrence KS

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Victoria Holiday

Brookings SD

Position: support

Comment:

Being Native American I feel this should be ine of our rights.

Leah Antelope

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Victoria Johnson

Carthage SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Susan Doren

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

We should be able to access our own land without fees I remember growing up we didnt have to pay

Sherry Hare

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I love going to the parks in pickstown, I support the free entry for Yankton Sioux tribal members

Micki Gallegos

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Wayne Frederick

Winner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support that all Tribally enrolled members have free access to parks areas as is we never relinquished that right and to be charged for it is absurd.

Deonne Tibbetts

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Summer Lunderman

White River SD

Position: support

Comment:

Enrolled Tribal Members should be allowed to have free access to all state parks and public lands.

Michael Williams

Piedmont SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Dustie Arpan

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Fawn Fields

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in support of Yankton Sioux tribal members having waived fees for use of parks.

Natalie Johner

Winner SD

Position: support

Comment:

With our treaty rights we should have free use and access to Parks and Public Lands.

Eileen Lafferty

Mission SD

Position: other

Comment:

Native Americans be allowed access with no fee at any time.

Brian Tibbetts

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Carmelita Means

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Whitney Jones

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

As An Enrolled Tribal member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe I say we should not have to pay to utilize these facilities

Tanya Haskell

Okreek SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support Native Americans having free access to all state parks and state land.

Michelle Aungie

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Native Americans should be able to access the rivers and parks. There are willows growing for inipis (sweats) and many medicines for health and wellness, not to mention fishing. Thank you

Valene Hawk

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brian Tibbetts

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Deonne Tibbetts

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

In favor of Tribal members gaining free access to the Missouri river.

Brian Tibbetts

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

In favor of Tribal members gaining free access to the Missouri river.

Santana Gravatt

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am strongly in favor of tribal members gaining free access to the Missouri River as they are original inhabitants of these lands.

Hillary Hare

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Dave Cournoyer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Marianne Decora

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lilyann Bechen

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

I believe native Americans enrolled in any Tribal affiliation should have free access into the parks.

Marisa Joseph

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

As a lifelong resident, and member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe, I feel that free access is highly beneficial for all. We utilize the river in not only recreational/ entertainment ways, but also in conducting ceremonies, etc there. We have a bloodline connection to the river. There is a deep and sad history our previous generations lived through, as the dam was built. We remember the sacredness and connection to our relatives. It's a step forward to acknowledge the history of the area, and to understand the river is not just for fun and enjoyment, it's also a place where we pray.

Shirley Lacourse Jaramillo

Albuquerque NM

Position: support

Comment:

I support free park access for enrolled Tribal members.

Darrell Gunhammer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Latasha Hrdlicka

Delmont SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lionel Rich

Lawrence KS

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Maria Gravatt

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Hehaka Akichita Elk Soldier

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Sarah W. Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in favor of Tribal members being able to utilize the Missouri River as they are among the original inhabitants of these specific lands. It is absurd that they should have to pay for something that is their inherent right.

Jonita Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Adrienne Zephier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

Native Americans should be able to access the river for free

Seanne King-Mosley

Canistota SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the free and unrestricted use of all public parks, camping, fishing, and hunting lands by Native American members in accordance with our treaty rights. There are several Supreme Court cases that already back up these rights. Honor them.

Gregory Drapeau

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tessa St. Pierre

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Allison Renville

Sisseton SD

Position: support

Comment:

This is indian land, we shouldn't be required to pay to use it.

Lacy Lapointe

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

Native Americans should have free access to parks and public lands

Jade Arrow

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I feel the natives should get in free to the rivers

Bethany Siers

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am a tribal member and the use of these parks and lands were originally here for everyone to use for free. It is only right for tribes to enjoy the parks and land for no cost after the Indigenous lands were taken over and claimed by foreigners.

Geneva Kazena

Pickstown SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Chris Snow

Omaha NE

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Misty McBride

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please uphold treaty rights and let us have free access to the river.

Teri St. Pierre

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

Although I am Native American, I still oay for my permits because they are not that expensive at all and the second vehicle is at a discount price. I dont mind help funding whatever the money goes to. You guys rock!!

Larry Archambeau

Chamberlain SD

Position: support

Comment:

I strongly support the proposed rule change allowing Yankton Sioux Tribal members use of there land, without fee or licensing, taken for the creation of the Ft. Randall Dam and reservoir.

Jaime Young

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lyla Dion

Greenwood SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Darius Honomichl

Chamberlain SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Heather Miller

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Darci Bultje

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

.

Isabel Bernie

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jalen Bernie

Wagner SD

Position: other

Comment:

I think the Yankton Sioux tribal members should have free access to the river for recreational and fishing/hunting purposes. The river was not only a route for travel but also ceremonial purposes and food.

Tara Roaneagle

Lakeandes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Mara Spitzer

Spokane WA

Position: oppose

Comment:

I support parks being open and free and oppose shutting parks to public

Bryan Joseph

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jennifer Noteboom

Pickstown SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the waiving of usage fees for Yankton Sioux Tribal Members.

Marisa Cummings

Sioux City IA

Position: support

Comment:

Tribal members have the right to harvest and practice ceremonies on their historical and treaty lands. The state of South Dakota exists as a result of treaties. Therefore, you must honor them.

Patty Blagburn

Sacramento CA

Position: support

Comment:

Support so me and my family are able to use without any cost to them or me. Please consider opening the parks and land for all to use. Should be a right without a cost. Please consider and support.

Jennifer Veilleux

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am writing in support of free Tribal Enrolled Access to all State Parks - and you should consider reparations. Charging any enrolled member a fee to enter their homelands protected by treaty is a violation of Federal Law.

Gail Hubbeling

Greenwood SD

Position: support

Comment:

Because of violations of Treaties with the Yankton Sioux/Ihanktonwan Dakota and continued violations of these treaties, this is one step of ratifying what the United States really owes our People, we were promised free electricity for our People while they were being flooded out of their homes, and to this day we have never received free electricity, the US government, i.e. the U.S. Corps. of Engineers has never honored our Treaties, once the lands at Pickstown were done in creating the dam, it was to be given back to the Ihanktonwan Nation/Yankton Sioux Tribe but, instead of honoring the treaty, the courts decided to give the lands to the so called city/town of Pickstown. Our People's remains were found along the shores of White Swan, and were desecrated. Imagine, the government said, we're going to take your home and there isn't anything you can do about it, even though there is a treaty/legal document saying this is your home, oh and by the way, if you don't comply with this order, we are going to take your children and if you don't give your children up, we are going to withhold the funds and annuities we promised you in a legal document called a "TREAT"

Savannah Fischer

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Richard Bruguier

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tammy Valdez

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Tribal members should have free access to parks. We still retain all rights to useage of waterways and hunting and fishing. GFP should adhere to our right of useage.

Denise Brooks

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support Tribal members getting park admission free. When the Corp of Engineers built the dam. Many tribal people we're displaced. The burial mounds and cemeteries we're supposed to be moved we all know that didn't work out so well. Let the Non Indian people that were living there in also.

Marcella Uribe

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Becca Redlightning

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

My sisters and I pick up the trash whenever we go swimming or fishing. We respect the land.

Patricia Stricker

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

Clean place...

Candace Jeanotte

Wahpeton ND

Position: support

Comment:

I support the efforts of free access to the Missouri river for native communities sharing the boundaries, because the Picksloane Project did not consider native communities to begin with, as they flooded the native communities to benefit others.

Jay Maynard

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the measure to give Yankton Sioux Tribal members free access to the local park land. I rarely use my passes but each year I purchase at least 2 if not more passes to access the river for those times my children wish to go to the river, or when relatives who are visiting want to go.

Although I would propose a slight raise in Out of State passes for the privilege of using the land , I would be willing to pay even a little more for my own passes to give YST members the right to access land that was historically under their stewardship to begin with.

Sandra Patterson

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Sarah Benton

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

Natives Americans have every right.

Kymmm Gresset

Grangeville ID

Position: support

Comment:

I am a former resident of the Lake Andes community and a 6th generation South Dakotan. I would like to offer my support for the finalization of the proposal to exempt enrolled Yankton Sioux Tribal members and their families from the purchase of park entrance licenses at North Point Recreation Area, Fort Randall South Shore Recreation Area, Randall Creek Recreation Area and Fort Randall Spillway Lakeside Use Area. This exemption provides access to traditional use areas by the YST and provides increased outdoor recreation opportunities that were previously free in the area. I would like to thank the commission for unanimously supporting this proposal.

Although not part of this proposal, I would also urge the commission to consider a different fee structure for South Dakota residents for the annual park pass such as that in Idaho where it is \$10 a year for every registered vehicle. Further, consideration to residents of local communities for fee free access days (or fee free passes) would ensure that residents of local communities have reasonable access to public lands that is not an economic burden within their community. Access to these lands were previously fee free for everyone's enjoyment. I realize that fees help support maintenance and upkeep of these lands, but fees should not be an impediment in the community for simple enjoyment such as swimming, picnicking with your family and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

Mark Soukup

Wagner SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Charon Asetoyer

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the free use/access to the Missouri River for the Yankton Sioux Tribal members. The lands were part of the original Treaty and the Government should honor those agreements. Treaties are the highest law of the land and should be followed not violated. As just seen in the Supreme Court ruling "reaffirming" sovereignty, Justice Neil Gorsuch said, "we hold the government to its word". So should the government in this case as well.

Sarah Benton

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kari Simpson

Rapid City SD

Position: other

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Raven Tiger

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Amy Arrow

Ravinia SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jodi Zephier

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I am in Full Support of Yankton Sioux Tribal members to have access to parks without paying fees and feel it is within our original treaty rights to do.

Loren Lyles

Lawrence KS

Position: support

Comment:

I support waiving the fee for Yankton Sioux Tribal members to have full access to the Missouri River for recreational use and fishing.

Christopher French

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Deshayla Heth

Pickstown SD

Position: support

Comment:

As a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe, I strongly stand with allowing tribal members to freely enter the parks and beaches located on our reservation. The beaches are where we like to enjoy our children's birthday parties. A lot of our tribal members go fishing to provide meals for their families. Some are restricted of doing so because they can't afford to pay the fee each time they want to cast a line into the river. Please give us all an opportunity to enjoy the river, and to fish on our very own lhanktowan lands. Thank you.

Clement Zephier

Marty SD

Position: other

Comment:

It is my position that we as Dakota (native) people should have free use of public parks in America. This position is based upon treaty law and historical land use.

Simone Cournoyer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Pamela Aungie

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

It would be nice to take grand kids down to fish and to just listen to the water and trees when the wind blows.
#STAYINGCONNECTED

Victoria Flying Hawk

Mission SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Solana Fischer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

We have every right...

Florence Hare

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Amelia Knife

Delmont SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Isabelle Knife

Delmont SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Vanessa Hopkins

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

Natives really preparing to take all our lands back. Just trying to keep peace

Wanbdi Fischer

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lashawn Medicine Horn

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Cleo Rouse

Mitchell SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

Save our water and wildlife!

Rachel Fischer

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Lisa Miller

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I believe the parks and areas along the river in question are within the reservation boundaries and any tribal member should be allowed free access. Also, it should not be required for anyone with a tribal ID to have a fishing license as it is an inherent right to provide food and sustenance in order to survive. I know similar areas along the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Sioux tribes, indigenous persons are not required to pay a fee to use river access areas and are not required to have a license to fish. I support indigenous peoples free access and use based on sovereign and inherent rights.

Kenneth St. Pierre

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tina Marks

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I think it's a great idea. Thank you GFP for the consideration!

Anna Perez Selwyn

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

Yankton Sioux tribe land

Pearl Smith

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Jimmy Sanchez

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Support.

Theodore Kranig

Yankton SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Michele Costello

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I agree that we should get free access to the river.

Marcy Joseph

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Daniel Archambeau

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kim F Hawk

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

The land and Missouri River belong to our people, so it's our right to visit the river as needed. We will prosper!!!

Narcisse Shields

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

Considering the fact that the native people have been since the beginning. Why would we not have access to the lands we hunted, the river we drank, bathed and fished from for generations upon generations ago.

Carly Neal

Kenneth MN

Position: support

Comment:

Respect

Synona Drapeaux

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

YST RIVER ACCESS

Jamie Archambeau

Kenneth MN

Position: support

Comment:

Respect

William Turner

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Respect

Heather Rouse

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

We as people of the Ihanktonwan are entitled to free use of OUR MNI SOSE!! We are the people of the Missouri River! Wasicus took everything the least they can do is give us this back! Water is life Mni Wiconi as a Ihanktonwan I'm in full support of getting free PASSES!!!

Karl Archambeau

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

Rights

Roseanne Cooke

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

Rights

Deaja Tilley

Lake Andes SD

Position: other

Comment:

Native people should swim for free for it is our land

Gail Holiday

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Don't know if you can vote twice but if you can't don't remember if I did

Shylah Medicine Horn

Brookings SD

Position: support

Comment:

As the Rivers and Lakes are a part of our Natural habitats, I believe it is only right to let us as Native Americans have free access to our waters. This is something that should never have been taken away from us in the first place. It is bad enough that our Ancestors grave sites were disrespected and there are now park buildings built over them.

Cheyenne Quinn

Sisseton SD

Position: support

Comment:

Tribal Members should be able to have free access to all state parks and state lands to fish-hunt-swim.

Cora Janis

Pine Ridge SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Cleo Rouse

Mitchell SD

Position: support

Comment:

I'm for free swimming and camping!

Sharon Drapeau

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I believe that native Americans should have full free access to the river and it's park's to use for ceremonies, prayers, offerings, celebrations as well as hunting/fishing which are essential to our way of life.

Andrew Fobb

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kimberlee Selwyn

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Be nice to be an enrolled member and be able to access parks free of fees.

Andrea Fischer

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

YST tribal members should have free access to the river. They've been here since the beginning.

Dayla Picotte

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the request for free swimming access for the Yankton Sioux Tribe. It is a way of life and ceremony that we have been doing since the beginning of time. It isn't just a place to swim. It is a healing place, not only for our tribe but everyone. Water is life and we have always respected that connection and relationship.

Pidamiya
Thank you

Dawn King

Pickstown SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Wade Nelson

Brookings SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Laurel Long

Sioux Falls SC

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Pamela Redlightning

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the YST endeavor for free access swimming

Savannah Valdez

Vermillion SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the Yankton Sioux Tribes endeavors for free access to the rivers and parks. It is their way of life and they rely on the land and rivers and take care of the land and rivers.

Angele Blaine

Vermillion SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please waive the fees for the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

Kenneth Honomichl

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I don't believe the State of South Dakota owns the Taken areas on the Yankton Sioux Reservation. I would like the State recognize that this area is saturated with burials and some ancient mounds that were not demolished like the ones in the Picktown town site were. I hope that the State has the moral conviction to right a wrong. You local governments and business people will eventually put a monetary value on these areas and as always destroy the natural beauty of what remains. I would at least request the State to return the Whit Swan area and the Area between St Francis Bay and the Prairie Dog Bay Area. I would like a nature preserve established with on limited cultural activity and primitively camping allowed. Everyone can still access the current areas.

Georgia Holiday

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Byron Standing Could Sr

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

We signed treaties for land and mineral rights and still don't have our treaty land rights to fish swim that's the least you could do if your not going to honor all our rights

Holly Song Hawk

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tregan Rouse

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I believe these are our inherent rights as American Indians to go to these public lands and parks because a lot of them are considered sacred sites and we conduct ceremonies there. The 1851 treaty of fort Laramie defines our boundaries and most of these lands are within the said boundaries. In my opinion everyone should be allowed to access these public lands for free and find a different way to pay for the expenses needed to maintain and operate the parks

Eliza Weddell

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Tila Anderson

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

I think it is a great idea to give the Tribal members free access to something that was once theirs to begin with. It shouldn't even be a question.

Hannah Arrow

Ravinia SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Arlette Rodriguez

Huron SD

Position: support

Comment:

I'm an enrolled member and must have free access to these areas for my tribal members and our families. Your understanding is very much appreciated.

Monica Weddell

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Hayli Gray

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Ward Zephier

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Justin Songhawk

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Franki Espinoza

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

I'm thankful that this issue is bringing some folks' true colors & ugly natures out into the light for everyone to see. We see you!

Morissia Holiday

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

First off there was a treaty and in it was the agreement that tribal members would always have access to hunting ,fishing,ect. Second the land along parts of the river that is now fort Randal was tribal land but was taken when the damn was built. Without an agreement is my understanding.

Calvin Wright

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Terry Bruguier Sr.

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Giselle Weddell

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

David Tolliver

Wagner SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Evaline Arrow

Fort Pierre SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Marquel Holiday

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

Free access for Native Americans to use the parks and rec. areas for free will be good for natives, as we have always used these areas before there was fees.

Paul Gravatt

Lake SD

Position: support

Comment:

I strongly support yankton Sioux tribal members having free access any and all parks

Mandi Knudsen

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

Free access is just a BABY step in the right direction!

Stephanie Cournoyer

Marty SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Monica Drapeau

South Sioux City NE

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Shannon O'Connor

Sioux Falls SD

Position: support

Comment:

As a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe I believe we should have a right to use it. We should have never been charged a fee because Of our treaty rights.

Marie Picotte

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brent Cooke Jr

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Allishia Abdo

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Larry Abdo lii

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Alexander Zephier lii

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Arabella Zephier

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Will Bennett

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I believe that there should be access to all state parks by tribal members without fees. In our area those were their traditional homes and areas, not to mention the treaties signed that granted use rights to the peoples as long as they flow. Furthermore I believe that the county you hold residency you should have free access to the state parks of that county. We provide support and aid to those areas while getting little in return. The parks should be free to the people and I am happy they are starting with the tribe and hope the program expands to all parks and all residents.

Wileen Rouse

Wagner SD

Position: support

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Janell Garcia

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

I fully support the proposal to waive park access fees for Ihanktonwan Tribal members. It's ludicrous to me that Tribal members gave to pay to access their own land and river, especially since these are already rights guaranteed through treaties!

Kandi World Turner

Lake Andes SD

Position: support

Comment:

Supporting the ability of Yankton Sioux Tribe members and their families to access the areas of their own river and lands without paying the State to do so.

CHAPTER 1-26

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND RULES

- 1-26-1 Definition of terms.
- 1-26-1.1 Interim Rules Review Committee created--Composition--Appointments--Terms of office--Vacancies.
- 1-26-1.2 Chair of rules review committee--Schedule of meetings--Compensation of members--Secretary.
- 1-26-1.3 Delegation of duties by director.
- 1-26-2 Agency materials available for public inspection--Derogatory materials.
- 1-26-2.1 Small business impact statements--Content.
- 1-26-2.2 Repealed.
- 1-26-3 Repealed.
- 1-26-4 Notice, service, and hearing required for adoption, amendment, or repeal of rules--Service on interim rules committee--Waiver of service.
- 1-26-4.1 Notice of hearing on proposed rule--Contents--Publication--Mailing.
- 1-26-4.2 Fiscal note submitted with proposed rule--Fiscal note of bureau--Transmitting copies.
- 1-26-4.3 Rule review by Interim Rules Review Committee before filing_ Time limits.
- 1-26-4.4 Time for promulgation of rules after passage of legislative authority.
- 1-26-4.5 Validation of prior notices of hearings--Limitation on enforcement of vested rights affected.
- 1-26-4.6 Notices of intent to adopt emergency rules validated--Time for enforcing rights by reason of error in notice--Recordation of notice prerequisite to suit under § 1-26-4.1.
- 1-26-4.7 Reversion to step in adoption procedure.
- 1-26-4.8 Fee increase in proposed rule--Agency financial resource information--Submission to review committee.
- 1-26-4.9 Authority of Interim Rules Review Committee.
- 1-26-4.10 Resubmission of amended rule to review committee--Hearing not required.
- 1-26-5 Notice of proposed emergency rule--Service--Use of emergency rule adoption procedure.
- 1-26-5.1 Temporary suspension by emergency rule--Reversion of amended rule to original form.
- 1-26-5.2 Repealed.
- 1-26-6 Completion of adoption of rule or change in rules.
- 1-26-6.1 Restriction on incorporation of statutory material.
- 1-26-6.2 Uniform style for rules--Required contents.
- 1-26-6.3 Notice that rules do not conform--Redrafting and filing required.
- 1-26-6.4 Repealed.
- 1-26-6.5 Review by director--Notice to agency of need for change.
- 1-26-6.6 Incorporation by reference to generally available materials--Description--Reference note--Identification of agency and rule.
- 1-26-6.7 Procedure for amendment, suspension or repeal of rules.
- 1-26-6.8 Rules unenforceable until properly adopted.
- 1-26-6.9 Licensing board or commission fees--Criteria and limitation.
- 1-26-6.10 Restriction of licensee's right or privilege to carry or possess pistol prohibited.
- 1-26-7 Records retained--Copies--Public inspection of current rules.
- 1-26-7.1 Agency's statement of reasons for adoption or rejection of rule.
- 1-26-8 Effective date of rules--Emergency rules.
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- 1-26-1. Definition of terms.

Terms used in this chapter mean:

- (1) "Agency," each association, authority, board, commission, committee, council, department, division, office, officer, task force, or other agent of the state vested with the authority to exercise any portion of the state's sovereignty. The term includes a home-rule municipality that has adopted its own administrative appeals process, whose final decisions, rulings, or actions rendered by that process are subject to judicial review pursuant to this chapter. The term does not include the Legislature, the Unified Judicial System, any unit of local government, or any agency under the jurisdiction of such exempt departments and units unless the department, unit, or agency is specifically made subject to this chapter by statute;
- (2) "Contested case," a proceeding, including rate-making and licensing, in which the legal rights, duties, or privileges of a party are required by law to be determined by an agency after an opportunity for hearing but the term does not include the proceedings relating to rule making other than rate-making, proceedings related to inmate disciplinary matters as defined in § 1-15-20, or student academic proceedings under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents;
- (3) "Emergency rule," a temporary rule that is adopted without a hearing or which becomes effective less than twenty days after filing with the secretary of state, or both;
- (4) "License," the whole or part of any agency permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of permission required by law;
- (5) "Licensing," the agency process respecting the grant, denial, renewal, revocation, suspension, annulment, withdrawal, or amendment of a license;
- (6) "Party," each person or agency named or admitted as a party, or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party;
- (7) "Person," all political subdivisions and agencies of the state;
- (8) "Rule," each agency statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law, policy, procedure, or practice requirements of any agency. The term includes the amendment or repeal of a prior rule, but does not include:
 - (a) Statements concerning only the internal management of an agency and not affecting private rights or procedure available to the public;

- (b) Declaratory rules issued pursuant to § 1-26-15;
- (c) Official opinions issued by the attorney general pursuant to § 1-11-1;
- (d) Executive orders issued by the Governor;
- (e) Student matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents;
- (f) Actions of the railroad board pursuant to § 1-44-28;
- (g) Inmate disciplinary matters as defined in § 1-15-20;
- (h) Internal control procedures adopted by the Gaming Commission pursuant to § 42-7B-25.1;
- (i) Policies governing specific state fair premiums, awards, entry, and exhibit requirements adopted by the State Fair Commission pursuant to § 1-21-10;
- (j) Lending procedures and programs of the South Dakota Housing Development Authority; and
- (8A) "Small business," a business entity that employs twenty- five or fewer full-time employees.
- (9) "Substantial evidence," such relevant and competent evidence as a reasonable mind might accept as being sufficiently adequate to support a conclusion.

Source: SDC 1939, § 65.0106; SL 1966, ch 159, § 1; SL 1968, ch 210; SL 1972, ch 8, § 3; SL 1973, ch 264, § 1; SL 1974, ch 16, §§ 1, 2; SL 1975, ch 16, §§ 7, 8; SL 1976, ch 14, §§ 1, 2; SL 1977, ch 13, § 1; SL 1977, ch 14; SL 1980, ch 17; SL 1982, ch 20, § 2; SL 1983, ch 199, § 1; SL 1989, ch 20, § 42; SL 1990, ch 343, § 9A; SL 1992, ch 8, § 3; SL 1995, ch 3, § 2; SL 1996, ch 10, § 1; SL 1996, ch 130, § 15A; SL 1999, ch 6, § 1; SL 2004, ch 20, § 1; SL 2012, ch 7, § 1; SL 2014, ch 73, § 1.

1-26-1.1. Interim Rules Review Committee created--Composition--Appointments--Terms of office--Vacancies.

There is hereby created a legislative committee of six members, no more than four of whom shall be of the same political party, which shall be designated the Interim Rules Review Committee. The committee shall be composed of three members of the Senate to be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and no more than two senators and two representatives shall be of the same political party. Members shall be appointed prior to the adjournment of each regular session in odd-numbered years and shall serve for two-year terms ending at noon on the second Tuesday in January in each odd-numbered year; however, members shall serve until their successors are appointed. Vacancies on the committee shall be filled by the original appointing authority for the remainder of the term. A vacancy shall exist whenever a committee member ceases to be a member of the Legislature.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 1; SL 1975, ch 16, § 9; SL 1983, ch 13, § 1; SL 2005, ch 17, § 1.

1-26-1.2. Chair of rules review committee--Schedule of meetings--Compensation of members--Secretary.

The interim rules review committee shall choose a chair from its members and prescribe its rules of procedure. Meetings of the committee shall be at the call of the chair or a majority of the committee. On or before the first Monday following the last day of the legislative session, the committee and the agencies shall determine a schedule of dates for meetings to be held during the following twelve months. However, the committee is not required to hold a meeting if no proposed rules have been filed pursuant to subdivision 1-26-6(4) prior to the meeting.

The committee shall review all proposed agency rules and make recommendations to the agencies regarding rules and legislation authorizing rules and to the Legislature regarding administrative law. All meetings, regular or special, shall be open to the public and any interested person may be heard and present evidence.

Members of the committee shall be compensated for their attendance at meetings and for time spent in conduct of committee business at rates established by the Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council. The director of the Legislative Research Council, or one or more persons from the director's office, shall act as secretary to the committee, or the committee may employ a secretary.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 2; SL 1974, ch 16, § 3; SL 1989, ch 16, § 1; SL 1990, ch 20, § 1; SL 2000, ch 4, § 3.

1-26-1.3. Delegation of duties by director.

The director may delegate the duties imposed by this chapter to other persons in the Legislative Research Council's office. Each person to whom the duties are delegated has the same power and authority as the director for the purposes of this chapter. The papers specifying the delegation of duties shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 11; SL 1989, ch 16, § 2; SL 2009, ch 9, § 1.

1-26-2. Agency materials available for public inspection--Derogatory materials.

Each agency shall make available for public inspection all rules, final orders, decisions, opinions, intra-agency memoranda, together with all other materials, written statements of policy or interpretations formulated, adopted, or used by the agency in the discharge of its functions. An agency shall hold confidential materials derogatory to a person but such information shall be made available to the person to whom it relates.

Source: SDC 1939, § 55.1203; SL 1966, ch 159, § 2; SL 1972, ch 8, § 4.

1-26-2.1. Small business impact statements--Content.

An agency shall, when submitting any proposed rule that will have a direct impact on small business, prepare an impact statement that includes the following:

- (1) A narrative explanation in plain, easy-to-read language of the effect of the rule on small business, the basis for its enactments, and why the rule is needed;
- (2) An identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the proposed rule;
- (3) The projected reporting and recordkeeping required for compliance with the proposed rule, including the types of professional skills necessary for preparation of the report or record;
- (4) A statement of the probable effect on impacted small business; and
- (5) A description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed rule.

An agency is only required to use readily available information and existing resources to prepare the impact statement.

Source: SL 2004, ch 20, § 2; SL 2006, ch 8, § 1.

1-26-2.2. Repealed by SL 2006, ch 7, § 1.

1-26-3. Repealed by SL 1972, ch 8, § 36.

1-26-4. Notice, service, and hearing required for adoption, amendment, or repeal of rules--Service on interim rules committee--Waiver of service.

The following notice, service, and public hearing procedure shall be used to adopt, amend, or repeal a permanent rule:

- (1) An agency shall serve a copy of a proposed rule and any publication described in § 1-26-6.6 upon the departmental secretary, bureau commissioner, public utilities commissioner, or constitutional officer to which it is attached for the secretary's, commissioner's, or officer's written approval to proceed;
- (2) After receiving the written approval of the secretary, commissioner, or officer to proceed, the agency shall serve the director with a copy of: the proposed rules; any publication described in § 1-26-6.6; the fiscal note described in § 1-26-4.2; the impact statement on small business described in § 1-26-2.1; and the notice of hearing required by § 1-26-4.1. The copy of these documents shall be served at least twenty days before the public hearing to adopt the proposed rules. Any publication described in § 1-26-6.6 shall be returned to the agency upon completion of the director's review and retained by the agency. Also, twenty days before the public hearing, the agency shall serve the commissioner of the Bureau of Finance and Management with a copy of: the proposed rules; the fiscal note described in § 1-26-4.2; the impact statement on small business described in § 1-26-2.1; and the notice of hearing required by § 1-26-4.1;
- (3) The agency shall publish the notice of hearing in the manner prescribed by § 1-26-4.1, at least twenty days before the public hearing;

- (4) After reviewing the proposed rule pursuant to § 1-26-6.5, the director shall advise the agency of any recommended corrections to the proposed rule. If the agency does not concur with any recommendation of the director, the agency may appeal the recommended correction to the Interim Rules Review Committee for appropriate action;
- (5) The agency shall afford all interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit amendments, data, opinions, or arguments at a public hearing held to adopt the rule. The hearing may be continued from time to time. The agency shall keep minutes of the hearing. A majority of the members of any board or commission authorized to pass rules must be present during the course of the public hearing;
- (6) If the authority promulgating the rule is a secretary, commissioner, or officer, the agency shall accept written comments regarding the proposed rule for a period of ten days after the public hearing. If the authority promulgating the rule is a part-time citizen board, commission, committee, or task force, each interested person is required to submit written comments at least seventy-two hours before the public hearing. The seventy-two hours does not include the day of the public hearing. The written comments may be submitted by mail or email. The record of written comments may be closed at the conclusion of the public hearing. However, the hearing may be specifically continued for the purpose of taking additional comments;
- (7) After the written comment period, the agency shall fully consider all amendments, data, opinions, or arguments regarding the proposed rule. A proposed rule may be modified or amended at this time to include or exclude matters which were described in the notice of hearing; and
- (8) The agency shall serve the minutes of the hearing, a complete record of written comments, the impact statement on small business, the fiscal note, the information required in § 1-26-4.8, and a corrected copy of the rules on the members of the Interim Rules Review Committee at least five days before the agency appears before the committee to present the rules.

The time periods specified in this section may be extended by the agency. The requirement to serve the committee in subdivision (8) may be waived by the committee chair if the agency presents sufficient reasons to the committee chair that the agency is unable to comply with the time limit. The waiver may not be granted solely for the convenience of the agency.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 3; SL 1972, ch 8, § 5; SL 1974, ch 16, § 4; SL 1975, ch 16, § 10; SL 1975, ch 18; SL 1976, ch 15, § 1; SL 1976, ch 27, § 2; SL 1977, ch 13, § 3; SL 1978, ch 13, § 1; SL 1979, ch 8, § 1; SL 1981, ch 8; SL 1986, ch 20, § 1; SL 1989, ch 16, § 3; SL 1996, ch 11, § 1; SL 1997, ch 10, § 1; SL 1998, ch 9, § 1; SL 2001, ch 11, § 1; SL 2002, ch 15, § 1; SL 2004, ch 20, § 3; SL 2005, ch 18, § 1; SL 2009, ch 9, § 2; SL 2017, ch 7, § 2.

1-26-4.1. Notice of hearing on proposed rule--Contents--Publication--Mailing.

The notice of a public hearing of an agency's intent to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule shall be published in a manner selected to notify persons likely to be affected by the proposed rule. At a minimum the notice of the public hearing shall be published in at least three newspapers of general circulation in different parts of the state. The provisions of chapter 17-2 do not apply to notices required by this section.

The notice of a public hearing or the notice of intent to adopt an emergency rule shall be mailed to each person who has made a timely request of the agency for advance notice of its rule-making proceedings. A notice of hearing or a notice of intent to adopt emergency rules shall contain a narrative description of the effect of the proposed rule and the reasons for adopting the proposed rule. A notice of hearing shall also state where and when the hearing will be held, how amendments, data, opinions, and arguments may be presented, the deadline to submit written comments, and how the public may obtain copies of the proposed rule.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 6; SL 1975, ch 16, § 13; SL 1976, ch 15, § 2; SL 1977, ch 13, § 5; SL 1978, ch 13, § 2; SL 1984, ch 9, § 1; SL 1986, ch 20, § 2; SL 2009, ch 9, § 3; SL 2017, ch 7, § 3.

1-26-4.2. Fiscal note submitted with proposed rule--Fiscal note of bureau--Transmitting copies.

An agency shall, when submitting any proposed rule except an emergency rule, include a fiscal note. The fiscal note shall state what effect, if any, the proposed rule will have on the revenues, expenditures, or fiscal liability of the state or its agencies and subdivisions. The fiscal note shall include an explanation of how such effect, if any, was computed.

The Bureau of Finance and Management shall prepare its own fiscal note and serve it on the agency, the director and the cochairmen of the Joint Appropriations Committee prior to hearing. If a proposed rule has a negative fiscal impact on a political subdivision, the agency shall direct the bureau to transmit a copy of the bureau's fiscal note to the South Dakota Municipal League, the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, and the South Dakota County Commissioners Association, prior to the hearing.

Source: SL 1975, ch 15; SL 1976, ch 15, § 3; SL 1977, ch 15; SL 1983, ch 5, § 1; SL 1989, ch 16, § 4.

1-26-4.3. Rule review by Interim Rules Review Committee before filing--Time limits.

No permanent rule may be filed with the secretary of state without the review of the rule by the Interim Rules Review Committee. No permanent rule may be filed with the secretary of state if more than sixty days have passed from the date the Interim Rules Review Committee adopts a motion that the rule-making process is complete. No emergency rule may be adopted if more than thirty days have passed from the date the notice of intent to adopt an emergency rule was published in the manner prescribed in § 1-26-4.1.

Source: SL 1975, ch 16, § 14; SL 1987, ch 23; SL 1989, ch 16, § 5; SL 1991, ch 12; SL 1996, ch 11, § 2; SL 2000, ch 4, § 1; SL 2016, ch 12, § 1.

1-26-4.4. Time for promulgation of rules after passage of legislative authority.

If an act of the Legislature, which becomes effective on the date set by § 2-14-16, contains an authorization for an agency to promulgate rules, the agency may perform the acts specified in § 1-26-4 or 1-26-5 any time after the Governor has signed the act containing the authorization to promulgate rules. However, the rules do not become effective until the act authorizing the agency to promulgate rules is effective.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 4; SL 1986, ch 20, § 4; SL 1989, ch 17.

1-26-4.5. Validation of prior notices of hearings--Limitation on enforcement of vested rights affected.

All notices of hearings on the adoption of rules made prior to July 1, 1984, are hereby in all respects legalized and validated. If a person has a vested right in any real or personal property by reason of an error in a notice or an error in the method of giving a notice referred to in this section, and if no action or proceeding to enforce such right was commenced prior to July 1, 1985, such right shall be forever barred. An action or proceeding involving real property may not be brought or maintained in a court of this state unless a notice of such action, made in accordance with chapter 15-10, was recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the affected real property is located prior to July 1, 1985.

Source: SL 1984, ch 9, § 3.

1-26-4.6. Notices of intent to adopt emergency rules validated--Time for enforcing rights by reason of error in notice--Recordation of notice prerequisite to suit under § 1-26-4.1. .

All notices of intent to adopt emergency rules made prior to March 14, 1985, are hereby in all respects legalized and validated. If a person has a vested right in any real or personal property by reason of an error in a notice or an error in the method of giving a notice referred to in subdivision 1-26-4(2), and if no action or proceeding to enforce such right was commenced prior to July 1, 1986, such right is forever barred.

An action or proceeding brought pursuant to § 1-26-4.1 involving real property may not be brought or maintained in a court of this state unless a notice of such action, made in accordance with chapter 15-10, was recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the affected real property is located prior to July 1, 1987.

Source: SL 1986, ch 20, § 3.

1-26-4.7. Reversion to step in adoption procedure.

The Interim Rules Review Committee may require an agency to revert to any step in the adoption procedure provided in § 1-26-4 if, in the judgment of the committee:

- (1) The substance of the proposed rule has been significantly rewritten from the originally proposed rule which was not the result of testimony received from the public hearing;
- (2) The proposed rule needs to be significantly rewritten in order to accomplish the intent of the agency;
- (3) The proposed rule needs to be rewritten to address the recommendations or objections of the Interim Rules Review Committee;
- (4) The proposed rule is not a valid exercise of delegated legislative authority;
- (5) The proposed rule is not in proper form;
- (6) The notice given prior to the proposed rule's adoption was not sufficient to give adequate notice to persons likely to be affected by the proposed rule;
- (7) The proposed rule is not consistent with the expressed legislative intent pertaining to the specific provision of law which the proposed rule implements;
- (8) The proposed rule is not a reasonable implementation of the law as it affects the convenience of the general public or persons likely affected by the proposed rule; or
- (9) The proposed rule may impose more than nominal costs upon a unit of local government or school district when the unit of local government or school district may not have sufficient funding to perform the activity required by the proposed rule.

If the committee requires an agency to revert to any step in the adoption procedure pursuant to this section, the time limitations set by chapter 1-26 shall also revert to the same step.

Source: SL 1990, ch 21; SL 2003, ch 17, § 1; SL 2004, ch 21, § 1; SL 2010, ch 8, § 1; SL 2011, ch 10, § 1.

1-26-4.8. Fee increase in proposed rule--Agency financial resource information--Submission to review committee.

If an agency proposes a rule to increase a fee, the agency shall provide information to the Interim Rules Review Committee about the financial resources available to the agency. This information consists of the agency's beginning fund balance, receipts, disbursements, ending fund balance for each of the last two fiscal years and consists of the agency's beginning fund balance, projected receipts, projected disbursements, and ending balance for the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year.

Source: SL 2005, ch 18, § 3.

1-26-4.9. Authority of Interim Rules Review Committee.

The Interim Rules Review Committee may:

- (1) Declare that the rule-making process is complete to the satisfaction of the committee;
- (2) Revert the rule to an earlier step in the rule adoption procedure pursuant to § 1-26-4.7 to consider an amendment to the proposed rule; or
- (3) Move to suspend the proposed rule pursuant to § 1-26-38.

Source: SL 2013, ch 10, § 1.

1-26-4.10. Resubmission of amended rule to review committee--Hearing not required.

If the Interim Rules Review Committee reverts a rule to consider amendments to the proposed rule, the agency may make the amendment and resubmit the rule as amended at the next meeting of the Interim Rules Review Committee. An agency is not required to hold a hearing on an amendment made under this section. If the agency makes the amendment, the amended rule shall be published in the next register.

Source: SL 2013, ch 10, § 2.

1-26-5. Notice of proposed emergency rule--Service--Use of emergency rule adoption procedure.

Prior to the adoption or amendment of an emergency rule, an agency shall publish a notice of intent to adopt an emergency rule in the manner prescribed in § 1-26-4.1 and shall serve on the person specified by subdivision 1-26-4(1), each member of the Interim Rules Review Committee, and the director:

- (1) A copy of the proposed rule, which shall bear a special number to distinguish it from a permanent rule;
- (2) Any publication described in § 1-26-6.6 which shall be returned to the agency upon completion of the director's review and retained by the agency; and
- (3) A statement, with the reasons, that the emergency procedure is necessary: because of imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare; to prevent substantial unforeseen financial loss to state government; or because of the occurrence of an unforeseen event at a time when the adoption of a rule in response to such event by the emergency procedure is required to secure or protect the best interests of the state or its residents.

Any agency may use the emergency rule adoption procedure. However, no agency may use the emergency rule adoption procedure for the convenience of the agency merely to avoid the consequences for failing to timely promulgate rules.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 3; repealed SL 1972, ch 8, § 36; re-enacted SL 1975, ch 16, § 11; SL 1978, ch 13, § 3; SL 1986, ch 20, § 5; SL 1989, ch 16, § 6; SL 1990, ch 22; SL 1997, ch 11, § 1; SL 1998, ch 9, § 3; SL 2003, ch 17, § 2; SL 2006, ch 4, § 3; SL 2009, ch 9, § 4.

1-26-5.1. Temporary suspension by emergency rule--Reversion of amended rule to original form.

A rule may be temporarily suspended, but not repealed, by the adoption of an emergency rule. A rule amended by an emergency rule will revert to its original form ninety days after it has been in effect or at an earlier date if so specified in the rule, unless further amended within that period.

Source: SL 1975, ch 16, § 15; SL 1977, ch 13, § 6.

1-26-5.2. Repealed by SL 1979, ch 8, § 2.

1-26-6. Completion of adoption of rule or change in rules.

The adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is complete when:

- (1) All the requirements of § 1-26-4 have been completed or, if the rule is an emergency rule, three days have passed since all the requirements of § 1-26-5 have been complied with;
- (2) It has been signed by a majority of the members of the multi-member body or by the officer having the authority to adopt it;
- (3) It has been signed by the director;
- (4) A copy has been filed with the director, in a form prescribed by the director to show amendments, deletions, and other changes to existing rules, for use in preparation of copy for the Administrative Rules of South Dakota;
- (5) The rule and a certificate have been filed with the secretary of state. The certificate shall affirm that the rule filed is a true and correct copy of the rule as adopted and that the agency has complied with § 1-26-4 or 1-26-5, and with this section; and
- (6) For a permanent rule, the agency has appeared and presented the proposed rule to the Interim Rules Review Committee.

Certificates required by this section shall be affidavits executed, under oath, by the officers authorized by statute to promulgate the rule. If a rule is promulgated by a multi-member body, the certificate shall be signed by its presiding officer.

Emergency rules are provisionally effective immediately after being filed. Notwithstanding § 15-6-6(a), all other rules are provisionally effective on the twentieth day after being filed, not counting the day of filing. In either case a later effective date may be specified as part of the rules being filed. A rule which is not yet effective or a provisionally effective rule may be suspended in the manner specified by § 1-26-38 any time prior to the first day of July of the year following the year in which it became, or would have become, effective. The rule's provisional status ends at that time, and the rule may not thereafter be

suspended by the rules committee. Unless suspended, a provisionally effective rule shall be enforced by the agency and the courts as if it were not so conditioned.

No rule promulgated after June 30, 1975, is valid unless adopted in compliance with § 1-26-4 or 1-26-5, and this section and copies of the rule are made available to the public upon request, by the agency.

Source: SDC 1939, §§ 55.1203, 65.0106; SL 1966, ch 159, §§ 3, 4 (1); SDCL, § 1-26-7; SL 1972, ch 8, §§ 7, 10, 12; SDCL Supp, § 1-26-6.4; SL 1973, ch 9, § 1; SL 1974, ch 16, §§ 5, 7; SL 1975, ch 16, § 12; SL 1976, ch 15, § 4; SL 1977, ch 13, § 7; SL 1978, ch 13, § 4; SL 1986, ch 20, § 6; SL 1989, ch 16, § 7; SL 1998, ch 9, § 2; SL 2000, ch 4, § 2; SL 2004, ch 22, § 1.

1-26-6.1. Restriction on incorporation of statutory material.

An agency may refer to statute but may not incorporate statutory provisions, other than definitions, in their rules nor publish or distribute statutory material in conjunction with their rules unless required by law or expressly authorized by the Code Commission pursuant to § 2-16-8.1.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 8; SL 1984, ch 10, § 1; SL 1995, ch 14, § 3.

1-26-6.2. Uniform style for rules--Required contents.

The director shall prescribe a uniform style in which rules shall be prepared and the standard form to be used in filing rules pursuant to this chapter. Such form shall contain a provision for a reference to be made by the agency for each rule proposed by it, citing its general authority to promulgate rules and then refer to the section, subdivision, or subsection of statute which the rule is intended to implement, and direct the agency to identify prior rules amended or repealed.

Source: SDC 1939, § 65.0106, 2nd par; repealed SL 1966, ch 159, § 19; re-enacted SL 1972, ch 8, § 9; SL 1989, ch 16, § 8.

1-26-6.3. Notice that rules do not conform--Redrafting and filing required.

The director may notify any agency whose rules are not in the proper style and form. A copy of this notice shall be filed with the secretary of state. One hundred eighty days after an agency receives such notification, the rules of that agency shall be of no further force and effect unless redrafted in the prescribed style and form and filed with the secretary of state and the director.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 9; SL 1989, ch 16, § 9; SL 2009, ch 9, § 5.

1-26-6.4. Repealed by SL 1975, ch 16, § 25.

1-26-6.5. Review by director--Notice to agency of need for change.

The director shall review each rule for compliance with the requirements for form, style, and clarity. The director shall review each rule for legality. The review for legality is a determination that the rule is authorized by the standards provided in the statutes cited by the agency to promulgate the rule. The director shall review the statement of reasons that the emergency procedure is necessary. If the director finds need for change, the director shall make the requirements known in writing to the agency prior to the hearing or within three days in the case of emergency rules.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 11; SL 1973, ch 9, § 2; SL 1974, ch 16, § 6; SL 1975, ch 16, § 18; SL 1986, ch 20, § 7; SL 1989, ch 16, § 10; SL 1990, ch 20, § 2; SL 2009, ch 9, § 6.

1-26-6.6. Incorporation by reference to generally available materials--Description--Reference note--Identification of agency and rule.

An agency may adopt other comprehensive regulations as its own by making reference to them in a rule, but only when the comprehensive regulations are published by an organization which is not part of the state government and only when the publication is generally available to the public at a reasonable cost. A rule which incorporates material by reference shall describe the exact section or portion of the publication which is being incorporated. Immediately following a rule which incorporates published material by reference, other than material contained in the code of federal regulations, the federal register, the United States code or the United States statutes at large, the agency shall place a reference

note which identifies the publication by its title, date of publication, or enactment and author, and which states where the publication may be obtained and its cost, if any. A statement shall be attached to the face of the publication which shall state the agency's name, the section number of the rule which incorporates the material within, and the date the rule was served pursuant to § 1-26-4 or 1-26-5 or filed pursuant to § 1-26-6.

Source: SL 1974, ch 16, § 11; SL 1975, ch 16, § 19.

1-26-6.7. Procedure for amendment, suspension or repeal of rules.

Once a rule has been adopted, it may not be amended, repealed, or suspended except by compliance with § 1-26-4 or 1-26-5, and with § 1-26-6, even if it has not taken effect.

Source: SL 1975, ch 16, § 16.

1-26-6.8. Rules unenforceable until properly adopted.

No agency rule may be enforced by the courts of this state until it has been adopted in conformance with the procedures set forth in this chapter.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 8.

1-26-6.9. Licensing board or commission fees--Criteria and limitation.

If a professional or occupational licensing board or commission is authorized in statute to establish fees by rule and no maximum fee limit is specified, the fees shall be reasonable and necessary to provide enough money to meet the budgetary needs of the licensing board or commission for such things as: per diem, travel expenses, office expense, salaries and benefits, utilities, supplies, testing, licensing, inspections, disciplinary actions, and legal fees. However, the total amount of increase in the fees imposed by a licensing board or commission may not exceed the previous year's budget by more than twenty percent.

Source: SL 1986, ch 21.

1-26-6.10. Restriction of licensee's right or privilege to carry or possess pistol prohibited.

No state agency may adopt or promulgate any rule that restricts any right or privilege to carry or possess a pistol in contravention to authority being exercised in accordance with being licensed to carry a concealed pistol pursuant to chapter 23-7.

Source: SL 2006, ch 5, § 1.

1-26-7. Records retained--Copies--Public inspection of current rules.

Each agency shall keep the original records, documents, and instruments required by this chapter and shall make copies of all records, documents, and exhibits available to members of the Legislature upon request. The secretary of state shall keep a copy of the agency's current rules and the certificates pertaining thereto, which shall be open to public inspection.

Source: SDC 1939, §§ 55.1203, 65.0106; SL 1966, ch 159, § 4 (1); SL 1972, ch 8, § 12; SL 1974, ch 16, § 7; SL 1975, ch 16, § 20; SL 2009, ch 9, § 7.

1-26-7.1. Agency's statement of reasons for adoption or rejection of rule.

Upon adoption of a rule or upon the rejection of a petition filed pursuant to § 1-26-13, an agency, if requested to do so in writing by an interested person either prior to adoption or rejection or within thirty days thereafter, shall issue a written concise statement of the principal reasons for and against the rule's adoption, incorporating therein its reasons for overruling the considerations urged against the rule's adoption or rejection. A copy of the statement shall be served on the members of the Interim Rules Review Committee and the director of the Legislative Research Council.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 3; SDCL, § 1-26-4 (2); SL 1972, ch 8, § 5; SL 1975, ch 16, § 17; SL 1983, ch 5, § 2; SL 1997, ch 12, § 1.

1-26-8. Effective date of rules--Emergency rules.

Each rule is effective twenty days after filing with the secretary of state, except that:

- (1) If a later date is required by statute or specified in the rule, the later date is the effective date;
- (2) Subject to applicable constitutional or statutory provisions, an emergency rule is effective immediately upon filing with the secretary of state, or at a stated date less than twenty days later. No emergency rule may remain in effect for a period of longer than ninety days.

Source: SDC 1939, § 65.0106; SL 1966, ch 159, § 4 (2); SL 1972, ch 8, § 13; SL 1975, ch 16, § 21; SL 1976, ch 15, § 5; SL 2009, ch 9, § 8.

1-26-8.1. Retroactive effect of acts prohibiting certain rules--Repealed or unconstitutional statutes--Effect of transfer of rule-making authority to another agency.

If an act is passed by the Legislature which prohibits an agency from passing rules relating to a certain subject, any prior rule promulgated by that agency relating to that subject shall become void on the effective date of the act.

If a statute which authorizes an agency to pass a rule is repealed, or declared unconstitutional by the South Dakota or United States Supreme Court, any rule which was authorized by that statute is void unless there is another valid statute which also authorized the agency to pass that rule. If an agency's authority to adopt rules is transferred to another agency, and no provision is specified for the disposition of the first agency's rules in the legislation or executive order which made the transfer, the rules of the first agency shall be the rules of the second agency until they are amended or repealed.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 10; SL 1983, ch 5, § 3.

1-26-8.2. Petition for delay in effective date of rule--Grant or denial--Maximum delay--Filings--One delay--Repeal of rule.

After a rule has been adopted and filed with the secretary of state, any person may petition the agency which adopted the rule to delay the effective date of the rule. The petition must be filed with the agency at least ten days prior to the effective date of the rule. The agency must grant or deny the petition, with or without a hearing, within ten days of filing. If the petition is granted, the effective date of the rule may not be delayed more than ninety days. A copy of the petition and a statement of the agency justifying the granting of the petition shall be sent to the chairman of the Interim Rules Review Committee at the time the decision is made. A copy of the statement granting the petition shall be filed with the secretary of state at the time the decision is made.

The effective date of a rule may be delayed only once, and an agency may repeal the rule during the period of the delay.

Source: SL 1979, ch 8, § 5.

1-26-8.3. Retroactive effect of rule--Burden of proving authority or necessity.

If any rule is proposed to have retroactive effect, the burden is on the agency to show that the retroactivity is authorized by law or is necessary to implement new provisions of law.

Source: SL 1985, ch 13.

1-26-9. Transferred to § 1-26A-1.

1-26-10. Repealed by SL 1972, ch 8, § 36.

1-26-11. Pamphlet publication of rules--Supervision.

Each agency promulgating professional or regulatory examining and licensing rules or other rules under this chapter may cause the same, or any portion thereof, to be published in pamphlet form, subject to the supervision of the director regarding style and form and such other limitations of certification.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 15; SL 1989, ch 16, § 11.

1-26-12. Distribution and sale of publications and copies of rules.

Publications and copies of rules authorized under or required by this chapter shall upon request be made available to agencies and officials of this state free of charge and to other persons at prices fixed by the Interim Rules Review Committee to cover mailing and publication costs. An agency may not charge the public for copies of notices or intentions to pass rules required by § 1-26-4.1. The provisions of § 1-8-10 except as to certification do not apply to copies of publications distributed by the secretary of state under this chapter.

Source: SDC 1939, § 65.0106; SL 1966, ch 159, § 5 (4); SL 1972, ch 8, § 16; SL 1977, ch 13, § 9; SL 1983, ch 5, § 4; SL 1984, ch 10, § 3.

1-26-12.1. List of rules and organizational statements.

To assist interested persons dealing with it, each agency which has adopted rules shall make available, either electronically or through paper copy, a list of the agency's rules and a descriptive statement of its central and field organization. This information includes the locations of persons and places from which the public can secure information, make submittals or requests, or obtain decisions.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 17; SL 1975, ch 16, § 23; SL 2009, ch 9, § 9.

1-26-13. Petition for rules--Denial or initiation of proceedings--Copies to Interim Rules Committee and director.

An interested person, other than an inmate as defined in § 1-15-20.1, may petition an agency requesting the promulgation, amendment, or repeal of a rule. The petition shall contain the text or substance of any new rule or amendment sought, the identification of any rule sought to be repealed, reasons for the proposal, and the name and address of the petitioner. Within thirty days after submission of a petition, the agency either shall deny the petition in writing (stating its reasons for the denials) or shall initiate rule-making proceedings in accordance with § 1-26-4. The agency shall serve a copy of any petitions and denials on the members of the Interim Rules Review Committee and the director of the Legislative Research Council.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 6; SL 1972, ch 8, § 18; SL 1975, ch 16, § 24; SL 1997, ch 12, § 2; SL 1999, ch 6, § 2.

1-26-13.1. Service complete when deposited in mail.

Notwithstanding § 15-6-6(e), any service required by §§ 1-26-1 to 1-26-13, inclusive, shall, when performed by mail, be complete when the material to be served is deposited with the United States postal service.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 2.

1-26-14. Declaratory judgment on rules.

The validity or applicability of a rule may be determined in an action for declaratory judgment in the circuit court for the county of the plaintiff's residence, if it is alleged that the rule, or its threatened application, interferes with or impairs, or threatens to interfere with or impair, the legal rights or privileges of the plaintiff. The agency shall be made a party to the action. A declaratory judgment may be rendered whether or not the plaintiff has requested the agency to pass upon the validity or applicability of the rule in question.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 7.

1-26-15. Declaratory rulings by agencies.

Each agency shall provide by rule for the filing and prompt disposition of petitions for declaratory rulings as to the applicability of any statutory provision or of any rule or order of the agency. No inmate as defined in § 1-15-20.1 may petition an agency for a declaratory ruling on the applicability of statutory provisions, rules, or orders of the agency. Rulings disposing of petitions have the same status as agency decisions or orders in contested cases. A copy of all such rulings shall be filed with the director for publication in the Administrative Rules of South Dakota.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 8; SL 1979, ch 8, § 3; SL 1989, ch 16, § 12; SL 1990, ch 20, § 3; SL 1993, ch 19, § 8; SL 1995, ch 8, § 13; SL 1999, ch 6, § 3.

1-26-16. Notice and hearing required in contested cases.

In a contested case, all parties shall be afforded an opportunity for hearing after reasonable notice.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (1).

1-26-16.1. Repealed by SL 1983, ch 7.

1-26-17. Contents of notice in contested cases.

The notice shall include:

- (1) A statement of the time, place, and nature of the hearing;
- (2) A statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held;
- (3) A reference to the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved;
- (4) A short and plain statement of the matters asserted. If the agency or other party is unable to state the matters in detail at the time the notice is served, the initial notice may be limited to a statement of the issues involved. Thereafter upon application a more definite and detailed statement shall be furnished;
- (5) A statement of any action authorized by law, which may affect the parties, as a result of any decision made at the hearing, whether it be the revocation of a license, the assessment of a fine or other effect;
- (6) A statement that the hearing is an adversary proceeding and that a party has the right at the hearing, to be present, to be represented by a lawyer, and that these and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing;
- (7) Except in contested cases before the Public Utilities Commission, a statement that if the amount in controversy exceeds two thousand five hundred dollars or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request to the agency no later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to § 1-26-17;
- (8) A statement that the decision based on the hearing may be appealed to the circuit court and the State Supreme Court as provided by law.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (2); SL 1978, ch 14, § 1; SL 2003, ch 18, § 3; SL 2007, ch 7, § 1.

1-26-17.1. Intervention in contested case by person with pecuniary interests.

A person who is not an original party to a contested case and whose pecuniary interests would be directly and immediately affected by an agency's order made upon the hearing may become a party to the hearing by intervention, if timely application therefor is made.

Source: SL 1978, ch 13, § 5.

1-26-18. Rights of parties at hearings on contested cases--Summary disposition of certain cases.

Opportunity shall be afforded all parties to respond and present evidence on issues of fact and argument on issues of law or policy. However, each agency, upon the motion of any party, may dispose of any defense or claim:

- (1) If the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and a party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law; or
- (2) At the close of the evidence offered by the proponent of the defense or claim if it determines that the evidence offered by the proponent of the defense or claim is legally insufficient to sustain the defense or claim.

A party to a contested case proceeding may appear in person or by counsel, or both, may be present during the giving of all evidence, may have reasonable opportunity to inspect all documentary evidence, may examine and cross-examine witnesses, may present evidence in support of the party's interest, and may have subpoenas issued to compel attendance of witnesses and production of evidence in the party's behalf.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (3); SL 1972, ch 8, § 19; SL 1978, ch 13, § 6; SL 2002, ch 16, § 1.

1-26-18.1, 1-26-18.2. Repealed by SL 1995, ch 8, §§ 14, 15.

1-26-18.3. Request to use Office of Hearing Examiners in certain contested cases.

In any contested case, if the amount in controversy exceeds two thousand five hundred dollars or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request no later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to § 1-26-17. This section does not apply to any contested case before the Public Utilities Commission.

Source: SL 1995, ch 8, § 18; SL 2003, ch 18, § 1; SL 2007, ch 7, § 2.

1-26-19. Rules of evidence in contested cases.

In contested cases:

- (1) Irrelevant, incompetent, immaterial, or unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded. The rules of evidence as applied under statutory provisions and in the trial of civil cases in the circuit courts of this state, or as may be provided in statutes relating to the specific agency, shall be followed. When necessary to ascertain facts not reasonably susceptible of proof under those rules, evidence not otherwise admissible thereunder may be admitted except where precluded by statute if it is of a type commonly relied upon by reasonably prudent persons in the conduct of their affairs. Agencies shall give effect to the rules of privilege recognized by law. Objections to evidentiary offers may be made and shall be noted in the record. Subject to these requirements, when a hearing will be expedited and the interests of the parties will not be prejudiced substantially, any part of the evidence may be received in written form;
- (2) A party may conduct cross-examinations required for a full and true disclosure of the facts;
- (3) Notice may be taken of judicially cognizable facts. In addition, notice may be taken of generally recognized technical or scientific facts within the agency's specialized knowledge. Parties present at the hearing shall be informed of the matters to be noticed, and those matters shall be noted in the record, referred to therein, or appended thereto. Any such party shall be given a reasonable opportunity on request to refute the officially noticed matters by evidence or by written or oral presentation of authority, the manner of such refutation to be determined by the agency.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 10; SL 1972, ch 8, § 20; SL 1985, ch 15, § 9.

1-26-19.1. Administration of oaths--Subpoena powers--Witness fees--Disobedience of subpoena.

Each agency and the officers thereof charged with the duty to administer the laws of this state and rules of the agency shall have power to administer oaths as provided by chapter 18-3 and to subpoena witnesses to appear and give testimony and to produce records, books, papers and documents relating to any matters in contested cases and likewise issue subpoenas for such purposes for persons interested therein as provided by § 15-6-45. Unless otherwise provided by law fees for witnesses shall be as set forth in chapter 19-5 and be paid by the agency or party for whom the witness is subpoenaed.

Failure of a person to obey the subpoena issued pursuant to this chapter may be punished as a contempt of court in the manner provided by chapter 21-34.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 21.

1-26-19.2. Depositions of witnesses.

Each agency and the officers thereof charged with the duty to administer the laws and rules of the agency shall have power to cause the deposition of witnesses residing within or without the state or absent therefrom to be taken or other discovery procedure to be conducted upon notice to the interested person, if any, in like manner that depositions of witnesses are taken or other discovery procedure is to be conducted in civil actions pending in circuit court in any matter concerning contested cases.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 22.

1-26-20. Agreed disposition of contested cases.

Unless precluded by law, informal disposition may be made of any contested case by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order, or default.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (4).

1-26-21. Contents of record in contested cases.

The record in a contested case shall include:

- (1) All pleadings, motions, intermediate rulings;
- (2) Evidence received and considered;
- (3) A statement of matters officially noticed which have been refuted;
- (4) Questions and offers of proof, objections, and rulings thereon;
- (5) Proposed findings and exceptions;
- (6) Any decision, opinion, or report by the officer presiding at the hearing;
- (7) All staff memoranda or data submitted to the hearing officer or members of the agency in connection with their consideration of the case.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (5); SL 1972, ch 8, § 23.

1-26-22. Transcript in contested cases--Minutes in lieu of transcript.

Whenever a party requests in writing that oral proceedings be transcribed, a verbatim record of all proceedings and testimony shall be kept by the agency. Unless otherwise provided by law the agency shall not be required to transcribe the record unless the requesting party tenders and pays the reasonable cost thereof. If transcribed, a copy of the record shall be furnished to any other party to the hearing at the request and expense of such other party. If no verbatim record is transcribed, the agency shall prepare minutes of the hearing. The minutes shall consist of a written summary of the evidence and proceedings.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (6); SL 1972, ch 8, § 24; SL 1978, ch 13, § 7.

1-26-23. Basis for findings in contested cases.

Findings of fact shall be based exclusively on the evidence and on matters officially noticed.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 9 (7).

1-26-24. Tentative or proposed decision served on parties--Contents--Waiver.

When in a contested case a majority of the officials of the agency who are to render the final decision have not heard the case or read the record, the decision, if adverse to a party to the proceeding other than the agency itself, shall not be made until a tentative or proposed decision is served upon the parties, and an opportunity is afforded to each party adversely affected to file exceptions and present briefs and oral argument to the officials who are to render the decision. The tentative or proposed decision shall contain a statement of the reasons therefor and findings of fact on each issue and conclusions of law necessary to the proposed decision, prepared by the person who conducted the hearing or one who has read the record. The parties by written stipulation may waive compliance with this section.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 11; SL 1972, ch 8, § 25.

1-26-25. Form, contents and notice of decisions, orders and findings.

A final decision or order adverse to a party in a contested case shall be in writing or stated in the record. It may affirm, modify, or nullify action previously taken or may direct the taking of new action within the scope of the notice of hearing. It shall include findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated. Findings of fact, if set forth in statutory language, shall be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of the underlying facts supporting the findings. If, in accordance with agency rules, a party submitted proposed findings of fact, the decision shall include a ruling upon each proposed finding. Parties shall be notified either personally or by mail of any decision or order. Upon request a copy of the decision or order shall be delivered or mailed forthwith to each party and to his attorney of record.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 12; SL 1978, ch 13, § 8.

1-26-26. Ex parte communications by agency personnel in contested cases--Investigating officer disqualified from decision making--Authorized communications.

Unless required for the disposition of ex parte matters authorized by law, members of the governing board or officers or employees of an agency assigned to render a decision or to make findings of fact and conclusions of law in a contested case may not communicate, directly or indirectly, in connection with any issue of fact, with any person or party, nor, in connection with any issue of law, with any party or the party's representative, except upon notice and opportunity for all parties to participate. If one or more members of a board or commission or a member or employee of an agency, who is assigned to render a decision in a contested case, took part in an investigation upon which the contested case is based, the member or employee may not participate in the conduct of the hearing nor take part in rendering the decision on the contested case. However, the member or employee may appear as a witness and give advice as to procedure. If, because of the disqualification, there is no person assigned to conduct the hearing or render the decision, the agency shall appoint a person to fulfill those duties. A person assigned to render a decision:

- (1) May communicate with other members of the agency; and
- (2) May have the aid and advice of one or more personal assistants.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 13; SL 1974, ch 16, § 9; SL 1975, ch 17, § 10; SL 2015, ch 4, § 2.

1-26-27. License proceeding treated as contested case.

When the grant, denial, or renewal of a license is required to be preceded by notice and opportunity for hearing, or an applicant, a party or an agency requests a hearing, the provisions of this chapter concerning contested cases apply.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 14 (1); SL 1973, ch 10.

1-26-28. Extension of existing license or right to continue activity extended during renewal or licensing proceedings and for ten days following notice of determination.

If a licensee has made timely and sufficient application for renewal of a license or a new license with reference to any activity of a continuing nature, the existing license, or a right to continue the activity, does not expire until the application has been finally determined by the agency and for ten days following receipt, or failure to accept delivery, of notice of such determination by the licensee.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 14 (2); SL 1988, ch 14, § 1.

1-26-29. Notice and hearing required for revocation or suspension of license--Emergency suspension.

No revocation, suspension, annulment, or withdrawal of any license is lawful unless, prior to the institution of agency proceedings, the agency gave notice by mail to the licensee of facts or conduct which warrant the intended action, and the licensee was given an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of the license. If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively require emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 14 (3).

1-26-29.1. Costs of disciplinary hearing.

After conducting a contested case proceeding that results in discipline or censure of a licensee, suspension or revocation of a licensee's license, or denial of a license to an applicant, a professional or occupational board or commission established pursuant to Title 36 may assess all or part of its actual expenses for the proceeding against the licensee or applicant.

Source: SL 1993, ch 18.

1-26-30. Right to judicial review of contested cases--Preliminary agency actions.

A person who has exhausted all administrative remedies available within any agency or a party who is aggrieved by a final decision in a contested case is entitled to judicial review under this chapter. If a rehearing is authorized by law or administrative rule, failure to request a rehearing will not be considered a failure to exhaust all administrative remedies and will not prevent an otherwise final decision from becoming final for purposes of such judicial review. This section does not limit utilization of or the scope of judicial review available under other means of review, redress, or relief, when provided by law. A preliminary, procedural, or intermediate agency action or ruling is immediately reviewable if review of the final agency decision would not provide an adequate remedy.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 15 (1); SL 1972, ch 8, § 26; SL 1977, ch 13, § 12; SL 1978, ch 13, § 9; SL 1978, ch 15.

1-26-30.1. Right of appeal when agency fails to act in contested case.

The failure of any agency to make and file a decision within a period of thirty days after any matter has been finally submitted to it, entitles a person authorized to appeal from the record then existing as if the decision had been made adversely to him in whole or in part, unless within such time the agency shall make and serve upon all the parties to the record, an order extending such time for an additional period of not to exceed sixty days, which order shall state the grounds or reasons why such extension is necessary. At the expiration of the thirty days or the time to which extended by such order, such person may present to the agency a proposed decision, and if the same is not adopted within five days after presentation for filing, such person may appeal the same as if such proposed decision had been denied. This section does not apply to contested cases determined by the Public Utilities Commission.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4202; SDCL, § 21-33-2; SL 1972, ch 8, § 27; SL 1975, ch 17, § 2; SL 1986, ch 27, § 3.

1-26-30.2. Appeal from final action in contested case.

An appeal shall be allowed in the circuit court to any party in a contested case from a final decision, ruling, or action of an agency.

Source: SL 1975, ch 17, § 1.

1-26-30.3. Conduct of appeals.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all appeals authorized by § 1-26-30.1 or 1-26-30.2 shall be taken and conducted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

Source: SL 1975, ch 17, § 2.

1-26-30.4. Scope of sections on appeals to circuit courts.

The sections of this chapter on appeals to circuit courts shall govern civil appeals to the circuit courts of South Dakota from final decisions, rulings, or actions of agencies pursuant to chapter 1-26.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35.

1-26-30.5. Suspension of sections on appeals to circuit courts.

In the interest of expediting decisions in cases of pressing concern to the public or to litigants, or for good cause shown, the circuit court may suspend the requirement or provisions of these rules on application of a party or on its own motion and may order proceedings in accordance with its direction.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35.

1-26-31. Notice of appeal--Time for service and filing.

An appeal shall be taken by serving a copy of a notice of appeal upon the adverse party, upon the agency, and upon the hearing examiner, if any, who rendered the decision, and by filing the original with proof of such service in the office of the clerk of courts of the county in which the venue of the appeal is set, within thirty days after the agency served notice of the final decision or, if a rehearing is authorized by law and

is requested, within thirty days after notice has been served of the decision thereon. Failure to serve notice of the appeal upon the hearing examiner does not constitute a jurisdictional bar to the appeal.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4208; SL 1966, ch 159, § 15(2); SDCL, § 21-33-5; SL 1972, ch 8, §§ 28, 32; SL 1974, ch 16, § 10; SL 1975, ch 17, § 3; SL 1979, ch 8, § 4; SL 1999, ch 7, § 1; SL 2004, ch 23, § 1. 1-26-31.1. Venue of appeal.

The venue of the appeal is as follows:

- (1) If the appellant is a resident of this state, to the circuit court for the county of the appellant's residence or to the circuit court for Hughes County, as the appellant may elect;
- (2) If the appellant is a nonresident or a foreign corporation, to the circuit court for the county of appellant's principal place of business in South Dakota or to the circuit court for Hughes County as the appellant may elect;
- (3) The parties may stipulate for venue in any county in the state, and the circuit court for such county shall thereupon hear the appeal;
- (4) An appeal from a final decision, ruling, or action rendered by an administrative appeals process adopted by a home-rule municipality shall be appealed to the circuit court in which the home-rule municipality is located.

Appeals from a single administrative action may not proceed in more than one county. If multiple appeals of a single action are filed in more than one county, the appeals shall be consolidated and heard in the county in which the appeal is first filed. If more than one appeal is first filed on the same date and a stipulation among the parties as to venue cannot be reached, the venue of the appeal is in the circuit court for Hughes County.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4207; SDCL § 21-33-7; SL 1975, ch 17, § 5; SL 1983, ch 8, § 1; SL 2004, ch 24, § 1; SL 2012, ch 7, § 2.

1-26-31.2. Contents of notice of appeal.

The notice of appeal shall contain the names of the parties and the county to which the appeal is taken; it shall designate in plain and concise language the order or decision from which the appeal is taken; and it shall be dated and signed by the appellant or his attorney.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4209; SDCL, § 21-33-6; SL 1975, ch 17, § 4; SL 1977, ch 13, § 13. 1-26-31.3. Change of venue.

The circuit court to which the appeal is first taken may, upon good cause shown and upon such terms or provisions for expense as it may deem reasonable in favor of any party objecting, and on application and notice within thirty days after the appeal is taken, change the venue to the circuit court for any other county.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4207; SDCL, § 21-33-8; SL 1975, ch 17, § 6; SL 1999, ch 8, § 1; SL 2000, ch 5, § 1.

1-26-31.4. Contested cases--Statement of issues on appeal.

Within ten days after the filing of the notice of appeal as required by § 1-26-31, the appellant shall file with the clerk of the circuit court a statement of the issues the appellant intends to present on appeal and shall serve on the other parties a copy of that statement. If any other appellant wishes to raise additional issues on appeal, the other appellant shall file a statement of additional issues on appeal within ten days after service of the appellant's statement.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; SL 2008, ch 280 (Supreme Court Rule 07-01), eff. Jan. 1, 2008; SL 2019, ch 4, § 1.

1-26-32. When agency decision in contested case becomes effective--Application for stay pending appeal--Time--Granting of further stay--Security or other supervision--Inapplicability to determinations of benefits under Title 61.

Any agency decision in a contested case is effective ten days after the date of receipt or failure to accept delivery of the decision by the parties. An application to the circuit court for a stay of the agency's decision may be made only within ten days of the date of receipt or failure to accept delivery of the agency's decision. Upon receiving a timely application for a stay and notice of hearing thereon, the court may enter a temporary stay pending a hearing on the application. Following a hearing, the court may order a further stay, pending final decision of the court. The court, as a condition to granting a stay, may require the appellant to furnish a bond or other such security or order supervision as the court may direct to indemnify or protect the state or agency or any person from loss, damage, or costs which may occur during the stay. This section does not apply to determinations of benefits made by the Department of Labor and Regulation pursuant to Title 61.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4215; SL 1966, ch 159, § 15 (3); SDCL § 21-33-10; SL 1972, ch 8, § 33; SL 1975, ch 17, § 7; SL 1988, ch 14, § 2; SL 1999, ch 7, § 2; SL 2011, ch 1 (Ex. Ord. 11-1), § 33, eff. Apr. 12, 2011.

1-26-32.1. Procedural rules applied.

The sections of Title 15 relating to practice and procedure in the circuit courts shall apply to procedure for taking and conducting appeals under this chapter so far as the same may be consistent and applicable, and unless a different provision is specifically made by this chapter or by the statute allowing such appeal.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4204; SDCL, § 21-33-13; SL 1975, ch 17, § 8.

1-26-32.2. Request for transcript--Waiver by failure to request.

Within ten days after the filing of the notice of appeal, the appellant shall order from the agency or reporter, if present, a written transcript of the proceedings or such parts thereof as he deems necessary of the contested case hearing. The order shall be in writing and a copy thereof shall be served on all parties to the action and a copy shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court. Failure to order a transcript within the ten-day period shall constitute a waiver of the right to such a transcript.

If the appellee deems a transcript of other parts of the proceedings necessary, he shall, within ten days after the service of the appellant's request or statement of issues, file with the clerk of the circuit court and serve upon the appellant a request for a transcript of additional parts to be included in the transcript of the contested case hearing. Failure to order such additional parts of the transcript shall constitute a waiver of the right to such additional parts of the transcript.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; Supreme Court Rule 89-1A.

1-26-32.3. Costs of transcript--Endorsement of order by reporter--Extension of time for transcript.

At the time of ordering a transcript of the contested case hearing a party, other than an agency, must make satisfactory arrangements with the agency or reporter, if present, for the payment of the costs of the transcript and all necessary copies. The agency or reporter shall acknowledge at the foot of the order receipt of the request for the transcript and transmit the order to the clerk of the circuit court. If the transcript cannot be completed within thirty days, the agency or reporter shall request an extension of time from the circuit court judge assigned to the appeal and the action of the circuit court judge shall be entered on the record and the parties notified.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; Supreme Court Rule 89-2.

1-26-32.4. Form of transcript--Number of copies--Certification.

The original transcript of the contested case hearing will be filed with the clerk of the circuit court and copies transmitted to the attorney for each party to the appeal separately represented and directly to any parties not represented. The agency will make duplicate copies of items specified in § 1-26-21 that are requested and shall transmit copies to the attorney for each party to the appeal separately represented and directly to any parties not represented. In the event that more than three copies of the transcript and other items as specified in § 1-26-21 are necessary to comply with the foregoing requirement, the

appellant may make application, upon notice, to the circuit court for an order determining the number of copies to be served and the time of use by the parties. Copies of the transcript and items specified in § 1-26-21 may be reproduced by any duplicating or copying process which produces a clear black image on white paper, if a typewritten transcript is prepared. The reporter or agency shall certify the correctness of the original and all copies of the transcript. The agency or reporter shall notify the clerk of the circuit court in writing that the original transcript has been filed and copies transmitted.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; Supreme Court Rule 89-3.

1-26-33. Record transmitted to circuit court--Limitation of record--Corrections and additions.

Within thirty days after the service of the notice of appeal, or within further time allowed by the court, the agency shall transmit to the reviewing court the electronic copy of the entire record of the proceeding under review. By stipulation of all parties to the review proceedings, the record may be shortened. A party unreasonably refusing to stipulate to limit the record may be taxed by the court for the additional costs. The court may require or permit subsequent corrections or additions to the record.

It shall be the duty of the agency to assemble and consecutively number the pages of all documents, papers, and exhibits filed with the agency, including any opinions and decisions which the agency may have filed or authorized for filing. The agency shall then prepare and attach an alphabetical and chronological index to the electronic record and shall serve a copy of such index on all parties to the review proceedings at the time the record is submitted to the reviewing court. If any portions of the record are not legible or are altered when converted to an electronic image they must be provided in hardcopy format.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 15 (4); SL 1977, ch 13, § 14; SL 1987, ch 396 (Supreme Court Rule 86-36); SL 2018, ch 293 (Supreme Court Rule 18-02), eff. July 1, 2018.

1-26-33.1. Transferred to § 1-26-33.6.

1-26-33.2. Time for serving briefs.

Unless otherwise ordered by the circuit court, the appellant shall serve a brief within thirty days after the delivery of the transcript of the contested case hearing to counsel for the parties or to the parties if unrepresented by counsel or within thirty days after the agency record is transmitted to the circuit court pursuant to § 1-26-33, whichever event occurs later. The appellee shall serve a brief within thirty days after the service of the brief of appellant, or in the case of multiple appellants, within thirty days after service of the last appellant's brief. The appellant may serve a reply brief within ten days after service of appellee's brief, or in the case of multiple appellees, within ten days after service of the last appellee's brief. Pursuant to § 15-6-5(d), briefs may not be made a part of the record.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; Supreme Court Rule 89-4; SL 1999, ch 7, § 3.

1-26-33.3. Brief of appellant--Contents.

The brief of the appellant shall contain under appropriate headings in the order here indicated:

- (1) A jurisdictional statement setting forth the date and the form of the agency decision, ruling or action sought to be reviewed and the date when the notice of appeal was filed with the circuit court.
- (2) A concise statement of the legal issue or issues involved omitting unnecessary detail. Each issue shall be stated as an appellate court would state the broad issue presented. Each issue shall be followed by concise statement of how the agency decided it. Any issue not presented in the brief is deemed waived.
- (3) A statement of the case and facts. A statement of the case shall first be presented identifying the agency and indicating briefly the nature of the case and its disposition by the agency. There shall follow a statement of facts relevant to the grounds urged for reversal, modification or other relief.
- (4) An argument. The argument shall contain the contentions of the party with respect to the issues presented, the reasons therefor, and the citations to the authorities relied on. Each issue shall be separately presented. Needless repetition shall be avoided.
- (5) A short conclusion stating the precise relief sought.

(6) Appendix, if any. Such appendix may include the decision, ruling, or action in question and any regulations or any relevant parts to which the parties wish to direct the particular attention of the circuit court.

(7) Request for oral argument, if desired.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35.

1-26-33.4. Brief of appellee--Contents.

The brief of the appellee shall conform to the same requirements as the brief of the appellant, except that the jurisdictional statement, statement of the issues or of the case need not be made unless the appellee is dissatisfied with the statements made by the appellant. If a notice of review is filed, the appellee's brief shall contain the issues specified in the notice of review and the argument thereon as well as the answer to the brief of the appellant.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35.

1-26-33.5. Repealed by SL 1996, ch 158, § 44.

1-26-33.6. Speedy hearing and determination.

Upon the filing of the record and other papers in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, it shall be the duty of such court when its attention is called to the matter by the parties, or one of them, immediately to fix a date for hearing, and said cause shall be speedily heard and determined.

Source: SDC 1939 & Supp 1960, § 33.4212; SDCL, § 21-33-15; SL 1972, ch 8, § 34; SDCL Supp 1-26-33.1; SL 1975, ch 17, § 9.

1-26-34. Circuit court may order agency to take additional evidence.

If, before the date set for hearing, application is made to the court for leave to present additional evidence, and it is shown to the satisfaction of the court that the additional evidence is material and that there were good reasons for failure to present it in the proceeding before the agency, the court may order that the additional evidence be taken before the agency upon conditions determined by the court. The agency may modify its findings and decision by reason of the additional evidence and shall file that evidence and any modifications, new findings, or decisions with the reviewing court.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 15(5); SL 1987, ch 29, § 62.

1-26-35. Nonjury review in circuit court--Proof of irregularities--Oral argument discretionary.

The review shall be conducted by the court without a jury and shall be confined to the record. A trial de novo may not be granted unless otherwise authorized by law, but in cases of alleged irregularities in procedure before the agency, not shown in the record, proof thereon may be taken in the court. The court, upon request, may hear oral argument.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 15 (6); SL 1977, ch 13, § 15; SL 1978, ch 16; SL 1996, ch 158, § 45.

1-26-36. Weight given to agency findings--Disposition of case--Grounds for reversal or modification--Findings and conclusions--Costs.

The court shall give great weight to the findings made and inferences drawn by an agency on questions of fact. The court may affirm the decision of the agency or remand the case for further proceedings. The court may reverse or modify the decision if substantial rights of the appellant have been prejudiced because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are:

- (1) In violation of constitutional or statutory provisions;
- (2) In excess of the statutory authority of the agency;
- (3) Made upon unlawful procedure;
- (4) Affected by other error of law;
- (5) Clearly erroneous in light of the entire evidence in the record; or
- (6) Arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion.

A court shall enter its own findings of fact and conclusions of law or may affirm the findings and conclusions entered by the agency as part of its judgment. The circuit court may award costs in the amount and manner specified in chapter 15-17.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 15 (7); SL 1972, ch 8, § 29; SL 1977, ch 13, § 16; SL 1978, ch 13, § 10; SL 1978, ch 17; SL 1983, ch 6, § 2.

1-26-36.1. Appellee's right to obtain review.

An appellee may obtain review of a final decision, ruling, or action of any agency which may adversely affect the appellee by filing a notice of review with the clerk of the circuit court within twenty days after service of the notice of appeal. If a statement of additional issues on appeal is filed pursuant to § 1-26-31.4, the notice of review required by this section must be filed within twenty days after the latest statement of additional issues on appeal is filed. The clerk of the circuit court shall not accept for filing such notice of review unless accompanied by proof of service of such notice on all other parties. The notice of review shall specify the decision, ruling, or action of the agency to be reviewed.

Source: Supreme Court Rule 82-35; SL 2019, ch 4, § 2.

1-26-37. Appeal to Supreme Court.

An aggrieved party or the agency may obtain a review of any final judgment of the circuit court under this chapter by appeal to the Supreme Court. The appeal shall be taken as in other civil cases. The Supreme Court shall give the same deference to the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final judgment of the circuit court as it does to other appeals from the circuit court. Such appeal may not be considered de novo.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 16; SL 1972, ch 8, § 30; SL 1983, ch 6, § 1.

1-26-38. Suspension of provisional rules by interim committee--Hearing on suspension--Filing and duration of suspension.

The Interim Rules Review Committee may, by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the members of the committee, suspend provisional rules or rules which have not become effective. To suspend a rule, the committee shall:

- (1) Give the agency which promulgated the rule at least two weeks notice of a hearing on the proposed suspension;
- (2) Hold a hearing, which may be in conjunction with a regular committee meeting. At the hearing, the burden of proof that the rule is necessary and does not violate any constitutional or statutory provision or the legislative intent when authority to promulgate the rule was given, is on the agency;
- (3) File an appropriate resolution of such action with the secretary of state.

The suspension is effective from the date of such filing. A suspended rule shall remain suspended until July first of the year following the year in which it became, or would have become, effective, and may not be enforced during that period.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 17; repealed SL 1972, ch 8, § 36; re-enacted SL 1975, ch 19; SL 1978, ch 13, § 11; SL 2003, ch 17, § 3.

1-26-38.1. Amendment as provisional--Subject to suspension--Effect.

If an agency amends an existing rule, the amendment becomes provisionally effective and subject to § 1-26-38. The effect of suspending a provisionally effective amendment is to return the rule to its form prior to the amendment.

Source: SL 1980, ch 18.

1-26-39. Repealed by SL 1972, ch 8, § 36.

1-26-40. Severability of provisions.

If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the chapter which can be given effect

without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this chapter are severable.

Source: SL 1966, ch 159, § 18.
1-26-41. Citation of chapter.

This chapter may be cited as the South Dakota Administrative Procedures Act.

Source: SL 1977, ch 13, § 17.

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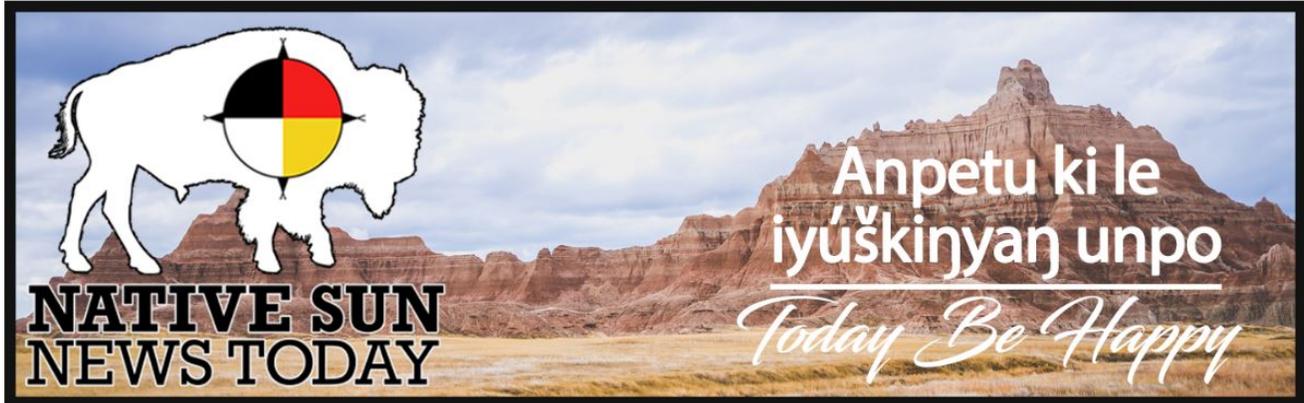
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Comments due on trapping otters

By *Staff* on June 10, 2020

By Talli Nauman
Native Sun News Today Health & Environment Editor



The river otter is “a sacred species for us as Lakota people.”

COURTESY / National Wildlife Federation

PIERRE – The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Commission is giving the public until June 19 to comment on a draft management plan that would open the first-ever trapping season for the rare native river otter that was reintroduced to the state by the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

The state governor’s appointed wildlife commissioners recently dropped *Lontra canadensis* from South Dakota’s list of protected species, dismissing public

comment that was all in favor of keeping safeguards established by its 1978 inclusion in the state’s first endangered and threatened list.

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe repopulated this playful semi-aquatic mammal to reservation jurisdiction in South Dakota in 1998-2000. Prized for its pelts, the once-abundant population had vanished due to unregulated take and habitat degradation

during the early 20th Century.

Inquiries to the Santee tribe's wildlife agency and to game officials of several other Sioux tribes in South Dakota failed to raise responses. However, Lower Brule Sioux Tribal Department of Wildlife, Fish and Recreation Biologist Shaun Grassel said the state commissioners and their staff apparently have not consulted his tribe on the matter.

"I am not aware that we (the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe) have been contacted" by the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) regarding state proposals to delist and allow trapping "or to inquire about how their actions might affect our current or future objectives regarding river otters. But that's not surprising," he told the Native Sun News Today.

The otter figures prominently in a Lakota creation narrative preserved by the Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center: It is one of four creatures who restored the land after a great flood.

In Nakota oral tradition, the otter earned a hardy winter coat as thanks from a crane whose chick it sheltered from the cold when it hatched too late in the season to migrate south for warmth.

Lakota akicita societies historically have been honored to include otter fur in their regalia.

During the state's May 7 hearings on otter delisting and trapping, Cheyenne River Sioux tribal member and Grandmother Carla Rae Marshall testified on her opposition to delisting and trapping this year.

"Historically, river otters were, and still are, a sacred species for us as Lakota people, as well as for many indigenous nations in North America. In the annals of Societies of the Plains Indians, the river otter is shown to be held in the highest esteem, with more than 40 references found throughout the documentation," she said.

Also testifying, Rapid City resident Susan Braunstein thanked the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe for releasing 34 river otters along the Big Sioux River on tribal grounds in Moody County as part of a cultural goal to restore a native species to tribal lands."

She asked: "Why should this beautiful, playful creature die when so much effort has been made to bring them back? Don't we have enough animals that are being trapped or killed? Why should trappers have this much influence over GFP policies?"

She noted that the management plan is “specifically geared to give trappers another species to kill so they can profit from their skin.”

Immediately following these comments and supporting testimony from four other members of the public, the GFP Commission voted unanimously, 8-0, to reject the arguments, opting instead for its staff’s recommendations to remove protections for the otter and to design a trapping season for it.

The staff considers that the Santee Sioux Tribe’s initiative, aided by the otter’s listing as the state’s first threatened species, has resulted in “a conservation success story,” as noted in the proposed [“South Dakota River Otter Management Plan, 2020-2029.”](#)

Staff’s proposal, now open for comment, affirms that the hunting season will “enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors.”

It also argues that “a statewide season will provide harvest information from across the state,” serving as “a monitoring effort that would be difficult to obtain otherwise.”

The GFP has no hard numbers on the otter population. It estimates less than 50 reports a year of its presence and says that it has received an average of 16.6 incidentally trapped otters in each of the last five years (2015-2019). Trappers are required to surrender this accidental catch, but no fines are levied.

The department proposes a maximum of 15 licenses during a Nov. 1-Dec. 31 initial otter trapping season in 2020. Again, incidental catch would not be motive for a fine.

Otters typically are caught by accident in beaver traps during that same season and die from drowning after being trapped in jaws of underwater cages.

“Allowing a limited level of harvest will allow better utilization of those river otter caught incidentally,” the proposed plan claims.

The season would be open statewide, unless arguments for prohibiting otter licenses from the Missouri River westward convince commissioners to modify the trapping proposal.

Those arguments are based on concerns over the comparatively fewer sightings and limited suitable habitat in West River, animal welfare, recreational interest, and economics.

Outdoor enthusiasts currently pay \$130 per person for guided tours to view river

otters, Rapid City career naturalist Christine Sandvik testified at a GFP Commission meeting June 4. By comparison, a furbearer trapping license brings in \$30 of revenue to the state.

Other Rapid City commenters on May 7 agreed that the tourism economy would benefit more from observation than from hunting opportunities capped at 15 licenses. A number of states harbor operations where visitors pay to swim with otters and other types of educational encounters with them.

“It is time this agency realizes the majority of people want to see wildlife, not kill it,” testified Julie Anderson. If the otters’ population is increasing, the comeback should be cause for promoting hiking, biking and photography opportunities, she said.

“We love to see creatures in their natural habitat and oppose the killing,” said Sondra Seberger.

Jim Peterson noted that the otter’s conservation requires clean water, but the majority of its South Dakota habitat is increasingly polluted and in litigation for violation of the Clean Water Act. “I don’t think those things have been taken seriously in consideration” of the otter management plan, he said.

Nancy Hilding, president of the Prairie Hills Chapter of the National Audubon Society, submitted testimony advocating that the otter to be reintroduced to more of western South Dakota before it is targeted for trapping. Feasibility studies for such reintroduction have been done at least as far back as 2003.

Expert analysis performed for the GFP by Wayne E. Melquist, Ph.D. supports reintroduction in the Little White River at Crazy Horse Canyon on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation, among other Western South Dakota locations that provide favorable habitat due to open water year-round.

Written comments on the plan can be sent to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D. 57501, or emailed to OtterPlan@state.sd.us Comments must be received by June 19 and include your full name and city of residence.

Following the same rules, individuals also can provide written comments on the proposal by filling out an online [form](#).

(Contact Talli Nauman at talli.nauman@gmail.com)

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

A continued Public Hearing will be held at the Ramkota RiverCentre in Pierre, South Dakota, on December 7, 2006, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. Amend ARSD 41:10:02 – Endangered and Threatened Species.

Effect: The proposed amendments would delist the Central Mudminnow (*Umbra limi*) from the List of Endangered Fish; delist the Trout-perch (*Percopsis omiscomaycus*) from the List of Threatened Fish; delist Blandings Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) from the List of Endangered Reptiles; and change the status of Sicklefin Chub (*Macrhybopsis meeki*) from threatened to endangered.

Reason: Central Mudminnow: Central mudminnow is on the periphery of its range in northeastern South Dakota but known populations appear secure. The species is common and widespread in northern and central Minnesota and has no special protection status. Viable populations have been documented in recent years at historic stream locations. Habitat preference is boggy and marshy lakes in lentic environments. Documented populations in Waubay and Blue Dog Lakes may fluctuate as high water during 1990s has resulted in changing lake characteristics.

Trout-perch: The trout-perch is on the periphery of its range in eastern South Dakota. The species is common and widespread in Minnesota where it has no special protection status. Historically, the trout-perch was documented in Lake Kampeska and the Big Sioux River in South Dakota. Recently the species has been documented at multiple locations within the Big Sioux River, Lakes Kampeska and Pelican, and several eastern tributaries to the Big Sioux River.

Sicklefin Chub: The sicklefin chub is endemic to the Missouri River and lower Mississippi River, similar to the pallid sturgeon. Prior to impoundment of the Missouri River in

South Dakota, records indicated the sicklefin chub was present from Sioux City upstream to the Grand River confluence. Since that time, only two individual sicklefin chubs have been collected in South Dakota. One individual was collected in 1996 near Burbank, South Dakota during the Benthic Fish Study, a large 4-year study designed to document the benthic fish assemblage of the entire Missouri River. The other individual fish was collected in October 2005 by South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks staff during the pallid sturgeon assessment project.

Blanding's Turtle: There are only three records of Blanding's turtle in South Dakota; Minnehaha County in 1963; Yankton County in the 1970s and Turner County in 1996. Only the Minnehaha County record is documented, since a specimen was collected. This record marked a range extension for the Blanding's turtle in North America. SDGFP contracted with several herpetologists to survey for this species in eastern South Dakota from 2001 to 2005, and no Blanding's turtles were found. The lack of records indicates that any record in the state is probably due to migration from Minnesota, with little likelihood that these turtles remain and reproduce in South Dakota. If removed from the state list, this species will continue to be protected from exploitation. They are protected from commercial (bait) harvest by bait dealers, anglers are limited to two per day and four in possession, and this species will continue to be monitored by the South Dakota Natural Heritage Program.

The GFP Commission ordered that the hearing to consider the above described amendments originally scheduled for November 16, 2006, at 10:00 A.M., as set forth in the original notice published in this matter be continued in order to comply with the requirement of SDCL 34A-8-5(3) that the GFP Commission afford the public and interested parties with at least thirty (30) days following publication of the original notice in which to submit data, opinions, arguments and their views either orally or in writing (or both), to the proposed amendments to the list of Endangered and Threatened Species.

The proposed rules may be modified or amended after the continued Hearing to include or exclude matters that are described in this Notice of Continued Public Hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time until its business has been completed and may be rescheduled.

Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions, arguments and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) at the continued Hearing. Persons unable to attend the continued 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 E-Mail to chuck.schlueter@state.sd.us. All persons who desire to submit written data, opinions, arguments, and their views by mail or E-Mail 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 on or before 12:00 o'clock P.M. three (3) days prior to the date of the continued 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 its consideration. All written and E-Mail comments must include the commenter's name and mailing address.

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. Handicapped persons may contact the undersigned for assistance.

Dated this _____ day of November, 2006.

(SEAL)

John L. Cooper, Secretary

Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society
P.O. Box 788
Black Hawk, SD 57718

Nancy Hilding
6300 West Elm
Black Hawk, SD 57718
July 12th, 2020

To
SD GFP Commission
523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Comment Letter # 1 on proposed 2020 Otter Trapping Season

Dear Commission,

The SD GFP Commission should not go forward with the proposed trapping season. It is tiered to an adoption of the river otter delisting rule that was done in violation of the public notice requirements found in SD's Endangered Species Act (SDCL - Chapter 34A-8). SDCL 1-26-4 (3) normally requires twenty days advance public notice, but SDCL 34A-8-5 (3) is more stringent and adds ten more days.

SD Game, Fish and Parks public noticed the May 7th meeting/hearing in three papers, 23 days in advance of the hearing. April 15th was the date it was published in the Aberdeen paper, the Water Town Public Opinion and the Rapid Journal. April 16th was the date it was published in the Capitol Journal. It was sent to the Mitchell paper, but GFP received no response from them confirming the publish date.

The proposal for the river otter's delisting was first approved at the GFP Commission's meeting held on March 5-6, 2020 -- as a proposal to move forward to later rule making. Discussion of a proposal at a Commission meeting and publication of March minutes in the April Commission Book (which would have placed on the website just prior to the April 4th & 5th Commission meeting) does not constitute public notice. Public notice for rule making is defined in ***SDCL 1-26-4.1***

The explanation of what a public notice is, occurs in Chapter 1-26:

SDCL 1-26-4.1. Notice of hearing on proposed rule--Contents--Publication--Mailing.

The notice of a public hearing of an agency's intent to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule shall be published in a manner selected to notify persons likely to be affected by the proposed rule. At a minimum the notice of the public hearing shall be published in at least three newspapers of general circulation in different parts of the state. The provisions of chapter 17-2 do not apply to notices required by this section.

The notice of a public hearing or the notice of intent to adopt an emergency rule shall be mailed to each person who has made a timely request of the agency for advance notice of its rule-making proceedings.

A notice of hearing or a notice of intent to adopt emergency rules shall contain a narrative

description of the effect of the proposed rule and the reasons for adopting the proposed rule. A notice of hearing shall also state where and when the hearing will be held, how amendments, data, opinions, and arguments may be presented, the deadline to submit written comments, and how the public may obtain copies of the proposed rule.

Source: SL 1972, ch 8, § 6; SL 1975, ch 16, § 13; SL 1976, ch 15, § 2; SL 1977, ch 13, § 5; SL 1978, ch 13, § 2; SL 1984, ch 9, § 1; SL 1986, ch 20, § 2; SL 2009, ch 9, § 3; SL 2017, ch 7, § 3. (*Emphasis added*)

SDCL 34A-8-5 (3) requires thirty days of public notice before the Commission may add or remove a species from the endangered species list:

34A-8-5. Notice by commission of proposed actions--Time allowed for comment. The Game, Fish and Parks Commission may not add a species to nor remove a species from any list pursuant to

§ 34A-8-3 or 34A-8-4, until it has:

(1) Published a public notice of such proposed action;

(2) Notified the Governor of any state sharing a common border with this state and in which the subject species is known to exist that such action is being proposed;

(3) Allowed at least thirty days following publication for comment from public and other interested parties.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3. (EMPHASIS ADDED)

GFP has in the past admitted it must provide 30 days notice for listing/delisting threatened or endangered species. In November/December of 2006, the Game, Fish and Parks Commission continued the November hearing on delisting and up-listing of various threatened or endangered species, because they failed to provide 30 days notice. Here is a quote from the Commission's public notice for the December 2006 Commission meeting:

"The GFP Commission ordered that the hearing to consider the above described amendments originally scheduled for November 16, 2006, at 10:00 A.M., as set forth in the original notice published in this matter be continued in order to comply with the requirement of SDCL 34A-8-5(3) that the GFP Commission afford the public and interested parties with at least thirty (30) days following publication of the original notice in which to submit data, opinions, arguments and their views either orally or in writing (or both), to the proposed amendments to the list of Endangered and Threatened Species." (Emphasis added)

We also express concern as to whether SD GFP has consulted with the USFWS (who owns properties in SD on which SD's river otter's occur), the Governors of neighboring states or the tribes of SD on whose lands/waters the river otter currently or has historically occupied. We believe that someone at GFP said they had talked to Flandreau Santee and Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Sioux Tribes about river otters, we are not sure if the outreach was on delisting and at the level of consultation. We are not sure if other tribes were consulted. Rosebud Sioux Tribe has property along the Little White River, which has been identified as a potential re-introduction surface water and has had either verified or unverified otter breeding in the past. Cheyenne River and Oglala Sioux Tribe have property adjacent to rivers identified as potential reintroduction rivers. Other tribes may have had verified or unverified sightings in the past, especially near the confluence of tributaries with the

Missouri River. Below are some SD laws requiring consultation and SDCL 34A-8-5 requires consultation with neighboring governors.

34A-8-3. Lists of endangered and threatened species promulgated--Basis for determination.

On the basis of determinations pursuant to § 34A-8-2 the Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall promulgate a list of those species of wildlife which are determined to be endangered or threatened within the state. The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall make these determinations on the basis of the best scientific, commercial, and other data available to them and after consultation, as appropriate, with federal agencies, other interested state agencies, other states having a common interest in the species and interested persons and organizations.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3. (*Emphasis added*)

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1-54-5. Consultation with tribal government regarding state programs.

It is the policy of the state to consult with a tribal government regarding the conduct of state government programs which have the potential of affecting tribal members on the reservation. This section may not be construed to confer any substantive rights on any party in any litigation or otherwise.

Source: SL 1990, ch 5; SDCL § 1-4-26; SL 2011, ch 1 (Ex. Ord. [11-1](#)), § 83, eff. Apr. 12, 2011.

(*Emphasis added*)

Sincerely,



Nancy Hilding
President
Prairie Hills Audubon Society
On behalf of the Society and myself as an individual.

We will attach to this letter

1. Native Sun News Article on River Otters
2. 2006 Public Notice of December's GFP Commission Meeting
3. 2020 Public Notice of May's GFP Commission Meeting
4. List of Statutes for Chapter 1-26
5. List of Statutes for Chapter 34A-8

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

A Public Hearing will be held via teleconference at phone number 1-866-410-8397, with conference code 5451787643# on May 7, 2020 at 2:00pm (Central) to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:06:22:01 Archery deer hunting season established – Number and type of licenses – Access permits.

Effect: The proposed change would make an allowance for an additional single-tag “antlerless any deer” licenses that would be distributed amongst all municipal archery deer hunting units.

Reason: Some municipalities have worked with the Department to develop urban deer management plans. Archery deer hunting within city limits can help address issues caused by urban deer populations and provide additional hunting opportunities. The proposed allocation of single-tag “antlerless any deer” licenses would be allocated within established municipal archery deer hunting units.

2. ARSD 41:06:22:01.01 Open Units. (Archery Deer)

Effect: The proposed rule would create new units for municipal archery deer hunting units within city limits of certain cities.

Reason: Some municipalities have worked with the Department to develop urban deer management plans. Archery deer hunting within city limits can help address issues caused by urban deer populations and provide additional hunting opportunities. The proposed city limit deer units would allow for an allocation of single-tag “antlerless any deer” licenses.

3. ARSD 41:06:22:02 Restricted areas – Exceptions (Archery Deer)

Effect: The proposed rule change would modify the start date for Lacreek National Refuge and the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

Reason: To align the respective refuge archery deer seasons with the statewide archery deer season.

4. ARSD 41:06:49:04 Eligibility requirements and restrictions. (Youth Waterfowl)

Effect: The proposed change would modify the age requirement for who would qualify for the youth waterfowl hunting season.

Reason: By modifying the age for those to participate in youth waterfowl hunting season more opportunities will be created for youth to get engaged with the activity.

5. ARSD 41:06:55:01 Special youth pheasant hunting season established

Effect: The proposed change would modify the season dates from “five consecutive days beginning on the first Saturday of October to “9 consecutive days beginning 21 days prior to the third Saturday of October.

Reason: The proposed change expands the opportunity for youth to get into the field earlier and more often. Recruitment of youth is major component of the Department’s strategic plan.

6. ARSD 41:07:03:02.01 South Dakota-Nebraska boundary waters.

Effect: The proposed rule change would limit the harvest of flathead catfish 30 inches or longer to one fish as part of the daily limit.

Reason: Discussions were held with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and adding this restriction would put South Dakota’s length limit in line with Nebraska’s.

7. ARSD 41:10:02:04 List of threatened mammals.

Effect: The proposed rule change would remove the River Otter (*Lontra canadensis*) from the list of threatened mammals.

Reason: In 2012, a 5-year plan was written to provide general, strategic guidance for the recovery and sustained management of river otter. As directed in the plan,

recovery criteria were developed to justify removing the species from the state threatened species list when appropriate. Delisting of the otter would be recommended if certain criteria were met. After the department conducted a review of the success of the river otter in comparison to the criteria set, it has been determined that listing is no longer justified.

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 call into 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://gfp.sd.gov/commission/information/> 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 16th day of April, 2020.

(SEAL)



Kelly R. Hepler, Secretary

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

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CHAPTER 34A-8

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

- 34A-8-1 Definition of terms.
- 34A-8-2 Investigation of wildlife by secretary--Information developed.
- 34A-8-3 Lists of endangered and threatened species promulgated--Basis for determination.
- 34A-8-4 Biennial review of lists of endangered and threatened species--Amendments.
- 34A-8-5 Notice by commission of proposed actions--Time allowed for comment.
- 34A-8-6 Departments to manage, protect, and restore endangered and threatened species.
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- 34A-8-8 Permitting capture of endangered and threatened species--Authorized purposes.
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- 34A-8-12 Repealed.
- 34A-8-13 Legislative approval required for reintroduction of species.

34A-8-1. Definition of terms.

Terms as used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, mean:

- (1) "Endangered species," any species of wildlife or plants which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range other than a species of insects determined by the Game, Fish and Parks Commission or the secretary of the United States Department of Interior to constitute a pest whose protection under this chapter would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to man;
- (2) "Nongame species," any wildlife species not legally classified a game species, fur-bearer, threatened species, or as endangered by statute or regulations of this state;
- (3) "Threatened species," any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range;

- (4) "Wildlife," any nondomesticated animal, whether reared in captivity or not, and includes any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof, or the dead body or parts thereof.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 1.

34A-8-2. Investigation of wildlife by secretary--Information developed.

The game, fish and parks secretary shall conduct investigation on nongame, endangered, or threatened wildlife to develop information relating to population, distribution, habitat needs, limiting factors, and other biological and ecological data to determine management measures necessary to ensure their perpetuation as viable components of their ecosystem and for human enjoyment.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3.

34A-8-3. Lists of endangered and threatened species promulgated--Basis for determination.

On the basis of determinations pursuant to § 34A-8-2 the Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall promulgate a list of those species of wildlife which are determined to be endangered or threatened within the state. The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall make these determinations on the basis of the best scientific, commercial, and other data available to them and after consultation, as appropriate, with federal agencies, other interested state agencies, other states having a common interest in the species and interested persons and organizations.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3.

34A-8-4. Biennial review of lists of endangered and threatened species--Amendments.

The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall conduct a review of the state list of endangered and threatened species within the period ending July 3, 1979, and every two years thereafter and may amend the list by appropriate additions or deletions.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3.

34A-8-5. Notice by commission of proposed actions--Time allowed for comment.

The Game, Fish and Parks Commission may not add a species to nor remove a species from any list pursuant to § 34A-8-3 or 34A-8-4, until it has:

- (1) Published a public notice of such proposed action;
- (2) Notified the Governor of any state sharing a common border with this state and in which the subject species is known to exist that such action is being proposed;
- (3) Allowed at least thirty days following publication for comment from public and other interested parties.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 3.

34A-8-6. Departments to manage, protect, and restore endangered and threatened species.

The Department of Game, Fish and Parks and the Department of Agriculture shall perform those acts necessary for the conservation, management, protection, restoration, and propagation of endangered, threatened, and nongame species of wildlife.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 2.

34A-8-7. Programs and agreements for management of endangered species--Prairie dog control on private lands.

The secretary of agriculture and the secretary of game, fish and parks shall establish programs, with legislative approval and may enter into cooperative agreements with federal and state agencies or with private persons as deemed necessary for the management of nongame, endangered, or threatened species. The secretaries shall establish and conduct control programs at state expense on private lands that are encroached upon by prairie dogs from contiguous public lands.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 4.

34A-8-8. Permitting capture of endangered and threatened species--Authorized purposes.

The secretary of agriculture and the secretary of game, fish and parks may permit the taking, possession,

purchase, sale, transportation, exportation, or shipment of species of plants or wildlife which appear on the state list of endangered or threatened species for scientific, zoological, or educational purposes, for propagation in captivity of such fish or wildlife to insure their survival.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 4.

34A-8-9. Possession, transportation and sale of endangered and threatened species prohibited--Violation as misdemeanor.

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, no person may take, possess, transport, import, export, process, sell, or offer for sale, buy or offer to buy, nor may a common or contract carrier transport or receive for shipment, any species of wildlife or plants appearing on the following lists:

- (1) The list of wildlife and plants indigenous to the state determined to be endangered or threatened within the state pursuant to §§ 34A-8-3 and 34A-8-4.
 - (2) The United States list of endangered or threatened native wildlife effective on January 1, 1977.
 - (3) The United States list of endangered or threatened foreign wildlife effective on January 1, 1977.
 - (4) The United States list of endangered or threatened plants effective on January 1, 1977.
- A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 5; SL 1992, ch 158, § 48.

34A-8-10. Importation, possession, sale, or purchase of endangered or threatened species under permit, license, or other documentation--Violation as misdemeanor.

A species of wildlife appearing on any of the lists enumerated in § 34A-8-9 may enter South Dakota from another state or from a point outside the territorial limits of the United States and may be transported, possessed, sold, and purchased in accordance with the terms of a permit issued pursuant to rules promulgated by the Game, Fish and Parks Commission pursuant to chapter 1-26. However, a person may transport into South Dakota or otherwise possess, sell, or purchase within the state any animal or parts thereof appearing on any of the lists enumerated in § 34A-8-9 that were lawfully taken or acquired in another state or lawfully taken or acquired from a point outside the territorial limits of the United States if the items are accompanied by the appropriate license, documentation, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) permit, or CITES tag. It is a Class 2 misdemeanor to transport, possess, sell or purchase a species of wildlife appearing on any of the lists enumerated in § 34A-8-9 in violation of the conditions of a permit, or to transport, possess, sell, or purchase any part thereof, in violation of the provisions of this section. The provisions of this section do not apply to any captive nondomestic animal of the mammalia class and the products thereof regulated by the Animal Industry Board under Title 40.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 6; SL 1993, ch 256, § 34; SL 2007, ch 236, § 4.

34A-8-11. Permits for capture or destruction of, wildlife to protect life or property--Violation of permit--Emergency protection of human life.

Upon good cause shown and where necessary to alleviate damage to property or to protect human health, endangered or threatened species found on the state list may be removed, captured, or destroyed pursuant to a permit issued by the secretary of game, fish and parks. A violation of the terms of the permit is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Carnivorous animals found on the state list may be removed, captured, or destroyed by any person in emergency situations involving an immediate threat to human life, provided that the removal, capture, or destruction shall be reported to the secretary or his representative within twenty-four hours of the act.

Source: SL 1977, ch 335, § 7; SL 1992, ch 158, § 49.

34A-8-12. Repealed by SL 1992, ch 158, § 50.

34A-8-13. Legislative approval required for reintroduction of species.

No species that is currently extinct in this state and that has been placed on the threatened or endangered species list pursuant to the federal "Endangered Species Act of 1973," as amended to January 1, 1995, may be reintroduced into this state through action by any federal, state, or local governmental entity, unless the Legislature has specifically enacted legislation naming the species and specifying the manner of reintroduction.

Source: SL 1995, ch 206.

[Back to Title 34A](#)

To: **South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission**
From: **Center for Biological Diversity supporters (282 comments)**
Re: **No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters**

First Name	Last Name	City	State	Zip	Message Subject	Message Text	Date Submitted
Janet	Smeltz	Needham	MA	2492	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. You have a historic opportunity to keep this miraculous revival of a species going. Give them more time to increase their numbers. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. THESE LIVES ARE PRECIOUS, TOO.	07/09/2020
Bev	Vanderstar	Geneva	FL	32732	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Please withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Lisa	Del Rio	Strongsville	OH	44136	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. The numbers are so small, and as guardians of wildlife, our job is to keep them safe and think of future generations. Please do right by the otters.	07/09/2020
Eileen	Cohen	Berkeley	CA	94702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Please withdraw plans to trap of South Dakota's river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. I urge you to withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Shelly	Blank	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. Why are you even considering trapping these animals?	06/26/2020

christine	sandvik	Rapid City	SD	57702	<p>No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters</p> <p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. We need to do the same thing on the Western side of the state as well. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. A trapped otter provides entertainment and enrichment for only one person. Hundreds of residents and tourists could enjoy a live otter through wildlife watching and photography. The travel industry is a major industry in South Dakota, and allowing these populations to increase would allow otters to become a tourism resource. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	06/30/2020
Beth	Lane	Lincolnshire	IL	60069	<p>No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters</p> <p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, and visitors like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. The highlight of my visits to your state is the abundance of wonderful wildlife.</p>	07/09/2020

Peggy	Detmers	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	As a person who has worked as a wildlife biologist here in SD, I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Jerry	Wilson	Vermillion	SD	57069	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	As a former managing editor of South Dakota Magazine, I traveled our state from border to border for many years. I wrote numerous stories about rivers and streams and water issues. I NEVER saw a river otter! Yet, you are proposing to allow 'sport' trapping of this rare species!? Please don't do this. Please allow the healthy return of this native species to South Dakota. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Malinee	Crapsey	Three Rivers	CA	93271	Against Trapping South Dakota River Otters	PLEASE, DO NOT PLAN TO TRAP RIVER OTTERS: South Dakota's otter population has not yet recovered; Trapping of other wildlife still kills otters accidentally; Trapping is brutal, inhumane, uncivilized; and NO ONE needs fur anymore. Please -- don't manage wildlife or indulge unnecessary human activities with such backward-looking plans. Find a better way forward for all.	07/09/2020

A.	K.	Orlando	FL	32806	<p>No Trapping STOP the attacks on wildlife! Hunting, trapping has no place in 2020. Animal species are going extinct every single day. Why don't you care South Dakota???</p> <p>of South Dakota's River Otters withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	07/09/2020
Barb	Belanger	Schenectady	NY	12345	<p>No Trapping I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. 40 really is a very small number when we are talking about the possible extinction of any animal. We must do whatever we can to save these animals before they are gone forever! As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	07/09/2020

Jennifer	Hubert	Vermillion	SD	57069	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. I have personally never seen a river otter in South Dakota and have been living here over 30 years. They are still rare and should be protected. I would love to see them come back.	06/26/2020
Amber	Duperre	Valley Falls	NY	12185	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Otters get caught in traps, which kill indiscriminately. I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Shannon D	Harkin	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	SD has otters?! I never saw them. I love otters! I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Leah	Gibson-Corcoran	Tujunga	CA	91042	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. ' I approve of this message!'	07/09/2020
Chris	Gartland	Parker	CO	80134	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Personally, it's like why would anybody allow any trapping, but this is particularly heinous. I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Christy	Bumanis	Germantown	MD	20876	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

EILEEN	Levin	Hopkins	MN	55343	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Sara	Parker	Sioux Falls	SD	57103	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. Officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Haley	Friedt	Rapid City	SD	57703	Let's Be Smart Here	I'll make this short and sweet. There's truly no benefit to removing protections from River Otters. People want them for their fur and that's it. They don't pose any issues and they don't even have an overwhelming population. This just seems like a lazy move to keep a few people happy. Please be thoughtful and don't allow protections to be removed.	06/26/2020
Carolyn	Borg	Saint George	UT	84790	Please Oppose Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Please oppose and withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. Otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans and others who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. Thanks for your consideration.	06/30/2020

Brenda	Stephens	Tampa	FL	33625	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. What's wrong with you people? Leave the otters alone. I'm sure there are plenty of other wild animals you can kill, since killing is your passion. Come November, you killers will be looking for new jobs.	07/09/2020
Richard	Spotts	Saint George	UT	84790	South Dakota's River Otters Deserve Full Protection	Please withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm grateful that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know, trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Again, please withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans and visitors who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. Thank you very much for your consideration.	06/24/2020
Elisabeth	Wheeler	Raleigh	NC	27607	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	Otters are among North America's popular animals, and they have general appeal. The prospect of seeing river otters would appeal to tourists and that would improve your economy. Some day I hope to visit South Dakota and I'd certainly make an effort to see them. Leave the little guys alone and let them come back. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most people, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Tonya	McMorris	Alpharetta	GA	30004	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of the majority, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Margaret	Maloney	Edgemont	SD	57735	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm not in favor of trapping River otters with such a small population in SD. I'm afraid some may get trapped with the current predator trapping program as it is. Therefore, I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Theresa	Giannavola	Aberdeen	SD	57401	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population and other animals including domestic pets that often are caught by mistake. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Nancy	Hilding	Black Hawk	SD	57718	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. I encourage you to adopt rules to require them to set the spring/trip wire off to the side and reduce the length of the beaver trapping season. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/29/2020
Grace	Helzer	Ocala	FL	34475	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	NO TRAPPING..I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Ori	youngblood	Greenfield	IN	46140	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most people, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Craig	Nazor	Austin	TX	78758	<p>No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters</p> <p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Up to three quarters of what is caught in a trap is not the target species. For this reason, all trapping should actually be banned, but this is even worse by particularly going after the species that needs the protection. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	07/09/2020
Bridget	Barron	San Anselmo	CA	94960	<p>No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters</p> <p>Please withdraw your plans allowing for the trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I am heartened to know that otters have begun their return. However, officials have confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of these sightings came from one part of South Dakota -- the far eastern part of the state. Less than 4 dozen sightings in one part of the state does not indicate that the river otters have made a roaring comeback to South Dakota. Looking back at history, it was trapping that decimated South Dakota's river otter population. River otter numbers did rebound after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. These killings, even if accidental, are disheartening. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to the otters' recovery. Legalizing trapping will only cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans and people like me who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	07/09/2020

Sherry	Wiegman	Cheboygan	MI	49721	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	The purpose of my letter is to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. It is wonderful otters have begun their return, but officials confirmed only 40, yes only 40, sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. I trust you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population. Then the otters rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to "accidentally" kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. You need to do what is right and withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed. We are planning to head to Colorado via South Dakota this September. If open trapping season is not stopped we will not go through South Dakota and spend our money elsewhere	07/09/2020
Cheryl	McAllister	Gilbert	AZ	85233	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Weston	Roberts	Denver	CO	80218	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Janel	Bush	Lynden	WA	98264	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Elizabeth	Char	El Cerrito	CA	94530	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
william dubby	fuqua	Mooresville	NC	28117	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Debra	Floyd	Box Elder	SD	57719	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Di	Torson	Brookings	SD	57006	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Peggy	Mann	Aberdeen	SD	57401	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Heather	MacLean	Round Rock	TX	78665	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Linda	McGill	Alpena	MI	49707	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Carol	Toner	Saint Augustine	FL	32084	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Laurie	Herchenroether	Yankton	SD	57078	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Kirstin	Kulhawik	Comstock Park	MI	49321	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Billy	Mendoza	Wallingford	CT	6492	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Olivia	Wolfe	Cheswick	PA	15024	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
darlene	finberg	Redfield	SD	57469	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Jamielynn	Vanhoorn	Milbank	SD	57252	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Heidi	Fowler	Vermillion	SD	57069	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Keith	Rabin	Hot Springs	SD	57747	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Gary	Maedl	Hollis	NH	3049	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Jim	Davis	Billings	MT	59105	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Mary	Powell	Bend	OR	97702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Esther	Mechler	Brunswick	ME	4011	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/02/2020

Susanna	Sziraki	Oxford	CT	6478	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Michael	Appelmans	Cleveland	OH	44106	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kim	Tate	Santa Fe	NM	87501	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Megan	Jacobs	Aurora	SD	57002	Please do not Trap South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/28/2020
Barbara	St. Clair	Brookings	SD	57006	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kim	Tysdal	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

R	Webber	Orlando	FL	32805	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Lisa	Billings	Portland	OR	97221	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Judy	Shively	San Diego	CA	92101	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Brian	Sullivan	Vacaville	CA	95688	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Maria	Borges	Santa Cruz	CA	95064	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
William	Collins	Winter Park	FL	32792	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Doris	Theodorou	Easton	PA	18045	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Karen	Freeburg	Natick	MA	1760	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Angela	Cooke	Henrico	VA	23228	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Suzanne	Hodges	Rancho Cordova	CA	95670	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Robert	Bernstein	Portland	OR	97215	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Sandy	Zelasko	Valley Center	CA	92082	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Angela	Rex	Salyer	CA	95563	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
CAROL	BURDICK	Nottingham	MD	21236	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Dvora	Robinson	Portland	OR	97206	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Barbara	Mezzanini	Marcy	NY	13403	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/01/2020
Patricia	Stock	Olmsted Falls	OH	44138	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Eric	Brooker	Charleston	SC	29492	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Cynthia	Worsham	Round Rock	TX	78664	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
jenn	bot	Phoenix	AZ	85008	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Madeleine	Boyle	Tempe	AZ	85282	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Zarin	Jp	Los Angeles	CA	90020	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Valerie	Sisson	Grand Rapids	MI	49508	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Amy	Johnson	Hartford	SD	57033	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Tonia	Wagoner	Hot Springs	SD	57747	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Concerned	Citizen	Venice	CA	90291	I Urge you! No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Judyth	Tullberg	New Braunfels	TX	78130	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

M	N	Fort Mill	SC	29708	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Brad	Wertz	Montoursville	PA	17754	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Vanessa	Carbia	Gainesville	FL	32608	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Eustacia	Hall	Manteca	CA	95337	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Sandra	Jilton Rogers	Medford	OR	97504	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Brian	Henderson	Athens	GA	30601	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Anna	Laidler	East Stroudsburg PA	18301	No Trapping	<p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	07/02/2020
Jim	Lykins	Scappoose OR	97056	No Trapping	<p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	07/09/2020
Kerry	Bowers	Pierre SD	57501	No Trapping	<p>I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.</p>	06/30/2020

Chuck	Karp	Palm Desert	CA	92261	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
sara	sexton	Sanger	TX	76266	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/25/2020
Antonia	lhry	Blaine	WA	98230	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Billita	Jacobsen	Carpentersville	IL	60110	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Maria	Marcusson	Santa Cruz	CA	95062	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Gaetane	Gonzales	Albuquerque	NM	87110	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/03/2020

Cynthia	Hicks	Phoenix	AZ	85015	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Stephanie	Jones	Bedford	NH	3110	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Aniko	van der Lee	San Francisco	CA	94115	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Elizabeth	Gifford	Watertown	MA	2472	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Robert	Aston	San Francisco	CA	94118	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Holly	McDonald	Robbinsville	NJ	8691	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Spencer	Roberts	Denver	CO	80204	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jeri	Swanson	Prior Lake	MN	55372	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Peggy	Jakopak	Scotland	SD	57059	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Kris	Ebbe	Corvallis	OR	97333	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jeff	Pearson	Madison	SD	57042	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Sonia	Ness	Elk Grove Village	IL	60007	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Nancy	Blakestad	Saint Paul	MN	55117	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Noelle	David	Elizabeth	CO	80107	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Jas	Breidenbach	Lima	OH	45806	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Amanda	Johnson	Yankton	SD	57078	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Barbara	Felderman	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Kathleen	Walters	Charlotte	NC	28216	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Tatyana	Hanley	Vancouver	WA	98664	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Virginia	Palmer	Austin	TX	78703	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
PETER	MORRIS	Yucca Valley	CA	92284	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Julie	Hudgens	Flagstaff	AZ	86002	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Rhianna	Lynch			0	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kevin	Bieringer	Phoenix	AZ	85008	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters, Please	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Lindsay	Dunlop	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Tori	Bryceson	Minneapolis	MN	55415	Save South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Esperanza	Munoz	Stockton	CA	95207	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

William	Schwing	Beachwood	OH	44122	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Melissa	Rohm	Pittsburgh	PA	15243	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Bruno	SIMON	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Dana	Belt	Poplar Bluff	MO	63901	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jennifer	Formoso	Oakland	CA	94605	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Julia	DOrazio	Kingston	NH	3848	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Kenny	Halbritter	Sioux Falls	SD	57104	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Dee	Austring	Tombstone	AZ	85638	PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Suzanne	Vogt	Athens	GA	30605	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Anna	Camarata	Maitland	FL	32751	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Eliot	Tigerlily	Garberville	CA	95542	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kyaram	Warutian	Rockford	IL	61109	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Mariah	Lauenroth	Victorville	CA	92392	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Judith	Penhiter	Minneapolis	MN	55416	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Zdrava	Sharkov	Los Angeles	CA	90028	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

stephanie	hughes	Redding	CA	96001	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Laura	Saxe-O'Brien	Albany	OR	97321	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Cheryl	Maslin	Alameda	CA	94501	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

L. J.	Travers	Punta Gorda	FL	33955	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Matthew	Swain	Raleigh	NC	27615	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Lois	Folkers	Chadron	NE	69337	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Max	Reinhardt	Wausau	WI	54403	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Caitilin	Kane	Dell Rapids	SD	57022	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Melek	Korel			99999	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Andrew	Vovides			91070	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Roy	Sook	Amherst	WI	54406	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Theresa	Medbury	Oceano	CA	93445	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Carla	Bobak	Ouray	CO	81427	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Meghan	Schuessler	Lake Mary	FL	32746	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Patricia	Pollard	Galloway	OH	43119	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Julie Hansen	Hansen	Freeman	SD	57029	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Andrea	Sreiber	Schenectady	NY	12304	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kathleen	Lake	Healy	AK	99743	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

susanna	denton	Laguna Woods	CA	92637	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Johnny	Huang	Columbia	MO	65205	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Mary	Harding	San Diego	CA	92116	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Jonas	Djerf	Kylertown	PA	16847	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Andrew	Paulson	Manassas	VA	20111	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Patricia	Huffstutler	Austin	TX	78758	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

mary	hartmann	Las Vegas	NV	89110	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jeanne	Doherty	Chicago	IL	60634	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
j	griffith	Fernandina Beach FL		32034	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

James	Young	Lawrence	KS	66049	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Evan	Rodgers	New York	NY	10032	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kristina	Polhemus	Bethlehem	PA	18018	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Paula	Schwartz	Middlebury	VT	5753	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Charlie	Petrick	Rapid City	SD	57701	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Leslie	epperson	Tucson	AZ	85719	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Virginia	Johnston	Keene	NH	3431	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Christy	Bolle	Monrovia	CA	91017	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Zach	Van Stanley	Hudson	IA	50643	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Luciano	Graniello	Metairie	LA	70010	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Shonna	Hawkins	Aguanga	CA	92536	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
SHERRY	REISCH	New York	NY	10023	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Cheyne L	Cumming	Rapid City	SD	57701	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Joan	Miller	Valrico	FL	33594	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Lawrence	Montford	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Cybele	Knowles	Tucson	AZ	85716	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/23/2020
Deirdre	Cochran	Brighton	CO	80602	All animals have a purpose on Earth. No trapping should be allowed due to low numbers. Let this creature build its own numbers up. At these numbers, the otter should be on the ESL. DEIRDRE	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Leah	VonHauger-DiMaria Bisbee	AZ	85603	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020	
Kristine	Muko	Sioux Falls	SD	57105	NO OTTER Trapping	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
Sarah	Bryant	Austin	TX	78753	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Diana	Stone	Rapid City	SD	57703	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
elisabeth	meunier			83570	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Roger	Schat	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/01/2020

Mary	Miller	Sioux Falls	SD	57106	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Ashley	Waldorf	Rapid City	SD	57702	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Brenda	Cummings	Tacoma	WA	98405	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Alyse	Roe	Farmington	NM	87401	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Cary	Frazee	Eureka	CA	95503	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Mel	Hunt	Nashville	IN	47448	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Eileen	Langan	Auburn	CA	95603	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Judy	Barringer	Seeley Lake	MT	59868	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Tyler	Graham	Harrisburg	PA	17112	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Paul	LaBelle	Milwaukee	WI	53207	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
stephen	barwick	North Wales	PA	19454	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Josiah	Roberts	Colorado Springs	CO	80921	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Cindy	Kveen	Detroit	MI	48205	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jennifer	Biehl	Woodbridge	VA	22193	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
sandra	faltemier	Brookings	SD	57006	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Nancy	Jorgensen	Dell Rapids	SD	57022	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
David	Dodson	Scottsdale	AZ	85251	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020
HAZEL	HAMILTON			0	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Yvonne	van de Looij	Glendora	NJ	8029	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Julie	Anderson	Rapid City	SD	57701	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/28/2020
Michelle	Smith	Hilo	HI	96720	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

John	Chamberlain	Sturgis	SD	57785	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Vickie	Thompson	Custer	SD	57730	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/29/2020
Shauna	TINDALL	Ann Arbor	MI	48103	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Heidi	Page	Woodinville	WA	98077	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jennifer	HOST-SIMON	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Valériane	WELSCH	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Leslie	Colley	Santa Fe	NM	87506	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Nicole	Nguyen	Olympia	WA	98512	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Gloria	Hollahan	Lompoc	CA	93436	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020

Alessandra	Berardi			80056	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Joan	Hyde	Hill City	SD	57745	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Tom	Larson	Sioux Falls	SD	57106	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Paula	Burns	Chicago	IL	60657	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kari	Dougherty	Walla Walla	WA	99362	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
John	Eastwood	Riverhead	NY	11901	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Ben	Rhoades	Midlothian	VA	23113	DO NOT TRAP South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Rebecca	Rittenour	Milaca	MN	56353	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Justine	Berti	Medfield	MA	2052	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Patricia	Burton	Gaithersburg	MD	20877	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
David	Maillet	Van Nuys	CA	91411	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Emilee	Hendricks	Madison	WI	53703	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/01/2020

Glenn	Wood	Coraopolis	PA	15108	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Maureen	Costa	East Falmouth	MA	2536	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Myphon	Hunt	Yuba City	CA	95991	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020

Carmen	Muessigmann	Clark	SD	57225	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/30/2020
Vanessa	Hunter	Huron	TN	38345	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Grace	Strong	Ironwood	MI	49938	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Elliot	Griffin	Winter Springs	FL	32708	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jill	Hamilton	Bremerton	WA	98311	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Cecilia	Brown	Portland	OR	97214	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Cathy	Jensen	Moclips	WA	98562	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Christian	KIEFFER	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Jonathan	PIN	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Leia	C.	Norristown	PA	19401	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Danielle	UNTERNEHR			57565	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Aesli	Grandi	Tabor	SD	57063	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020

Arlette	SIMON	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Fabrice	HERMANN			57870	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
sharon	blais	Sioux Falls	SD	57107	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/27/2020

Charles	Wirth	Hurley	SD	57036	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Samantha	Austin	Ashland	OR	97520	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jake	Kassel	Latham	NY	12110	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Rachel	Hungerford	Chandler	AZ	85226	Protect South Dakota's Rare River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Leesa	Carter	Brevard	NC	28712	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Terry	Ransom	Florissant	MO	63031	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Diane	Weinstein	Issaquah	WA	98029	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Nicole	Jack	Waukegan	IL	60087	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Valerie	Spinner	Denver	CO	80231	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/28/2020

Diane	Cote	Leesburg	FL	34748	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Paula	Pillatzki	Labolt	SD	57246	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Agnès	WELSCH	Norris	SD	57560	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020

Laural	Bidwell	Rapid City	SD	57701	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
Becky	Sims	Julian	NC	27283	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Toni	Hinshaw	Wasilla	AK	99623	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Emily	Hunt	Athens	GA	30606	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
C	M	Brookings	SD	57006	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
F	Mason	Portland	OR	97221	Ban Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Jackie	Franklin	Raleigh	NC	27614	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Kelly	Miller	Oceanside	CA	92056	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/10/2020
Yolanda	LEAIRD	Los Angeles	CA	90042	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Laurel	Gilligan	Burkittsville	MD	21718	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020
Jan	Siemucha	Hecla	SD	57446	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	06/26/2020
cheryl	debejare	Cloverdale	CA	95425	No Trapping of South Dakota's River Otters	I'm writing to urge you to withdraw plans for trapping of South Dakota's tiny river otter population. I'm relieved that otters have begun their return. But officials confirmed only 40 sightings last year, and nearly all of them came from the far eastern part of the state. As you know trapping historically decimated South Dakota's river otter population, but they rebounded after reintroduction and protection as a state endangered species. Even so, trappers have continued to accidentally kill dozens of them when trapping for beavers and other wildlife. Trapping remains one of the biggest threats to otters' recovery, and needless to say legalizing trapping would cause further harm. Instead of endorsing otter trapping, I encourage you to educate trappers on common-sense measures to avoid catching otters when trapping for other wildlife. Please — withdraw this plan to open a trapping season. It would benefit only a small minority of trappers at the expense of most South Dakotans, like me, who value these beautiful animals in the wild and don't want to see them cruelly killed.	07/09/2020

Leland

DeGolier

Rapid City

SD

57703

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06/26/2020