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March 1st, 2020

SD Game Fish and Parks Commission  
c/o Rachel Comes  
Foss Building,  
523 East Capitol,  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Rachel Comes <Rachel.Comes@state.sd.us>

Comment letter on Nest Predator Bounty # 1

One of the "Whereas" items in your draft resolution on the Nest Predator Bounty Program (NPBP) is a reference to the 83% public support of the Nest Predator Bounty Program (NPBP) based on the public opinion survey conducted by Responsive Management on behalf of SD GFP: *"WHEREAS, Eighty-three percent of the general public supported the operation of the Nest Predator Bounty Program as demonstrated by a professional scientific survey;"* .

The Humane Society of the U.S. contracted for a larger and more in depth survey of 1000 random SD people (vs. GFP's 400) that was conducted by Remington Research Group. They asked more questions and got more metrics. Remington Research Group asked the public some of the same questions and some different questions than Responsive Management. After a series of questions 26% approved of NPBP and 53% disapproved. Link to HSUS report:

<https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/South-Dakota-General-Election-Survey.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0TzQSvscZeSc-C1dgSxBjt0sCzgSSX5jxks-wOtFMdjFHv4FgSQCvHKBI>

Link to the SDGFP's public opinion survey of 400 random people - GFP funded both a NPBP participants and a public opinion survey section (The public opinion survey is found in the second half of report).

Link to survey:

[https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/SD\\_2020\\_Nest\\_Predator\\_Bounty\\_PPT.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/SD_2020_Nest_Predator_Bounty_PPT.pdf)

GFP references this study in the resolution about 2020 NPBP. SD GFP's hired survey (of random people) found that 62% South Dakotans had no clue about the Nest Predator Bounty program and only 38% knew about it, of which 43% were mostly positive about it (which would be 16% of the population supported it, before being read GFP's description of program). (Page

44 of report). After being read a 3 sentence description over the phone, then 83% supported the NPBP. I have been told that those 3 sentences, were written by SD GFP.

The difference suggests that maybe you can determine the outcome of a public opinion survey depending on how you ask the questions.

Also please note that in the HSUS funded study, when the public was asked if they supported legal trapping -- 37% said they did, 31% said they did not and 32% were not sure. This reminds me of a vote done at SDGFP Stakeholder meeting on the SDGFP strategic plan...several years ago, in early September 2016, in Rapid City. The moderator (Nancy Surprenant) asked a similar question of the "stakeholders" and as I remember it...only thirty something percent of stakeholders approved of or valued trapping, while hunting and fishing were much more popular. I am sure SDGFP has a record of that vote someplace.

We believe that you must drop this clause of the resolution (about public support), as it is a best a totally controversial claim that is contradicted by a larger and more in depth survey

I hope you read the HSUS funded report and I attach it below to make it easier for you to read.

Nancy Hilding

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Hilding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

President  
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

1 attachment.

"SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION, February 2020,  
Remington Research Group"

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*The Nest Predator Bounty Program's (NPBP) rationale is based on faulty science and the Program is wasting huge amounts of SD GFP budget -- cumulatively 2 million dollars over 2 years! Trapping predators in the spring, when they are rearing their young, means that the young are orphaned and will die slow deaths. SD has excessively long trap check times. The Nest Predator Bounty Program (NPBP) will promote animal cruelty justified by a faulty scientific rationale. For nest predator control to actually work it must be very intense and in small areas and it is a very expensive effort. A statewide bounty program is too diffuse and won't work.*

*The Department's face saving spin on it -- is it serves to introduce children to nature and wildlife management via trapping. But it introduces them to our government justifying animal cruelty with a lie ("fake science"). Spending our 2 million dollars on habitat improvements or habitat purchase is a better option for using SD's budget to protect pheasants/ducks.*

*We believe that this program is promoted, by our Governor Kristi Noem and thus the SD GFP staff will have to support it, or risk losing their jobs. The Commission however is unsalaried & what you risk is Kristi Noem not reappointing you. We hope you have the courage to stand against this unwise and divisive program that wastes precious dollars and harms animals to serve a questionable purpose.*

This letter has three sections

1. History of 2019 past Nest Predator Bounty Program and 2020 proposed Nest Predator Bounty Program
2. Reasons to oppose the nest predator bounty program.
3. Links to other's alerts & references

## 1. History of 2019 past program and 2020 proposed program

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### 2019 NEST PREDATOR BOUNTY (NPBP) PROGRAM HISTORY

Last year, SD Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) approved a bounty program that started on April 1st and ended on August 12, 2019 when they ran out of money. It was supposed to provide \$500,000 for bounties. This program paid ten dollars each for 54,470 tails and killed: 43,779 raccoons, 6,001 striped skunk, 3,706 opossum, 494 red fox & 490 badgers. The bounty program had 3,151 participants of which 90% were from East River and 12% were under 17 years old. SDGFP also gave away live traps. They taught a trapping course to 603 participants of which 387 were youth & taught an ethics course to 50 youth. License sales increased by 6.7%. The live trap give-away program cost \$958,171, the payment for tails cost \$547,400, salaries/benefits cost \$190,915 & miscellaneous expenses cost \$35,778 - This has a total cost of \$1,732,264. The alleged purpose was to increase success of pheasant and duck nests and thus increase their populations and increase number of trappers, especially children and introduce children to outdoor recreation and conservation/wildlife management (via trapping).

Prior to April 2019 & before taking public comment on the program, the staff approved the expenditures and the program. The Commission also passed a rule to extend the deadline to remove live traps from public land and public right-of-ways from May 1st to September 1st. (As amended with "live traps" after the IRRC sent it back for review).

Despite the 2019 expenditure of 1.73 million on the NPBP, "South Dakota Pheasant Brood Survey 2019 Report" showed that the statewide Pheasants Per Mile (PPM) index for the 2019 pheasant brood survey decreased 17% (2.47 to 2.04, 90% confidence interval = -32 to 0%) compared to 2018. Link to SD GFP's 2019 Report:

[https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/2020\\_Bounty\\_Information\\_-\\_Fisk\\_and\\_Robling.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/2020_Bounty_Information_-_Fisk_and_Robling.pdf)

Thus there is no proof of success for the Nest Predator Bounty Program. However without a research area and control, we won't understand what is going on, no matter what the Brood Survey shows.

### 2020 PROPOSED NEST PREDATOR BOUNTY PROGRAM

On 1/16/2020, the SD GFP Commission & staff created a draft resolution for support of the 2020 Bounty program.

It includes: 1) A \$250,000 expenditure on a nest predator bounty, targeting the same species as last year. 2) This year the bounties will be \$5 each (not \$10). 3) Applicants for bounty must possess a hunting, fishing or trapping license (unless youth or landowner hunting on their own land). & 4) The time period will be shorter --from April 1st to July 1st (last year it was permitted till the end of August but ran out of funds & thus ended in mid August) & method of take can include shooting. There is no provision for giving away free traps this year.

To see the 2020 Nest Predator Bounty Program Approval Resolution - that you will be voting to approve (or not) at a meeting on March 5th - visit this link:

[https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/docs/2020\\_Draft\\_Resolution\\_Nest\\_Predator\\_Bounty\\_Program.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/docs/2020_Draft_Resolution_Nest_Predator_Bounty_Program.pdf)

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## 2. Reasons to oppose the nest predator bounty program.

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## WHY OPPOSE?

This killing of predators is not scientifically justified. ----

- Wildlife biologists agree that nest predator control is ineffective unless it is extremely intense and carried out annually.
  - Effective nest predator control may require hundreds of dollars & man-hours per year & per section of land. The Governor's budget might be enough to cover one township, or possibly even a county, but certainly not the state.
  - Even intense predator control has limitations. Those animals that escape capture or death often reproduce at a higher rate. This means more effort must be expended and more money must be appropriated each year.
  - Nature does not exist in a vacuum. When one animal is removed, others move in, including other species that may be more effective predators.
  - Nest predators also feed on rodents. Opossums also eat ticks. If these nest predators are successfully controlled, an explosion in rodents can be expected, with a huge and potentially devastating impact on farmers and ranchers. Rodents eat grain in the field, & infest grain bins, outbuildings and farmhouses. In SD rodents carry Hantavirus or fleas/ticks that can have bubonic plague, or Lyme disease. These costs must also be considered.
  - Some nest predators are protected by state and federal laws. This would include ALL raptors. (Hawks, owls and eagles are examples.)
  - The nest predator bounty may encourage illegal activity, from trespassing and unlawful night hunting to submitting tails collected out-of-state. NO funds have been allocated for the extra law enforcement.
  - The nest predator program is fiscally irresponsible. The money is desperately needed on habitat programs that actually do provide a return on the investment.
  - Habitat improvements can be cost shared at a rate of 50% to over 75% through a variety of programs. GF&P receives 75% cost share on habitat purchases and improvements through Pittman Robertson funds.
  - Predation is much lower when sufficient habitat for nesting birds is provided.
  - Successful nesting will not occur where there is not sufficient habitat, regardless if most predators are removed or not.
    - Good habitat also provides high-protein food sources, clean water and protection from the elements, all in a suitable arrangement. Habitat for pheasants/ducks also benefits various other wildlife & bird species.
  - This is a statewide program, but areas with pheasant and duck populations are much more limited West River. Why pay bounties for West River predator tails?
  - Much of SDGFP budget derives from sale of licenses and most hunters do not want GFP's limited budget spent on this program.
  - Pheasants are an exotic species that competes with a native species - the greater prairie chicken, whose range and population are declining -- losing half its' population every decade.
  - Accidental take of threatened and endangered species may occur. The swift fox is state listed. The black-footed ferret is listed federally. There is a petition before the USFWS to list the plains spotted skunk and the prairie grey fox under the Endangered Species Act.
- The American Martin is a "sensitive species" for the Black Hills National Forest.

- This program will result in animal cruelty. Some trappers will be trapping with leg-hold traps or snares, or body crushing traps. Some will use live traps. People should realize that in SD the law allows for animals to be left in traps West River for three and a partial day and East River for two and a partial day. Trapping can be cruel. Predators can attack a trapped animal held in a leg hold or snare, who attempts to defend itself while tied down. In high heat or bitter cold, an animal in a box can die in half a day. Animals in boxes or leg-hold traps can freak out and damage their bodies and/or teeth & thus not survive even if released. Dead animals or animals in boxes or traps can't feed their dependent young. Even via a "live trap" non-target species adults and their dependent young will die, in addition to target species.
- Part of the rationale/spin for the program is to introduce children to nature & trapping. Why not introduce children to nature via non-lethal interactions with wildlife such as wildlife watching and spend money on nature guidebooks, binoculars, cameras & not via bounties & traps?
- Empathetic children may encounter moral dilemmas -- such as how to kill the 12 or 13 babies in an opossums pouch with bullets or arrow (see SDCL 41-8-31). If they are curious, they may later learn that they did this killing of babies, serving lies told them by SD GFP about effects of a bounty program on nesting success. How does this engage children with nature or give them trust in our government?

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### 3. Links to other alerts /references

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Much more information on this program is on our web site's home page; scroll down within the chronological events/deadline section to March 5th.

<http://phas-wsd.org/>

Here are links to SD HSUS & SD FACT's Facebook Pages. Both have alerts on this issue, you may wish to scroll down their pages

<https://www.facebook.com/SDFACT/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HSUSSouthDakota/>

The Humane Society of U.S. (HSUS) funded a public opinion survey on the NPBP of 1,000 random people and got much different responses, than SD GFP's funded public opinion survey. Remington Research Group (hired by HSUS) asked some of the same questions and asked some different questions than SDGFP's Responsive Management. After a series of questions, Remington Research Group found **that 26% approved of NPBP and 53% disapproved of the NPBP.** Link to HSUS report:

<https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/South-Dakota-General-Election-Survey.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0TzQSvscZeSc-C1dgSxBjt0sCzgSSX5jxks-wOtFMdjFHv4FgSQCvHKBI>

Link to the SDGFP's public opinion survey of 400 random people - GFP funded both a NPBP participants and a random public opinion survey (found in the second half of report). Link to survey: [https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/SD\\_2020\\_Nest\\_Predator\\_Bounty\\_PPT.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/SD_2020_Nest_Predator_Bounty_PPT.pdf)

GFP references this study in the resolution about 2020 NPBP. SD GFP's hired survey (of random people) found that 62% South Dakotans had no clue about the Nest Predator Bounty program and only 38% knew about it, of which 43% were mostly positive about it (which would be 16% of the population supported it, before being read GFP's description of program). (Page 44 of Responsive Management Report)

Responsive Management staff then read the respondents a short 3 sentence description of the program, which description convinced them to support it and the survey then claimed 83% of SD folks support the program. (Page 45 of Responsive Management Report). This is what GFP and Governor seem to brag about. HSUS found different results...Please compare GFP survey with HSUS's larger and more in depth survey.

For statements that predator control won't work well in large areas visit these links on predator control and pheasants/ducks:

We refer you to Pheasants Forever's web page on "Effects of Predators",

<https://www.pheasantsforever.org/Habitat/Pheasant-Facts/Effects-of-Predators.aspx>

& Ducks Unlimited's web page on "Ducks, Habitat Conservation & Predators":

[https://www.ducks.org/media/Conservation/Conservation\\_Documents/\\_documents/Ducks and Predators low res.pdf](https://www.ducks.org/media/Conservation/Conservation_Documents/_documents/Ducks and Predators low res.pdf)

Also see page 11 of SD GFP's Pheasant Management Plan, in the section on predators:

"Where predator control may be considered as a management option, managers should be aware that cost, logistics, and lack of effectiveness often limit success when compared to habitat management."

<https://gfp.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/pheasant-mngmnt-planpdf.pdf>

SD's 2019 Pheasant Brood report

[https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/PBR\\_2019FINAL.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/PBR_2019FINAL.pdf)

Greater prairie chicken's IUCN Red List web page:

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22679514/92817099>

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22679514/92817099 - assessment-information>

We attach HSUS alert on this topic.

We also attach Game, Fish and Parks' 2017 Annual Report FURBEARER HARVEST PROJECTIONS. We attach this so folks reading public comment can compare the NPBP take to a recent year's annual furbearer take projections. For example via NPBR South Dakotans killed 43,779 raccoons. In the 2017 Report it was projected that South Dakotans and non-residents trapped 21,568 raccoons and hunted 5,737 raccoons. This was a total take of 27,305 raccoon, which is 62% of the raccoons taken by the Nest Predator Bounty. SD GFP Commission should ask Keith Fisk what the effect of the NPBP has been to the annual furbearer harvest both in numbers & prices. How much did furs sell for & how did 2019 Furbearer Harvest Projections compare with other years?

Nancy Hilding

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Hilding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

President  
Prairie Hills Audubon Society

2 Attachments

Humane Society of the United States, FACT SHEET  
Game, Fish and Parks' 2017 Annual Report FURBEARER HARVEST PROJECTIONS

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The proposed nest predator bounty program resolution has this resolution:

***"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Nest Predator Bounty Program shall be operated from April 1 to July 1, 2020, to coincide with the primary nesting season of pheasants, ducks, and other ground nesting birds. The method of take is expanded to include shooting of nest predators in addition to trapping."***  
*(Emphasis added)*

The following law provides that game animals are to be shot by bullets or arrows or taken by falcons. Thus all trappers have to shoot a live trapped animal with a gun or bow. It is unnecessary to expand the preview of Nest Predator Bounty Program to include shooting, because if the trappers killed them by any other means it is technically a violation of SDCL 41-8-31.

*SDCL 41-1-1. Definition of terms. Terms used in this title mean:*

*(12) "Game," all wild mammals or birds;*

*SDCL 41-8-31. Hunting methods restricted--Violation as misdemeanor. No person may at any time hunt, catch, take, attempt to take, or kill any small game or game animal in any other manner than by shooting the same with a firearm, except:*

*(1) Game birds and animals may be taken with birds trained in falconry or with bow and arrow;*

*(1A) Cottontail rabbit, red squirrel, fox squirrel, grey squirrel, and any species defined as a predator/varmint in § 41-1-1 may be taken with an air gun*

*that complies with specifications established by rules promulgated by the Game, Fish and Parks Commission pursuant to chapter 1-26;*

*(2) A person with a permanent or temporary disability who is missing an upper limb, physically incapable of using an upper limb, or confined to a wheelchair may obtain a disabled hunter permit to use a crossbow or other legal bow equipped with a draw-lock device to take game birds and animals;*

*(3) A person who is legally blind, is legally licensed, possesses a disabled hunter permit, and is physically present and participates in the hunt but cannot safely discharge a firearm or bow and arrow, may claim game birds and animals taken by a designated hunter in accordance with the license possessed by the hunter who is legally blind;*

*(3A) A person who is quadriplegic, is legally licensed, possesses a disabled hunter permit, and is physically present and participates in the hunt but cannot safely discharge a firearm or bow and arrow, may claim game birds and animals taken by a designated hunter in accordance with the license possessed by the hunter who is quadriplegic; and*

*(4) A person with a permanent or temporary disability as defined in subdivision (2) of this section who is legally licensed for a youth big game hunting season, possesses a disabled hunter permit, and is physically present and participates in the hunt but is unable to safely discharge a firearm or bow and arrow, may claim any big game animal taken by a designated hunter in accordance with the youth big game license possessed by the person with a permanent or temporary disability.*

*A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor.*

*Thanks,*

*Nancy Hilding*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Hilding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "N".

*President  
Prairie Hills Audubon Society*

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# **South Dakota GAME REPORT**

**No. 2018 – 06**

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## ***2017***

**Annual Report**

### **FURBEARER HARVEST PROJECTIONS**

**Corey Huxoll**

**Game Harvest Surveys Coordinator  
South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks  
Division of Wildlife  
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## PREFACE

Harvest estimates reported herein for the 2017-18 furbearer seasons were developed as described for other species in Wildlife Survey Manual, 2009-2015, South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. If species specific methodologies are not reported there, they are presented within this report.

Corey Huxoll, (Division of Wildlife, Terrestrial Wildlife Section), was responsible for development of these harvest estimates as part of Federal Aid for Wildlife Restoration as Project W-95-R. Harvest survey responses were taken directly over the Internet using Qualtrics® or the SDGFP website, or were processed and encoded by Erin Boggs or Dana Ertz.

This report was funded in part by Federal Aid Project W-95-R



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# FURBEARER HARVEST SUMMARY

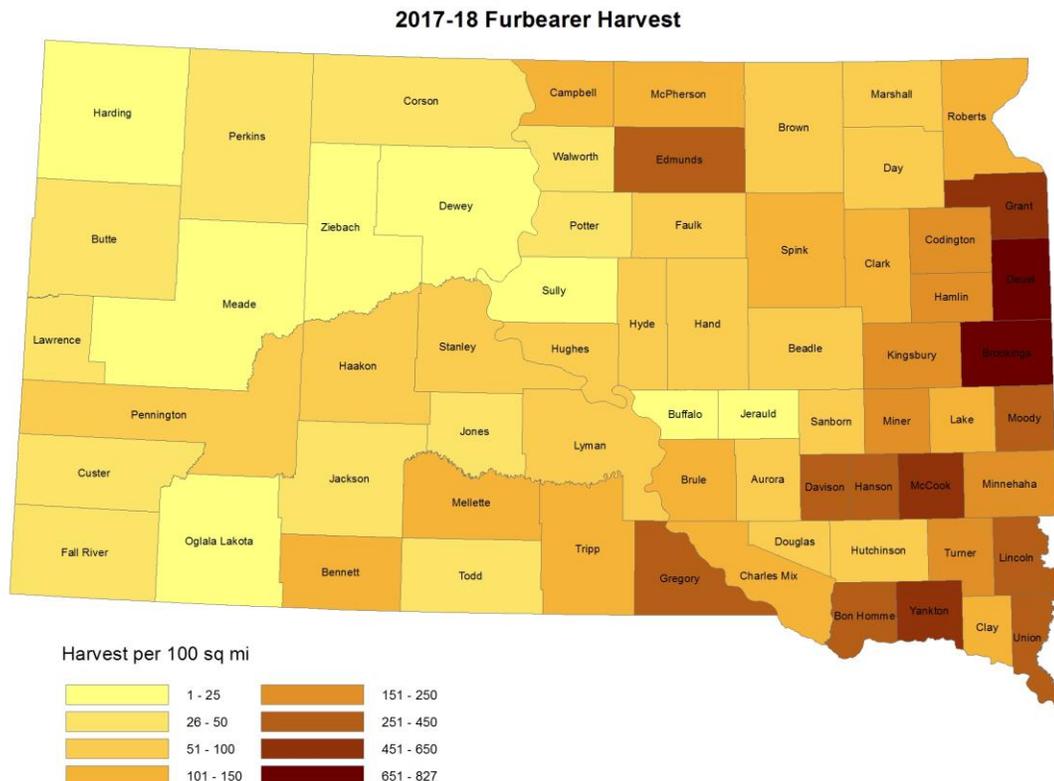
Individual furbearer seasons had different season dates, license requirements, and open areas within the state and are discussed later in separate sections. This report only includes harvest from furbearer license holders, therefore harvest for coyotes, red fox, skunks, raccoons and badgers are minimum estimates. Any resident or nonresident with a predator/varmint license or any type of hunting license was eligible to hunt those species. Rules restricted nonresidents to taking raccoon, beaver and muskrat from only Dec. 2 - March 15, and bobcats from Jan. 13 – Feb. 15, and mink and weasel from Dec. 2 – Jan. 31. Nonresidents were restricted from using dogs to aid in taking raccoon.

In the 2017-2018 seasons, there were approximately 230,000 resident and 110,000 nonresident licenses issued that allowed holders to hunt furbearers. Of those, only 3,915 residents and 17 nonresidents had licenses that allowed trapping of furbearers. Some 2017 furbearer license holders also purchased 2018 licenses that were valid during the 2017 seasons. In addition to those who had both 2017 and 2018 licenses, 834 residents and 3 nonresidents purchased 2018 licenses prior to April 15, 2018 making them eligible to hunt or trap the 2017 seasons.

Harvest surveys were sent to resident and nonresident furbearer license holders who had a 2017 license or a 2018 license that was purchased prior to April 15, 2018. Response rates were 59% for residents and 53% for nonresidents. Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 440 furbearer license holders trapped/hunted on public-owned land East River and 285 hunted/trapped on public-owned land West River, and of those 34 hunted/trapped on public land both East and West River.

When asked their satisfaction on the seasons, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), resident hunters/trappers reported an average satisfaction level of 5.05 and nonresidents reported an average of 5.63.

The five counties with the highest total reported furbearer harvest densities per square mile were Deuel, Brookings, McCook, Yankton, and Grant.



***FURBEARER HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2017-18***

*Revised: 30 July 2018*

	Resident	Nonresident	Totals
<b>Licenses Sold*</b>	3,915	17	<b>3,932</b>
<b>Projected ACTIVE TRAPPERS/HUNTERS</b>	<b>2,120</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,135</b>
<b>Trapping Harvest</b>			
Coyotes	15,574	661	16,234
Red Fox	1,520	0	1,520
Bobcat	N/A	N/A	367
Raccoon	21,522	46	21,568
Beaver	1,813	0	1,813
Muskrat	13,886	0	13,886
Mink	354	0	354
Weasel	64	0	64
Badger	1,494	6	1,499
Opossum	4,457	0	4,457
Striped Skunk	6,627	31	6,658
Spotted Skunk	169	0	169
<b>Hunting Harvest</b>			
Coyotes	7,978	96	8,074
Red Fox	341	0	341
Bobcat	N/A	N/A	95
Raccoon	5,734	3	5,737
Beaver	580	8	587
Muskrat	530	0	530
Mink	16	0	16
Weasel	2	0	2
Badger	366	0	366
Opossum	356	0	356
Striped Skunk	1,060	0	1,060
Spotted Skunk	70	0	70
<b>Total Harvest</b>			
Coyotes	23,552	756	24,308
Red Fox	1,861	0	1,861
Bobcat	N/A	N/A	462
Raccoon	27,256	49	27,305
Beaver	2,393	8	2,400
Muskrat	14,416	0	14,416
Mink	371	0	371
Weasel	66	0	66
Badger	1,859	6	1,865
Opossum	4,814	0	4,814
Striped Skunk	7,687	31	7,718
Spotted Skunk	240	0	240
<b>Furbearer Mean Satisfaction Score **</b>	5.05	5.63	

\* Licenses sold for the 2017 licensing year (15 Dec 2016 - 31 Jan 2018) and the 2018 licensing year (15 Dec 2017 - 31 Jan 2019) purchased prior to 16 April 2018

\*\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1="very dissatisfied" and 7="very satisfied"

South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
 Corey Huxoll

<b>Total Furbearer Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>														
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>Coyote</b>	<b>Red Fox</b>	<b>Bobcat</b>	<b>Raccoon</b>	<b>Beaver</b>	<b>Muskrat</b>	<b>Mink</b>	<b>Weasel</b>	<b>Badger</b>	<b>Opossum</b>	<b>Striped Skunk</b>	<b>Spotted Skunk</b>	<b>Total Harvest</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Minnehaha	140	54	0	757	145	373	23	5	13	206	57	0	1,773	2.1
Pennington	1,186	31	36	188	18	77	23	0	31	0	105	0	1,695	2.0
Brown	354	107	0	472	0	3	8	0	54	0	111	0	1,108	1.3
Beadle	300	10	0	445	3	0	8	0	13	49	48	5	881	1.0
Codington	371	23	0	322	15	612	5	5	13	0	35	0	1,403	1.6
Brookings	502	31	0	1,151	141	3,903	15	0	31	206	235	0	6,215	7.2
Yankton	340	21	3	2,046	28	0	0	0	38	286	143	0	2,906	3.4
Davison	180	3	0	695	5	15	0	0	10	167	133	70	1,278	1.5
Lawrence	81	0	15	90	23	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	230	0.3
Aurora	27	5	0	436	13	31	3	0	18	60	66	35	694	0.8
Bennett	1,201	3	1	82	0	0	0	0	13	0	30	0	1,330	1.5
Bon Homme	285	49	5	1,132	34	12	3	0	44	396	203	0	2,163	2.5
Brule	544	31	7	285	0	0	0	0	59	86	131	33	1,176	1.4
Buffalo	2	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	2	0	13	0	26	0.0
Butte	172	54	26	301	0	77	13	0	43	0	85	0	772	0.9
Campbell	0	0	0	204	0	0	0	0	0	0	907	0	1,111	1.3
Charles Mix	416	10	11	660	18	12	3	0	107	195	189	18	1,640	1.9
Clark	160	29	0	447	18	111	20	12	5	21	196	0	1,019	1.2
Clay	153	21	1	198	91	15	3	0	3	3	0	0	486	0.6
Corson	692	0	19	56	13	0	0	0	2	0	66	0	848	1.0
Custer	379	3	25	195	0	0	0	0	20	0	43	0	664	0.8
Day	190	42	0	337	0	262	8	0	7	0	50	0	896	1.0
Deuel	617	57	0	790	98	3,468	15	0	59	39	111	0	5,255	6.1
Dewey	357	0	10	13	46	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	501	0.6
Douglas	37	26	0	67	0	124	10	0	7	18	33	0	322	0.4
Edmunds	492	178	0	1,852	5	367	42	0	174	10	1,094	6	4,220	4.9
Fall River	315	31	43	145	28	52	0	0	13	0	88	0	716	0.8
Faulk	325	26	0	294	0	0	3	0	46	0	32	0	726	0.8
Grant	517	36	0	951	75	1,195	23	0	54	13	624	0	3,488	4.1
Gregory	1,172	52	54	1,160	44	120	3	0	44	167	257	3	3,074	3.6
Haakon	470	5	10	126	8	229	0	0	15	0	76	0	939	1.1
Hamlin	106	29	0	219	26	800	10	0	13	34	27	28	1,291	1.5
Hand	399	34	0	556	13	31	0	0	38	68	202	10	1,351	1.6
Hanson	317	18	0	384	10	6	10	7	67	193	80	0	1,093	1.3
Harding	121	3	39	15	21	0	0	0	7	0	30	0	236	0.3
Hughes	212	10	2	181	26	77	10	0	3	0	43	2	566	0.7
Hutchinson	167	18	0	370	0	0	0	0	8	70	46	0	679	0.8
Hyde	529	34	0	85	0	0	0	0	88	0	27	0	763	0.9
Jackson	515	3	26	67	0	15	0	0	28	0	22	0	675	0.8
Jerauld	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	36	12	0	119	0.1
Jones	337	0	1	62	0	0	0	0	36	3	22	0	461	0.5
Kingsbury	344	57	0	209	75	679	13	17	8	104	128	0	1,634	1.9
Lake	197	55	0	271	0	0	3	5	0	70	22	0	623	0.7
Lincoln	669	103	0	919	215	86	0	0	75	388	70	0	2,526	2.9
Lyman	409	31	19	314	15	0	0	0	13	5	64	0	870	1.0
McCook	239	8	0	1,663	3	247	10	12	28	917	212	0	3,340	3.9
McPherson	622	99	0	247	0	0	3	0	72	0	113	0	1,157	1.3
Marshall	204	10	0	187	196	3	0	0	18	0	88	0	706	0.8
Meade	345	18	21	127	33	12	5	0	23	0	23	0	607	0.7
Mellette	1,218	0	24	136	102	0	0	0	49	8	33	0	1,570	1.8
Miner	76	3	0	714	26	34	3	0	8	375	55	3	1,296	1.5
Moody	212	49	0	588	5	448	33	0	8	70	83	6	1,501	1.7
Perkins	861	34	17	160	110	25	3	0	23	0	41	0	1,272	1.5
Potter	44	0	0	131	28	0	0	0	0	0	43	3	249	0.3
Roberts	687	65	0	273	26	361	20	0	26	0	110	0	1,568	1.8
Sanborn	98	0	0	204	0	0	0	0	0	10	15	0	328	0.4
Spink	573	55	0	890	31	176	23	0	26	78	303	0	2,155	2.5
Stanley	935	57	6	3	81	124	0	0	5	0	2	0	1,213	1.4
Sully	155	8	0	38	10	0	0	0	26	0	15	0	252	0.3
Tripp	635	36	6	869	126	21	0	0	126	91	389	15	2,316	2.7
Turner	158	31	0	589	54	0	0	0	5	260	55	0	1,153	1.3
Union	349	49	3	710	156	40	3	0	41	102	68	0	1,520	1.8
Walworth	123	0	0	25	0	9	0	0	33	0	8	0	198	0.2
Ziebach	192	3	20	68	113	88	0	0	10	0	0	0	493	0.6
Oglala Lakota	66	0	9	5	0	0	0	0	13	0	30	0	124	0.1
Todd	212	3	1	51	31	0	0	0	5	8	55	0	365	0.4
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>24,308</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>27,305</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>14,416</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>7,718</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>85,824</b>	<b>100%</b>

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

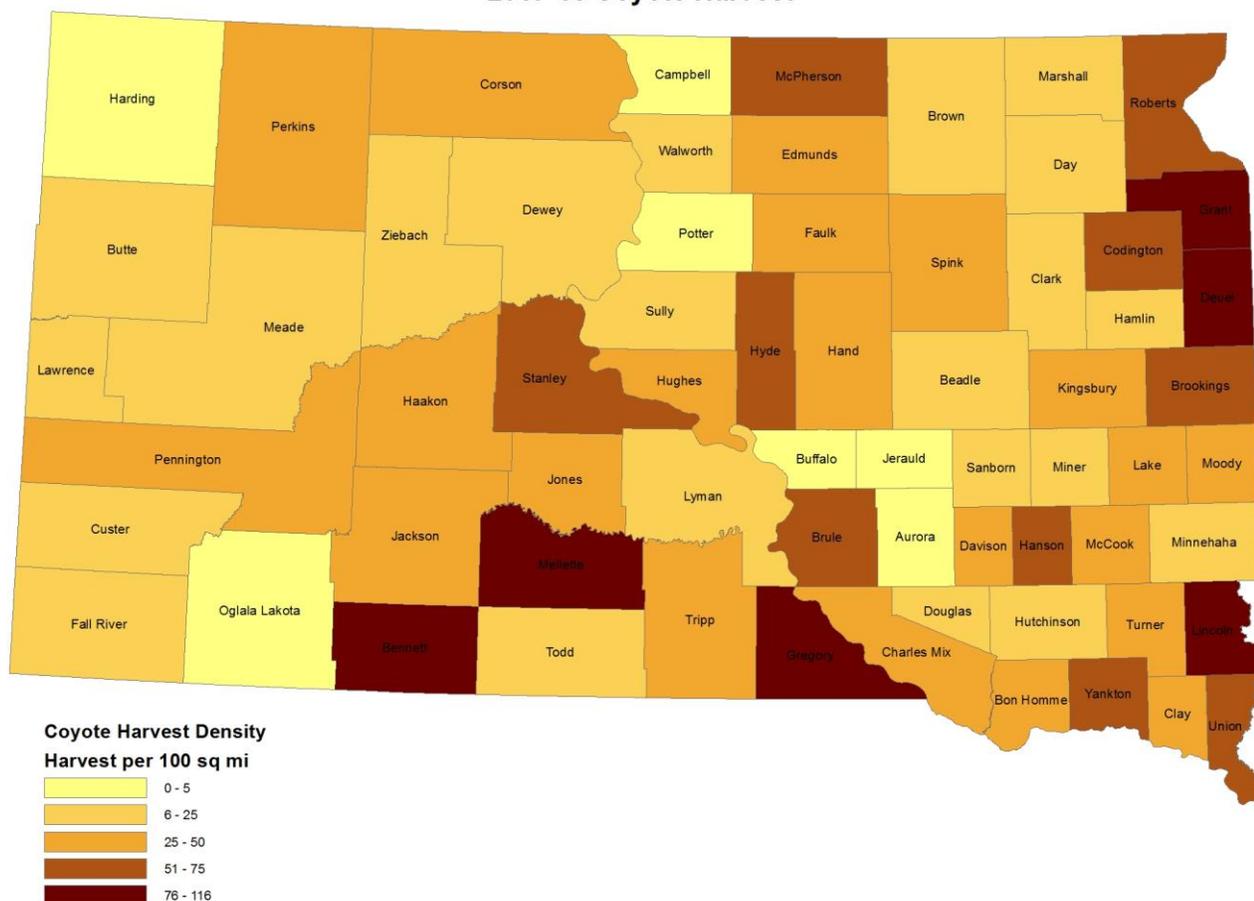
# COYOTE

The 2017 coyote season was open statewide and year-round. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt coyotes and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap coyotes. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt coyotes. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt coyotes, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap coyotes.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 24,308 coyotes were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported coyote harvest densities were Lincoln, Gregory, Deuel, Bennett, and Mellette.

2017-18 Coyote Harvest



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections

Corey Huxoll

<b>Coyote Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *			
Minnehaha	15	36	0.5	37	42	99	0.6	103	140	0.6	
Pennington	120	287	3.7	296	362	854	5.5	890	1,186	4.9	
Brown	31	74	0.9	76	113	266	1.7	278	354	1.5	
Beadle	49	117	1.5	121	73	172	1.1	180	300	1.2	
Codington	20	48	0.6	49	131	309	2.0	322	371	1.5	
Brookings	40	96	1.2	99	164	387	2.5	403	502	2.1	
Yankton	43	103	1.3	106	95	224	1.4	234	340	1.4	
Davison	51	122	1.6	126	22	52	0.3	54	180	0.7	
Lawrence	16	38	0.5	39	17	40	0.3	42	81	0.3	
Aurora	7	17	0.2	17	4	9	0.1	10	27	0.1	
Bennett	205	491	6.3	505	283	667	4.3	696	1,201	4.9	
Bon Homme	16	38	0.5	39	100	236	1.5	246	285	1.2	
Brule	149	357	4.5	367	72	170	1.1	177	544	2.2	
Buffalo	1	2	0.0	2	0	0	0.0	0	2	0.0	
Butte	37	89	1.1	91	33	78	0.5	81	172	0.7	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	122	292	3.7	301	47	111	0.7	116	416	1.7	
Clark	12	29	0.4	30	53	125	0.8	130	160	0.7	
Clay	6	14	0.2	15	56	132	0.8	138	153	0.6	
Corson	95	227	2.9	234	186	439	2.8	457	692	2.8	
Custer	64	153	2.0	158	90	212	1.4	221	379	1.6	
Day	26	62	0.8	64	51	120	0.8	125	190	0.8	
Deuel	13	31	0.4	32	238	561	3.6	585	617	2.5	
Dewey	61	146	1.9	150	84	198	1.3	207	357	1.5	
Douglas	15	36	0.5	37	0	0	0.0	0	37	0.2	
Edmunds	79	189	2.4	195	121	285	1.8	298	492	2.0	
Fall River	45	108	1.4	111	83	196	1.3	204	315	1.3	
Faulk	5	12	0.2	12	127	299	1.9	312	325	1.3	
Grant	12	29	0.4	30	198	467	3.0	487	517	2.1	
Gregory	199	476	6.1	491	277	653	4.2	681	1,172	4.8	
Haakon	113	270	3.5	279	78	184	1.2	192	470	1.9	
Hamlin	31	74	0.9	76	12	28	0.2	30	106	0.4	
Hand	71	170	2.2	175	91	215	1.4	224	399	1.6	
Hanson	3	7	0.1	7	126	297	1.9	310	317	1.3	
Harding	15	36	0.5	37	34	80	0.5	84	121	0.5	
Hughes	37	89	1.1	91	49	116	0.7	121	212	0.9	
Hutchinson	34	81	1.0	84	34	80	0.5	84	167	0.7	
Hyde	32	77	1.0	79	183	432	2.8	450	529	2.2	
Jackson	166	397	5.1	409	43	101	0.7	106	515	2.1	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jones	49	117	1.5	121	88	208	1.3	216	337	1.4	
Kingsbury	9	22	0.3	22	131	309	2.0	322	344	1.4	
Lake	10	24	0.3	25	70	165	1.1	172	197	0.8	
Lincoln	39	93	1.2	96	233	549	3.5	573	669	2.8	
Lyman	114	273	3.5	281	52	123	0.8	128	409	1.7	
McCook	17	41	0.5	42	80	189	1.2	197	239	1.0	
McPherson	41	98	1.3	101	212	500	3.2	521	622	2.6	
Marshall	15	36	0.5	37	68	160	1.0	167	204	0.8	
Meade	81	194	2.5	200	59	139	0.9	145	345	1.4	
Mellette	184	440	5.6	454	311	733	4.7	765	1,218	5.0	
Miner	10	24	0.3	25	21	50	0.3	52	76	0.3	
Moody	32	77	1.0	79	54	127	0.8	133	212	0.9	
Perkins	56	134	1.7	138	294	693	4.5	723	861	3.5	
Potter	15	36	0.5	37	3	7	0.0	7	44	0.2	
Roberts	67	160	2.0	165	212	500	3.2	521	687	2.8	
Sanborn	10	24	0.3	25	30	71	0.5	74	98	0.4	
Spink	26	62	0.8	64	207	488	3.1	509	573	2.4	
Stanley	133	318	4.1	328	247	582	3.7	607	935	3.8	
Sully	14	34	0.4	35	49	116	0.7	121	155	0.6	
Tripp	113	270	3.5	279	145	342	2.2	357	635	2.6	
Turner	18	43	0.5	44	46	108	0.7	113	158	0.6	
Union	1	2	0.0	2	141	333	2.1	347	349	1.4	
Walworth	29	69	0.9	71	21	50	0.3	52	123	0.5	
Ziebach	47	112	1.4	116	31	73	0.5	76	192	0.8	
Oglala Lakota	6	14	0.2	15	21	50	0.3	52	66	0.3	
Todd	83	199	2.5	205	3	7	0.0	7	212	0.9	
Unknown	98	235	-	-	283	667	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>3,373</b>	<b>8,074</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8,074</b>	<b>6,884</b>	<b>16,234</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,234</b>	<b>24,308</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

# BOBCAT

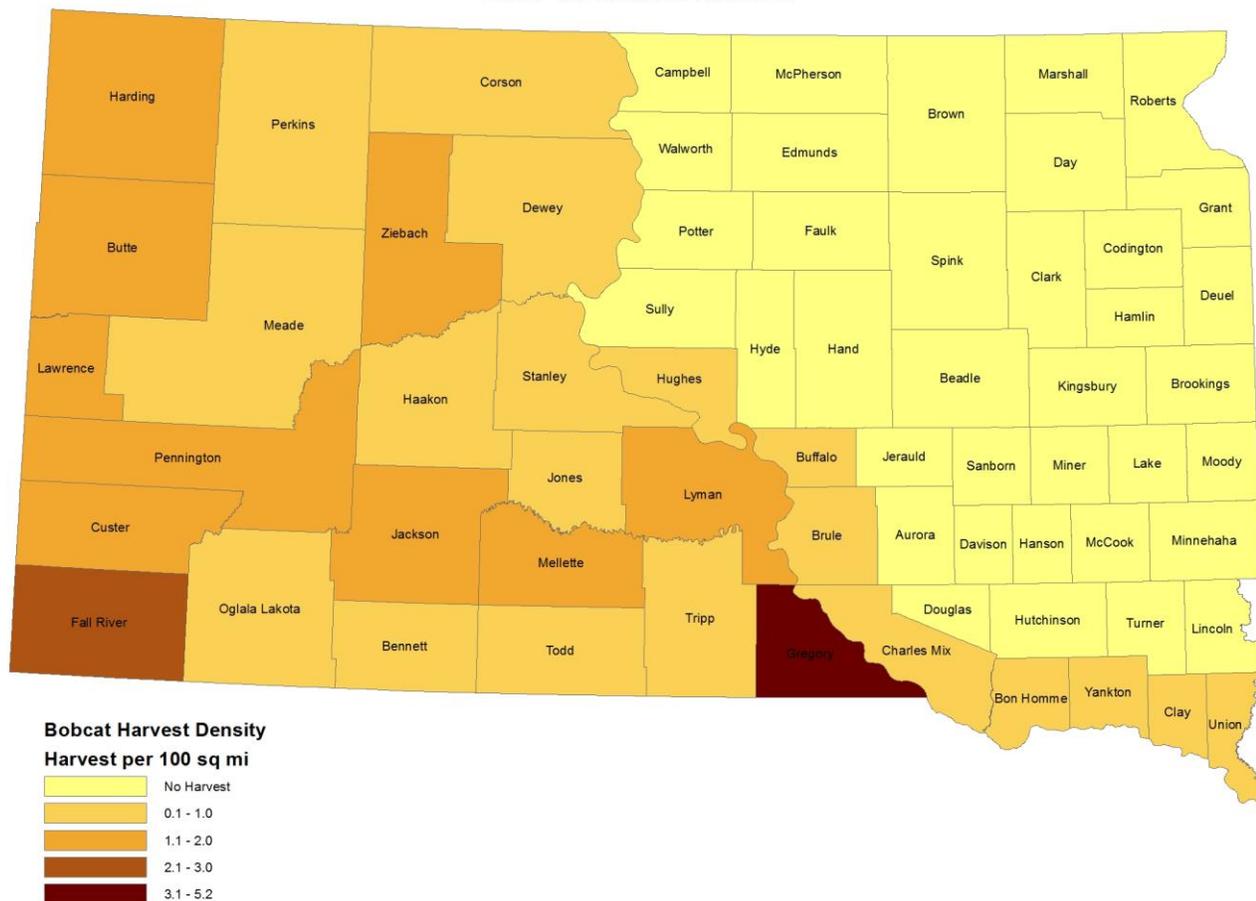
The 2017 resident bobcat season was open west of the Missouri River from December 26, 2017 through February 15, 2018 and east of the Missouri River in Buffalo, Brule, Charles Mix, Bon Homme, Hughes, Hutchinson, Hyde, Union, Clay, and Yankton counties from December 26, 2017 – January 21, 2018. The nonresident bobcat season was open from January 13 – February 15, 2018. Residents age 16 and older holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt and trap bobcats. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt bobcats. Nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt and trap bobcats.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. A total of 462 bobcats were checked in during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

A total of 205 respondents reported trapping/hunting bobcats an average of 16.3 days (SE=0.99). A total of 131 respondents reported the number of traps they set at one time for bobcats which averaged 13.2 traps (SE=1.15). Of those responding, 33 reported hunting/trapping for bobcats in the Black Hills which projected to 88 hunters/trappers. Check in results showed a total Black Hills harvest of 49 bobcats.

The five counties with the highest reported bobcat harvest densities were Gregory, Fall River, Lawrence, Mellette, and Custer.

2017-18 Bobcat Harvest



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
 Corey Huxoll

<b>Bobcat Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>									
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>			<b>TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION</b>			<b>Total Harvest</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	
	<b># Reported</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>	<b># Reported</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b># Proj w/ Unk *</b>			
Pennington	3	3.2	3	33	9.0	33	36	7.8	
Yankton	2	2.1	2	1	0.3	1	3	0.6	
Lawrence	8	8.4	8	7	1.9	7	15	3.3	
Bennett	1	1.1	1	0	0.0	0	1	0.2	
Bon Homme	0	0.0	0	5	1.4	5	5	1.1	
Brule	2	2.1	2	5	1.4	5	7	1.5	
Buffalo	0	0.0	0	1	0.3	1	1	0.2	
Butte	8	8.4	8	18	4.9	18	26	5.6	
Charles Mix	3	3.2	3	8	2.2	8	11	2.4	
Clay	0	0.0	0	1	0.3	1	1	0.2	
Corson	6	6.3	6	13	3.6	13	19	4.1	
Custer	10	10.5	10	15	4.1	15	25	5.4	
Dewey	1	1.1	1	9	2.5	9	10	2.2	
Fall River	4	4.2	4	39	10.7	39	43	9.3	
Gregory	12	12.6	12	42	11.5	42	54	11.7	
Haakon	2	2.1	2	8	2.2	8	10	2.2	
Harding	5	5.3	5	34	9.3	34	39	8.5	
Hughes	0	0.0	0	2	0.5	2	2	0.4	
Jackson	4	4.2	4	22	6.0	22	26	5.6	
Jones	0	0.0	0	1	0.3	1	1	0.2	
Lyman	7	7.4	7	12	3.3	12	19	4.1	
Meade	5	5.3	5	16	4.4	16	21	4.6	
Mellette	3	3.2	3	21	5.7	21	24	5.2	
Perkins	2	2.1	2	15	4.1	15	17	3.7	
Stanley	0	0.0	0	6	1.6	6	6	1.3	
Tripp	2	2.1	2	4	1.1	4	6	1.3	
Union	0	0.0	0	3	0.8	3	3	0.7	
Ziebach	0	0.0	0	20	5.5	20	20	4.3	
Oglala Lakota	4	4.2	4	5	1.4	5	9	2.0	
Todd	1	1.1	1	0	0.0	0	1	0.2	
Unknown	0	0.0	-	1	0.3	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>100%</b>	

*Last Revised: 30 July 2018*

*\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.*

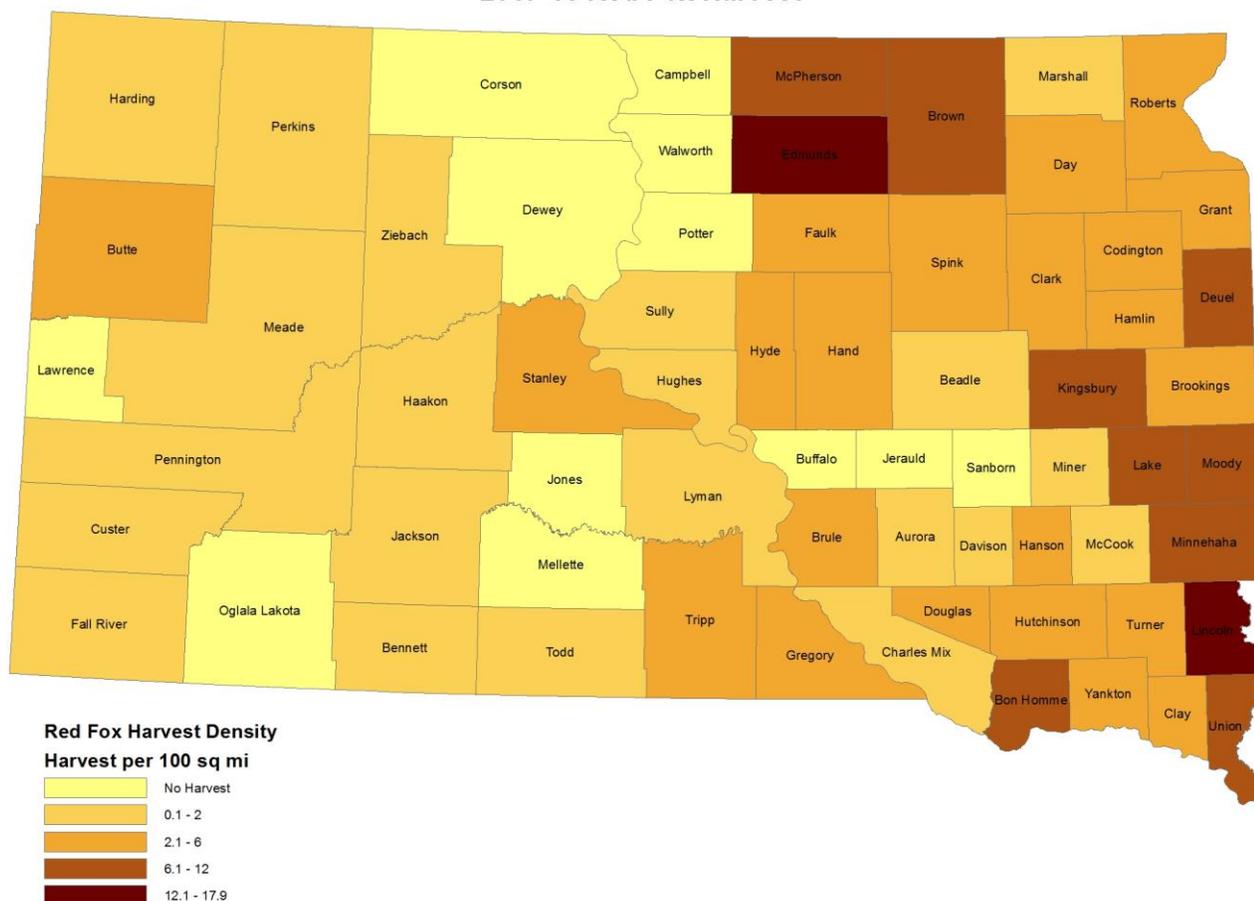
# RED FOX

The 2017 red fox season was open statewide and year-round. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt fox and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap fox. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt fox. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt fox, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap fox.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 1,861 red fox were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported red fox harvest densities were Union, Lincoln, Edmunds, Moody, and Lake.

2017-18 Red Fox Harvest



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Red Fox Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *			
Minnehaha	5	12	3.8	13	16	38	2.7	42	54	2.9	
Pennington	1	2	0.8	3	11	26	1.9	29	31	1.7	
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	41	97	7.0	107	107	5.7	
Beadle	1	2	0.8	3	3	7	0.5	8	10	0.6	
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	1.5	23	23	1.3	
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	2.1	31	31	1.7	
Yankton	2	5	1.5	5	6	14	1.0	16	21	1.1	
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1	
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Aurora	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.3	5	5	0.3	
Bennett	1	2	0.8	3	0	0	0.0	0	3	0.1	
Bon Homme	2	5	1.5	5	17	40	2.9	44	49	2.7	
Brule	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	2.1	31	31	1.7	
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Butte	9	21	6.8	23	12	28	2.1	31	54	2.9	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	3	7	2.3	8	1	2	0.2	3	10	0.6	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.9	29	29	1.5	
Clay	4	9	3.0	10	4	9	0.7	10	21	1.1	
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1	
Day	2	5	1.5	5	14	33	2.4	36	42	2.2	
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	22	52	3.8	57	57	3.1	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Douglas	10	24	7.5	26	0	0	0.0	0	26	1.4	
Edmunds	31	74	23.3	80	38	90	6.5	99	178	9.6	
Fall River	2	5	1.5	5	10	24	1.7	26	31	1.7	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.7	26	26	1.4	
Grant	2	5	1.5	5	12	28	2.1	31	36	2.0	
Gregory	2	5	1.5	5	18	43	3.1	47	52	2.8	
Haakon	1	2	0.8	3	1	2	0.2	3	5	0.3	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.9	29	29	1.5	
Hand	0	0	0.0	0	13	31	2.2	34	34	1.8	
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.2	18	18	1.0	
Harding	1	2	0.8	3	0	0	0.0	0	3	0.1	
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	0.7	10	10	0.6	
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.2	18	18	1.0	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	13	31	2.2	34	34	1.8	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	22	52	3.8	57	57	3.1	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	21	50	3.6	55	55	2.9	
Lincoln	20	47	15.0	51	20	47	3.4	52	103	5.6	
Lyman	10	24	7.5	26	2	5	0.3	5	31	1.7	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.5	8	8	0.4	
McPherson	2	5	1.5	5	36	85	6.2	94	99	5.3	
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	0.7	10	10	0.6	
Meade	3	7	2.3	8	4	9	0.7	10	18	1.0	
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1	
Moody	2	5	1.5	5	17	40	2.9	44	49	2.7	
Perkins	3	7	2.3	8	10	24	1.7	26	34	1.8	
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	25	59	4.3	65	65	3.5	
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	21	50	3.6	55	55	2.9	
Stanley	13	31	9.8	33	9	21	1.5	23	57	3.1	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.5	8	8	0.4	
Tripp	0	0	0.0	0	14	33	2.4	36	36	2.0	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	2.1	31	31	1.7	
Union	0	0	0.0	0	19	45	3.3	49	49	2.7	
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Todd	1	2	0.8	3	0	0	0.0	0	3	0.1	
Unknown	11	26	-	-	59	139	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

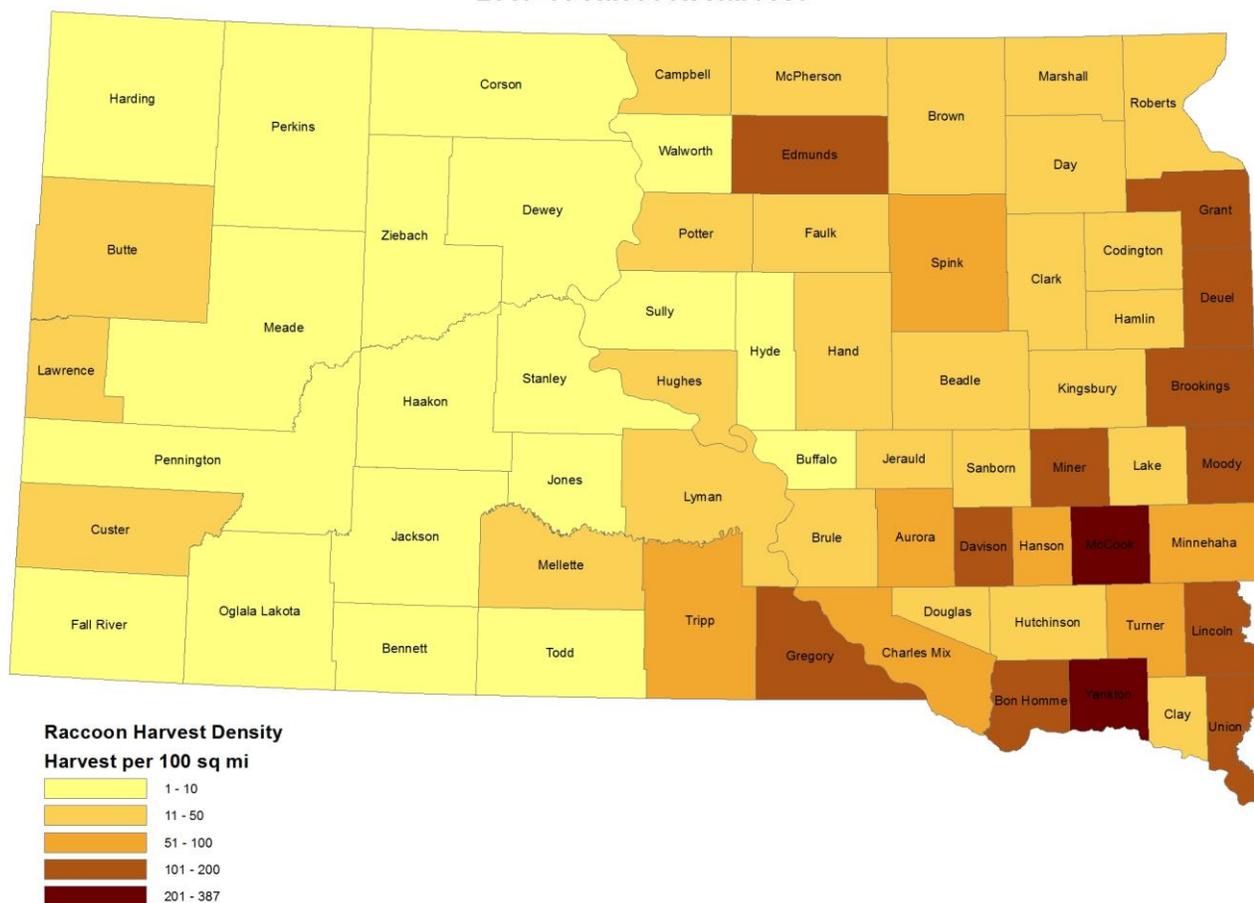
# RACCOON

The 2017 resident raccoon season was open statewide and year-round. The nonresident raccoon season was restricted to Dec. 2, 2017 - March 15, 2018. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt raccoons and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap raccoons. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt raccoons. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt raccoons, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap raccoons.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 27,305 raccoons were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported raccoon harvest densities were Yankton, McCook, Union, Bon Homme, and Edmunds.

**2017-18 Raccoon Harvest**



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Raccoon Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>										
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *		
Minnehaha	30	72	1.3	75	264	623	3.2	682	757	2.8
Pennington	3	7	0.1	8	70	165	0.8	181	188	0.7
Brown	41	98	1.8	103	143	338	1.7	369	472	1.7
Beadle	60	144	2.6	150	114	269	1.4	294	445	1.6
Codington	4	10	0.2	10	121	286	1.4	312	322	1.2
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	446	1,053	5.3	1,151	1,151	4.2
Yankton	114	273	5.0	285	682	1,610	8.2	1,761	2,046	7.5
Davison	64	153	2.8	160	207	489	2.5	534	695	2.5
Lawrence	5	12	0.2	13	30	71	0.4	77	90	0.3
Aurora	69	165	3.0	173	102	241	1.2	263	436	1.6
Bennett	9	22	0.4	23	23	54	0.3	59	82	0.3
Bon Homme	113	271	4.9	283	329	777	3.9	849	1,132	4.1
Brule	19	46	0.8	48	92	217	1.1	238	285	1.0
Buffalo	3	7	0.1	8	0	0	0.0	0	8	0.0
Butte	80	192	3.5	200	39	92	0.5	101	301	1.1
Campbell	34	81	1.5	85	46	109	0.6	119	204	0.7
Charles Mix	81	194	3.5	203	177	418	2.1	457	660	2.4
Clark	29	69	1.3	73	145	342	1.7	374	447	1.6
Clay	16	38	0.7	40	61	144	0.7	157	198	0.7
Corson	4	10	0.2	10	18	42	0.2	46	56	0.2
Custer	55	132	2.4	138	22	52	0.3	57	195	0.7
Day	20	48	0.9	50	111	262	1.3	287	337	1.2
Deuel	28	67	1.2	70	279	659	3.3	720	790	2.9
Dewey	1	2	0.0	3	4	9	0.0	10	13	0.0
Douglas	8	19	0.3	20	18	42	0.2	46	67	0.2
Edmunds	293	702	12.8	734	433	1,022	5.2	1,118	1,852	6.8
Fall River	1	2	0.0	3	55	130	0.7	142	145	0.5
Faulk	5	12	0.2	13	109	257	1.3	281	294	1.1
Grant	118	283	5.2	295	254	600	3.0	656	951	3.5
Gregory	123	295	5.4	308	330	779	4.0	852	1,160	4.2
Haakon	6	14	0.3	15	43	102	0.5	111	126	0.5
Hamlin	9	22	0.4	23	76	179	0.9	196	219	0.8
Hand	54	129	2.4	135	163	385	2.0	421	556	2.0
Hanson	12	29	0.5	30	137	323	1.6	354	384	1.4
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	6	14	0.1	15	15	0.1
Hughes	25	60	1.1	63	46	109	0.6	119	181	0.7
Hutchinson	123	295	5.4	308	24	57	0.3	62	370	1.4
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	33	78	0.4	85	85	0.3
Jackson	2	5	0.1	5	24	57	0.3	62	67	0.2
Jerauld	24	57	1.0	60	4	9	0.0	10	70	0.3
Jones	2	5	0.1	5	22	52	0.3	57	62	0.2
Kingsbury	4	10	0.2	10	77	182	0.9	199	209	0.8
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	105	248	1.3	271	271	1.0
Lincoln	68	163	3.0	170	290	685	3.5	749	919	3.4
Lyman	42	101	1.8	105	81	191	1.0	209	314	1.2
McCook	56	134	2.4	140	590	1,393	7.1	1,523	1,663	6.1
McPherson	39	93	1.7	98	58	137	0.7	150	247	0.9
Marshall	25	60	1.1	63	48	113	0.6	124	187	0.7
Meade	24	57	1.0	60	26	61	0.3	67	127	0.5
Mellette	10	24	0.4	25	43	102	0.5	111	136	0.5
Miner	45	108	2.0	113	233	550	2.8	602	714	2.6
Moody	10	24	0.4	25	218	515	2.6	563	588	2.2
Perkins	2	5	0.1	5	60	142	0.7	155	160	0.6
Potter	11	26	0.5	28	40	94	0.5	103	131	0.5
Roberts	39	93	1.7	98	68	161	0.8	176	273	1.0
Sanborn	65	156	2.8	163	16	38	0.2	41	204	0.7
Spink	7	17	0.3	18	338	798	4.0	873	890	3.3
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.0	3	3	0.0
Sully	5	12	0.2	13	10	24	0.1	26	38	0.1
Tripp	77	184	3.4	193	262	619	3.1	676	869	3.2
Turner	29	69	1.3	73	200	472	2.4	516	589	2.2
Union	0	0	0.0	0	275	649	3.3	710	710	2.6
Walworth	10	24	0.4	25	0	0	0.0	0	25	0.1
Ziebach	27	65	1.2	68	0	0	0.0	0	68	0.2
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.0	5	5	0.0
Todd	9	22	0.4	23	11	26	0.1	28	51	0.2
Unknown	104	249	-	-	781	1,844	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>2,395</b>	<b>5,737</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5,737</b>	<b>9,135</b>	<b>21,568</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>21,568</b>	<b>27,305</b>	<b>100%</b>

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

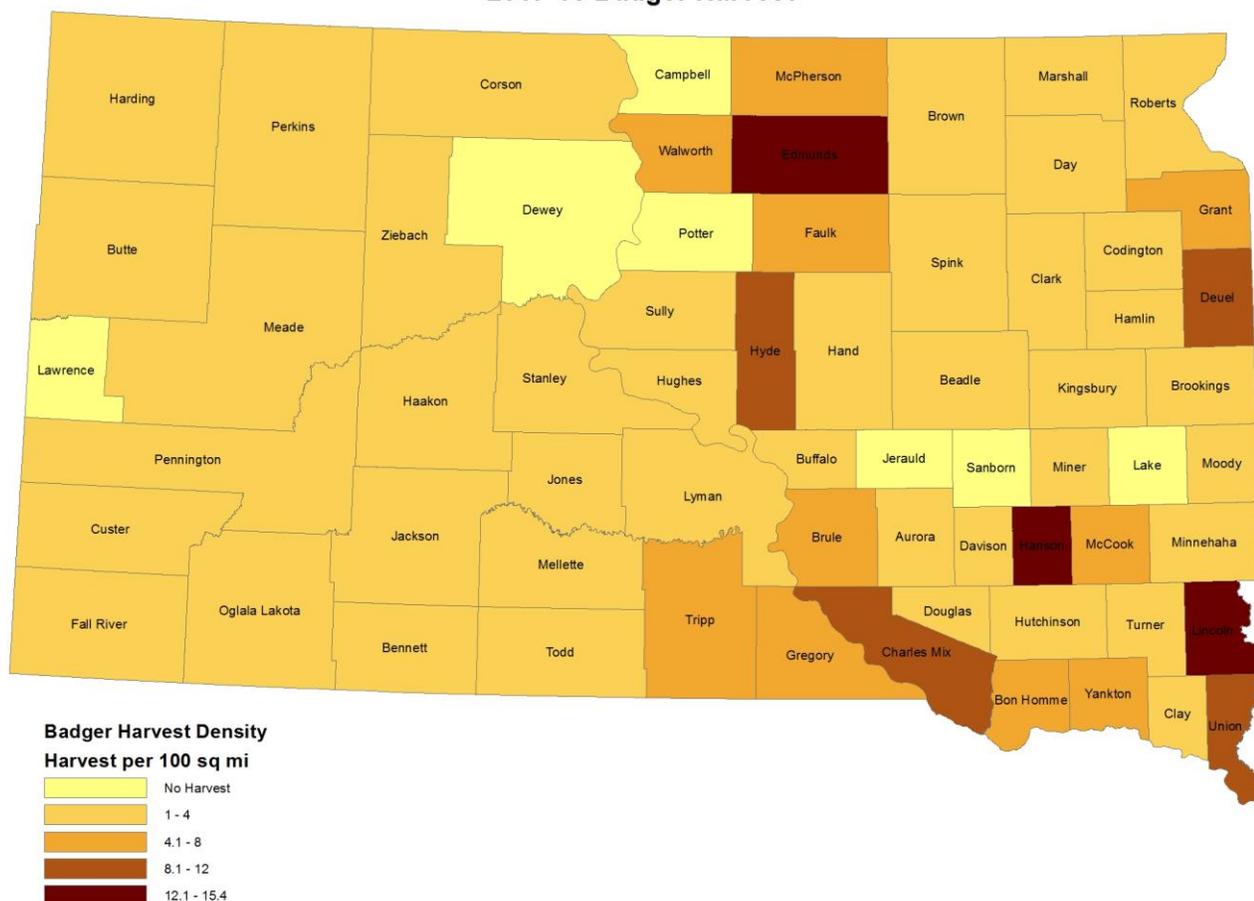
# **BADGER**

The 2017 badger season was open statewide and year-round. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt badgers and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap badgers. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt badgers. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt badgers, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap badgers.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 1,865 badgers were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported badger harvest densities were Hanson, Lincoln, Edmunds, Hyde, and Charles Mix.

**2017-18 Badger Harvest**



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *		
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.9	13	13	0.7
Pennington	1	2	0.7	2	11	26	1.9	28	31	1.7
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	21	50	3.6	54	54	2.9
Beadle	2	5	1.3	5	3	7	0.5	8	13	0.7
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.9	13	13	0.7
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	2.1	31	31	1.7
Yankton	4	10	2.7	10	11	26	1.9	28	38	2.0
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	0.7	10	10	0.6
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Aurora	2	5	1.3	5	5	12	0.9	13	18	1.0
Bennett	1	2	0.7	2	4	9	0.7	10	13	0.7
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	17	40	2.9	44	44	2.4
Brule	5	12	3.4	12	18	43	3.1	46	59	3.1
Buffalo	1	2	0.7	2	0	0	0.0	0	2	0.1
Butte	4	10	2.7	10	13	31	2.2	34	43	2.3
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Charles Mix	28	67	18.8	69	15	35	2.6	39	107	5.8
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.3	5	5	0.3
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1
Corson	1	2	0.7	2	0	0	0.0	0	2	0.1
Custer	7	17	4.7	17	1	2	0.2	3	20	1.1
Day	2	5	1.3	5	1	2	0.2	3	7	0.4
Deuel	4	10	2.7	10	19	45	3.3	49	59	3.2
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Douglas	2	5	1.3	5	1	2	0.2	3	7	0.4
Edmunds	30	72	20.1	74	39	92	6.7	101	174	9.3
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.9	13	13	0.7
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	18	43	3.1	46	46	2.5
Grant	2	5	1.3	5	19	45	3.3	49	54	2.9
Gregory	1	2	0.7	2	16	38	2.8	41	44	2.3
Haakon	1	2	0.7	2	5	12	0.9	13	15	0.8
Hamlin	2	5	1.3	5	3	7	0.5	8	13	0.7
Hand	5	12	3.4	12	10	24	1.7	26	38	2.0
Hanson	1	2	0.7	2	25	59	4.3	65	67	3.6
Harding	3	7	2.0	7	0	0	0.0	0	7	0.4
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.2	3	3	0.1
Hutchinson	1	2	0.7	2	2	5	0.3	5	8	0.4
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	34	80	5.9	88	88	4.7
Jackson	6	14	4.0	15	5	12	0.9	13	28	1.5
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Jones	4	10	2.7	10	10	24	1.7	26	36	1.9
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.5	8	8	0.4
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	29	69	5.0	75	75	4.0
Lyman	2	5	1.3	5	3	7	0.5	8	13	0.7
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.9	28	28	1.5
McPherson	1	2	0.7	2	27	64	4.6	70	72	3.9
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.2	18	18	1.0
Meade	3	7	2.0	7	6	14	1.0	15	23	1.2
Mellette	2	5	1.3	5	17	40	2.9	44	49	2.6
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.5	8	8	0.4
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.5	8	8	0.4
Perkins	5	12	3.4	12	4	9	0.7	10	23	1.2
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Roberts	2	5	1.3	5	8	19	1.4	21	26	1.4
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.7	26	26	1.4
Stanley	1	2	0.7	2	1	2	0.2	3	5	0.3
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.7	26	26	1.4
Tripp	4	10	2.7	10	45	106	7.7	116	126	6.8
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.3	5	5	0.3
Union	1	2	0.7	2	15	35	2.6	39	41	2.2
Walworth	2	5	1.3	5	11	26	1.9	28	33	1.8
Ziebach	4	10	2.7	10	0	0	0.0	0	10	0.5
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.9	13	13	0.7
Todd	2	5	1.3	5	0	0	0.0	0	5	0.3
Unknown	4	10	-	-	53	125	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>1,865</b>	<b>100%</b>

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Opossum Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *			
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	79	187	4.6	206	206	4.3	
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Beadle	4	10	2.9	10	15	35	0.9	39	49	1.0	
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	79	187	4.6	206	206	4.3	
Yankton	17	41	12.4	44	93	220	5.4	242	286	6.0	
Davison	10	24	7.3	26	54	128	3.2	141	167	3.5	
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Aurora	1	2	0.7	3	22	52	1.3	57	60	1.2	
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	152	359	8.9	396	396	8.2	
Brule	6	14	4.4	16	27	64	1.6	70	86	1.8	
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	20	48	14.6	52	55	130	3.2	143	195	4.1	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	8	19	0.5	21	21	0.4	
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.1	3	3	0.1	
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Day	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	15	35	0.9	39	39	0.8	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Douglas	4	10	2.9	10	3	7	0.2	8	18	0.4	
Edmunds	2	5	1.5	5	2	5	0.1	5	10	0.2	
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.3	13	13	0.3	
Gregory	5	12	3.6	13	59	139	3.4	154	167	3.5	
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hamlin	8	19	5.8	21	5	12	0.3	13	34	0.7	
Hand	6	14	4.4	16	20	47	1.2	52	68	1.4	
Hanson	10	24	7.3	26	64	151	3.7	167	193	4.0	
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hutchinson	10	24	7.3	26	17	40	1.0	44	70	1.5	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	14	33	0.8	36	36	0.8	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.1	3	3	0.1	
Kingsbury	3	7	2.2	8	37	87	2.2	96	104	2.2	
Lake	1	2	0.7	3	26	61	1.5	68	70	1.5	
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	149	352	8.7	388	388	8.1	
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.1	5	5	0.1	
McCook	2	5	1.5	5	350	827	20.5	912	917	19.1	
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Meade	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.2	8	8	0.2	
Miner	8	19	5.8	21	136	321	7.9	354	375	7.8	
Moody	2	5	1.5	5	25	59	1.5	65	70	1.5	
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Sanborn	2	5	1.5	5	2	5	0.1	5	10	0.2	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	30	71	1.8	78	78	1.6	
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Tripp	9	22	6.6	23	26	61	1.5	68	91	1.9	
Turner	6	14	4.4	16	94	222	5.5	245	260	5.4	
Union	0	0	0.0	0	39	92	2.3	102	102	2.1	
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Todd	1	2	0.7	3	2	5	0.1	5	8	0.2	
Unknown	12	29	-	-	176	416	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>4,457</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,457</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

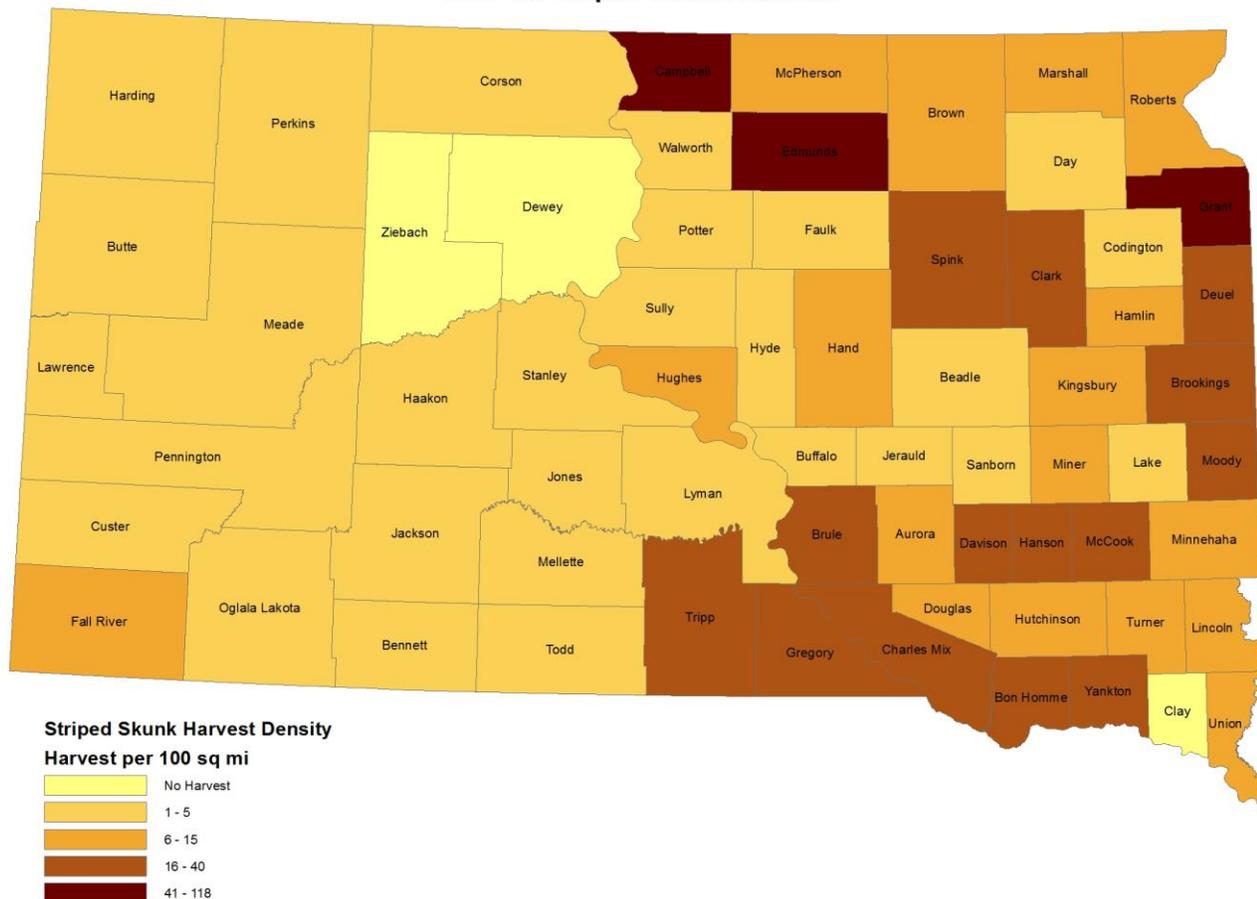
# STRIPED SKUNK

The 2017 striped skunk season was open statewide and year-round. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt striped skunks and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap striped skunks. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt striped skunks. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt striped skunks, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap striped skunks.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 7,718 striped skunks were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported striped skunk harvest densities were Campbell, Edmunds, Grant, McCook, and Bon Homme.

2017-18 Striped Skunk Harvest



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Striped Skunk Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *			
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	23	54	0.9	57	57	0.7	
Pennington	2	5	0.5	5	40	94	1.5	100	105	1.4	
Brown	7	17	1.7	18	37	87	1.4	92	111	1.4	
Beadle	8	19	1.9	21	11	26	0.4	27	48	0.6	
Codington	5	12	1.2	13	9	21	0.3	22	35	0.5	
Brookings	2	5	0.5	5	92	217	3.5	230	235	3.0	
Yankton	12	28	2.9	31	45	106	1.7	112	143	1.9	
Davison	5	12	1.2	13	48	113	1.8	120	133	1.7	
Lawrence	4	9	1.0	10	9	9	0.2	10	20	0.3	
Aurora	10	24	2.4	26	16	38	0.6	40	66	0.9	
Bennett	2	5	0.5	5	10	24	0.4	25	30	0.4	
Bon Homme	1	2	0.2	3	80	189	3.0	200	203	2.6	
Brule	7	17	1.7	18	45	106	1.7	112	131	1.7	
Buffalo	5	12	1.2	13	0	0	0.0	0	13	0.2	
Butte	5	12	1.2	13	29	68	1.1	72	85	1.1	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	363	856	13.6	907	907	11.8	
Charles Mix	17	40	4.1	44	58	137	2.2	145	189	2.4	
Clark	9	21	2.2	23	69	163	2.6	172	196	2.5	
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Corson	10	24	2.4	26	16	38	0.6	40	66	0.9	
Custer	1	2	0.2	3	16	38	0.6	40	43	0.6	
Day	4	9	1.0	10	16	38	0.6	40	50	0.7	
Deuel	13	31	3.2	34	31	73	1.2	77	111	1.4	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Douglas	8	19	1.9	21	5	12	0.2	12	33	0.4	
Edmunds	48	114	11.7	124	388	915	14.6	970	1,094	14.2	
Fall River	5	12	1.2	13	30	71	1.1	75	88	1.1	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	13	31	0.5	32	32	0.4	
Grant	21	50	5.1	54	228	538	8.6	570	624	8.1	
Gregory	22	52	5.4	57	80	189	3.0	200	257	3.3	
Haakon	8	19	1.9	21	22	52	0.8	55	76	1.0	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	0.4	27	27	0.4	
Hand	62	147	15.1	160	17	40	0.6	42	202	2.6	
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	32	75	1.2	80	80	1.0	
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	0.5	30	30	0.4	
Hughes	1	2	0.2	3	16	38	0.6	40	43	0.6	
Hutchinson	11	26	2.7	28	7	17	0.3	17	46	0.6	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	0.4	27	27	0.4	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	0.3	22	22	0.3	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.2	12	12	0.2	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	0.3	22	22	0.3	
Kingsbury	4	9	1.0	10	47	111	1.8	117	128	1.7	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	0.3	22	22	0.3	
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	28	66	1.1	70	70	0.9	
Lyman	17	40	4.1	44	8	19	0.3	20	64	0.8	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	85	201	3.2	212	212	2.8	
McPherson	10	24	2.4	26	35	83	1.3	87	113	1.5	
Marshall	1	2	0.2	3	34	80	1.3	85	88	1.1	
Meade	5	12	1.2	13	4	9	0.2	10	23	0.3	
Mellette	1	2	0.2	3	12	28	0.5	30	33	0.4	
Miner	1	2	0.2	3	21	50	0.8	52	55	0.7	
Moody	4	9	1.0	10	29	68	1.1	72	83	1.1	
Perkins	7	17	1.7	18	9	21	0.3	22	41	0.5	
Potter	2	5	0.5	5	15	35	0.6	37	43	0.6	
Roberts	1	2	0.2	3	43	101	1.6	107	110	1.4	
Sanborn	3	7	0.7	8	3	7	0.1	7	15	0.2	
Spink	10	24	2.4	26	111	262	4.2	277	303	3.9	
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.0	2	2	0.0	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	6	14	0.2	15	15	0.2	
Tripp	24	57	5.8	62	131	309	4.9	327	389	5.0	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	22	52	0.8	55	55	0.7	
Union	1	2	0.2	3	26	61	1.0	65	68	0.9	
Walworth	3	7	0.7	8	0	0	0.0	0	8	0.1	
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	0.5	30	30	0.4	
Todd	2	5	0.5	5	20	47	0.8	50	55	0.7	
Unknown	37	88	-	-	158	373	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>2,822</b>	<b>6,658</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,658</b>	<b>7,718</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

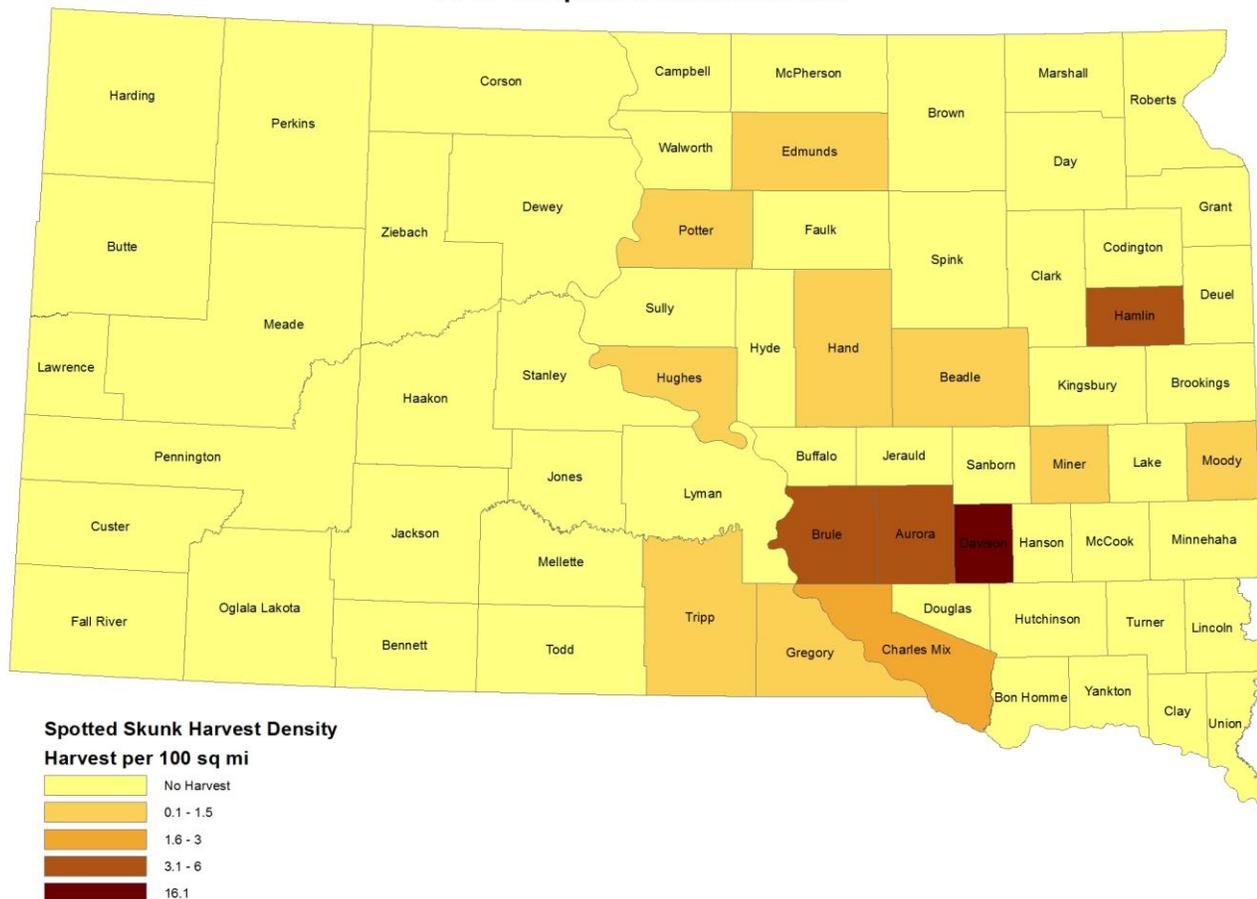
# SPOTTED SKUNK

The 2017 spotted skunk season was open statewide and year-round. Residents age 16 and older holding a predator/varmint, furbearer or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt spotted skunks and residents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap spotted skunks. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt spotted skunks. Nonresidents holding a predator/varmint or any type of hunting license were eligible to hunt spotted skunks, and nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to trap spotted skunks.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 240 spotted skunks were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported spotted skunk harvest densities were Davison, Hamlin, Aurora, Charles Mix, and Brule.

2017-18 Spotted Skunk Harvest



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Spotted Skunk Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>										
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *		
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Beadle	2	5	6.9	5	0	0.0	0	0	5	2.0
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Davison	10	24	34.5	24	15	27.3	46	70	29.4	29.4
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Aurora	7	17	24.1	17	6	10.9	18	35	14.8	14.8
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Brule	1	2	3.4	2	10	18.2	31	33	13.9	13.9
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Charles Mix	1	2	3.4	2	5	9.1	15	18	7.4	7.4
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Day	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Edmunds	0	0	0.0	0	2	3.6	6	6	2.6	2.6
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Gregory	0	0	0.0	0	1	1.8	3	3	1.3	1.3
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Hamlin	4	10	13.8	10	6	10.9	18	28	11.8	11.8
Hand	3	7	10.3	7	1	1.8	3	10	4.3	4.3
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Hughes	1	2	3.4	2	0	0.0	0	2	1.0	1.0
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Meade	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	1	1.8	3	3	1.3	1.3
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	2	3.6	6	6	2.6	2.6
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	1	1.8	3	3	1.3	1.3
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Tripp	0	0	0.0	0	5	9.1	15	15	6.4	6.4
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Union	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Unknown	0	0	-	-	15	36	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>100%</b>

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
 Corey Huxoll

COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *		
	Minnehaha	1	2	0.6	3	120	294	2.7		
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	25	61	0.6	77	77	0.5
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.0	3	3	0.0
Beadle	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Codington	56	136	30.9	164	145	356	3.2	448	612	4.2
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	1264	3,100	28.1	3,903	3,903	27.1
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.1	15	15	0.1
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Aurora	0	0	0.0	0	10	25	0.2	31	31	0.2
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	4	10	0.1	12	12	0.1
Brule	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Butte	4	10	2.2	12	21	51	0.5	65	77	0.5
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Charles Mix	0	0	0.0	0	4	10	0.1	12	12	0.1
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	36	88	0.8	111	111	0.8
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.1	15	15	0.1
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Day	0	0	0.0	0	85	208	1.9	262	262	1.8
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	1123	2,754	25.0	3,468	3,468	24.1
Dewey	15	36	8.3	44	10	25	0.2	31	75	0.5
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	40	98	0.9	124	124	0.9
Edmunds	60	146	33.1	176	62	152	1.4	191	367	2.5
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	17	42	0.4	52	52	0.4
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	387	949	8.6	1,195	1,195	8.3
Gregory	5	12	2.8	15	34	83	0.8	105	120	0.8
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	74	181	1.6	229	229	1.6
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	259	635	5.8	800	800	5.5
Hand	0	0	0.0	0	10	25	0.2	31	31	0.2
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.0	6	6	0.0
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	25	61	0.6	77	77	0.5
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Jackson	5	12	2.8	15	0	0	0.0	0	15	0.1
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	220	539	4.9	679	679	4.7
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	28	69	0.6	86	86	0.6
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	80	196	1.8	247	247	1.7
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Marshall	1	2	0.6	3	0	0	0.0	0	3	0.0
Meade	3	7	1.7	9	1	2	0.0	3	12	0.1
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	11	27	0.2	34	34	0.2
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	145	356	3.2	448	448	3.1
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	8	20	0.2	25	25	0.2
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	117	287	2.6	361	361	2.5
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	57	140	1.3	176	176	1.2
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	40	98	0.9	124	124	0.9
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Tripp	1	2	0.6	3	6	15	0.1	19	21	0.1
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Union	0	0	0.0	0	13	32	0.3	40	40	0.3
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	0.1	9	9	0.1
Ziebach	30	73	16.6	88	0	0	0.0	0	88	0.6
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Unknown	37	90	-	-	1,166	2,859	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>5,663</b>	<b>13,886</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13,886</b>	<b>14,416</b>	<b>100%</b>

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
 \* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

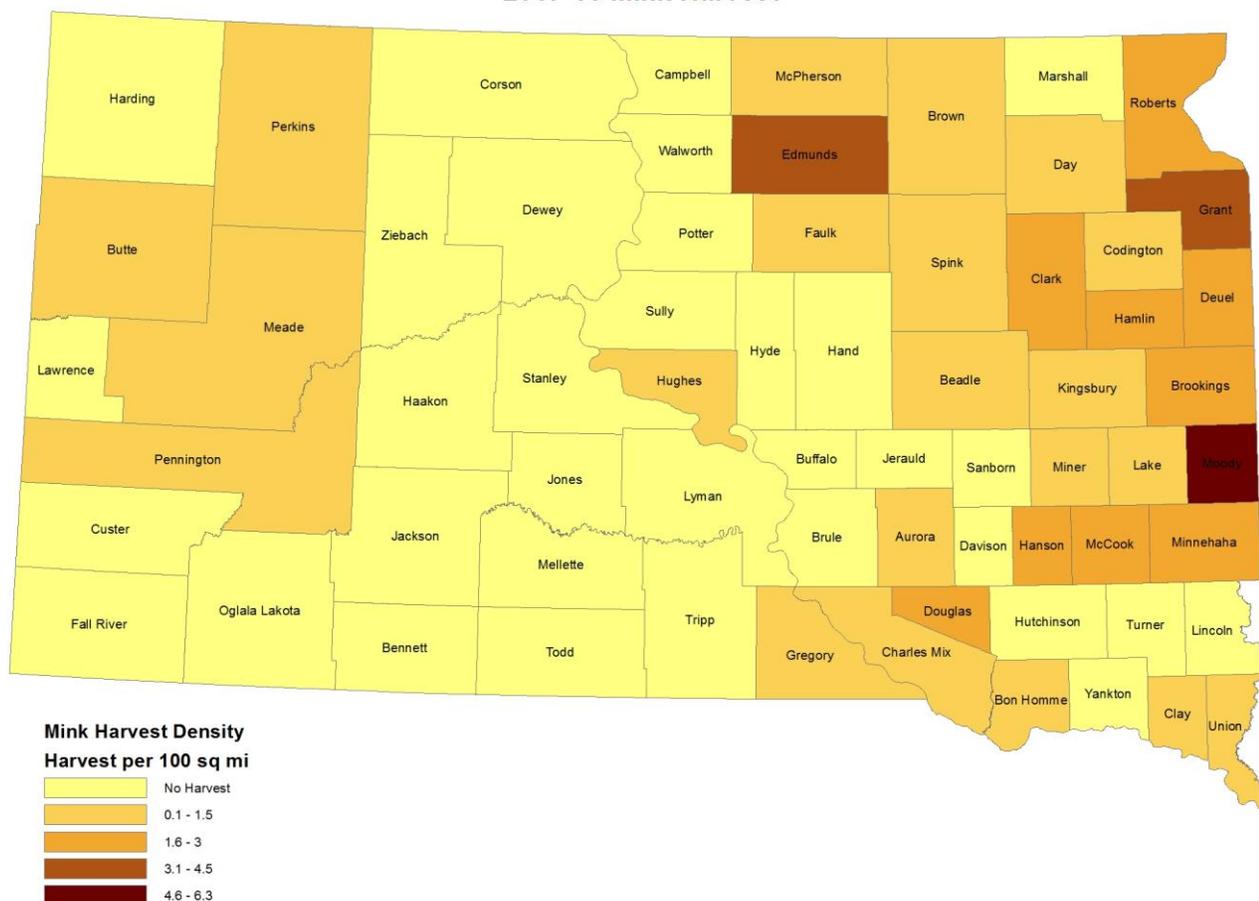
# MINK

The 2017 resident mink season was open November 4, 2017 through January 31, 2018 statewide. The nonresident mink season was restricted to December 2, 2017 - January 31, 2018. Residents age 16 and older holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap mink. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt mink. Nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap mink.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 371 mink were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported mink harvest densities were Moody, Edmunds, Grant, Minnehaha, and Deuel.

**2017-18 Mink Harvest**



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Mink Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *			
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	6.4	23	23	6.1	
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	6.4	23	23	6.1	
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	2.1	8	8	2.0	
Beadle	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	2.1	8	8	2.0	
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	1.4	5	5	1.4	
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	6	14	4.3	15	15	4.1	
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Aurora	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Brule	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	3.5	13	13	3.4	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	8	19	5.7	20	20	5.4	
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Day	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	2.1	8	8	2.0	
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	6	14	4.3	15	15	4.1	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	2.8	10	10	2.7	
Edmunds	6	14	100.0	16	10	23	7.1	25	42	11.2	
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	6.4	23	23	6.1	
Gregory	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	2.8	10	10	2.7	
Hand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	2.8	10	10	2.7	
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	2.8	10	10	2.7	
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	3.5	13	13	3.4	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	2.8	10	10	2.7	
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Meade	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	1.4	5	5	1.4	
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	13	31	9.2	33	33	8.8	
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	8	19	5.7	20	20	5.4	
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	6.4	23	23	6.1	
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Tripp	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Union	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.7	3	3	0.7	
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Unknown	1	2	-	-	10	23	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

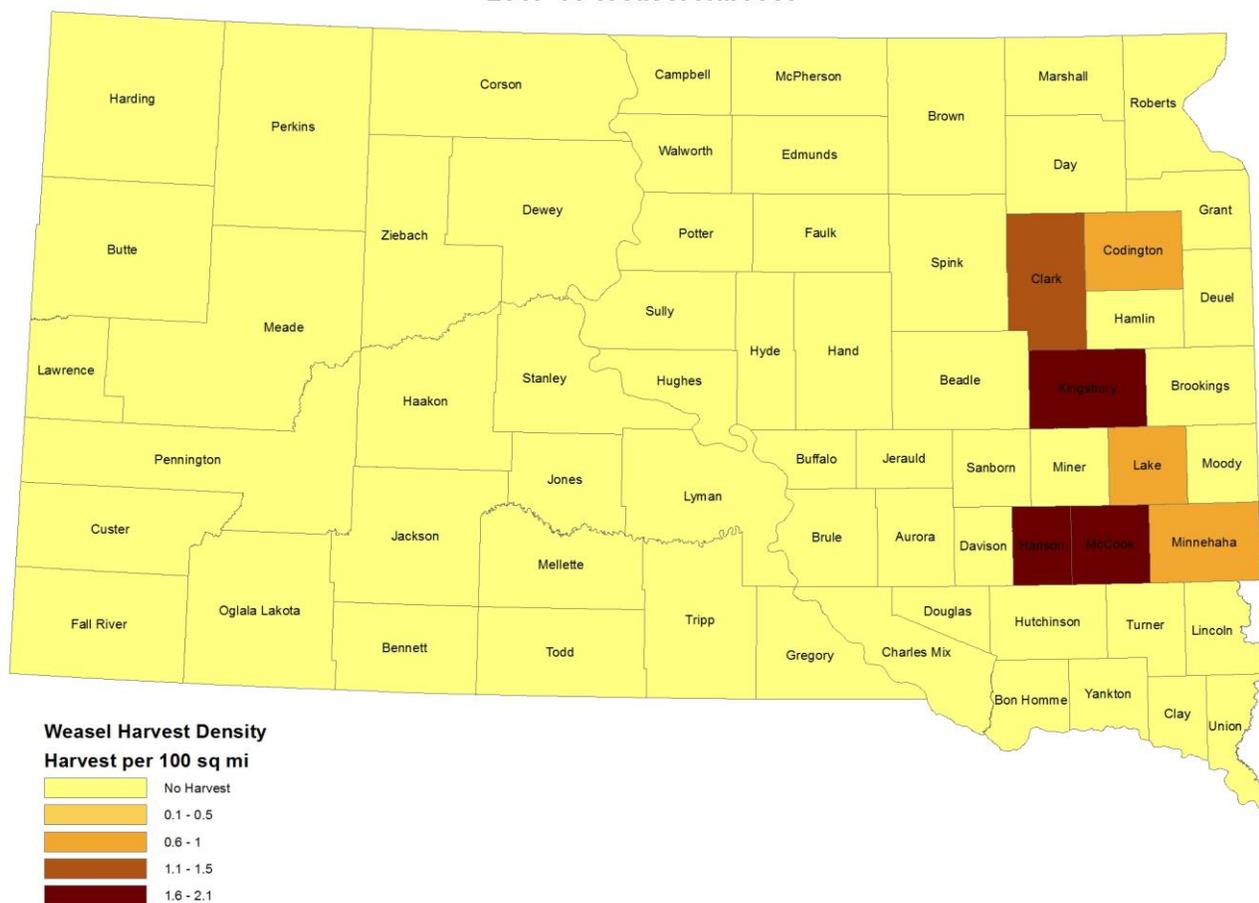
# WEASEL

The 2017 resident weasel season was open November 4, 2017 through January 31, 2018 statewide. The nonresident weasel season was restricted to December 2, 2017 - January 31, 2018. Residents age 16 and older holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap weasels. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt weasels. Nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap weasels.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 66 weasels were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported weasel harvest densities were McCook, Kingsbury, Hanson, Clark, and Lake.

**2017-18 Weasel Harvest**



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
Corey Huxoll

<b>Weasel Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *			
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	7.7	5	5	7.4	
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Beadle	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Codington	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	7.7	5	5	7.4	
Brookings	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Aurora	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Brule	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	19.2	12	12	18.6	
Clay	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Day	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Edmunds	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Gregory	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hand	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hanson	0	0	0.0	0	3	7	11.5	7	7	11.1	
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	26.9	17	17	26.0	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	7.7	5	5	7.4	
Lincoln	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	19.2	12	12	18.6	
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Meade	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Moody	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Tripp	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Union	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Unknown	1	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>96%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

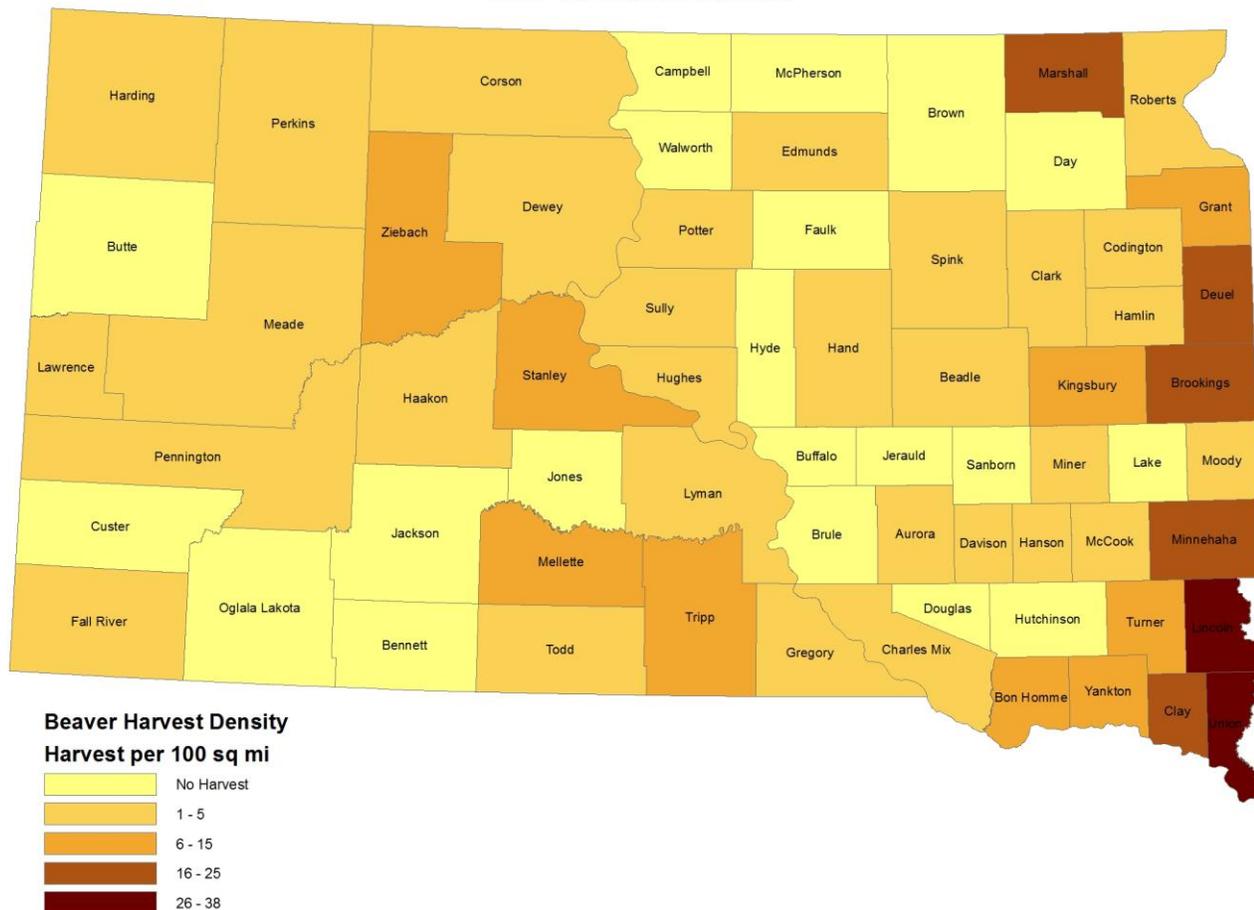
# BEAVER

The 2017 resident beaver season was open November 4, 2017 through April 30, 2018 east of the Missouri River, year-round west of the Missouri River except on Forest Service land in the Black Hills, where the season was open only January 1 through March 31. The nonresident beaver season was restricted to December 2, 2017 - March 15, 2018. Residents age 16 and older holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap beaver. Resident youth under age 16 were not required to have any license to trap or hunt beaver. Nonresidents holding a furbearer license were eligible to hunt or trap beaver.

Based on survey responses indicating at least one day of hunting or trapping furbearers, there were a projected 2,120 resident and 15 nonresident active hunters/trappers that held a furbearer license during the 2017 seasons. An estimated 2,400 beaver were harvested during the 2017 season by furbearer license holders.

The five counties with the highest reported beaver harvest densities were Union, Lincoln, Marshall, Clay, and Minnehaha.

**2017-18 Beaver Harvest**



South Dakota Game Report No 2018-06 - 2017 Furbearer Harvest Projections  
 Corey Huxoll

<b>Beaver Harvest Distribution by County 2017-18</b>											
COUNTY	HUNTING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				TRAPPING HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Total Harvest	% of Total	
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/Unk *			
Minnehaha	0	0	0.0	0	56	133	8.0	145	145	6.0	
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.0	18	18	0.8	
Brown	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Beadle	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.1	3	3	0.1	
Codington	2	5	0.9	5	4	9	0.6	10	15	0.6	
Brookings	21	50	9.0	53	34	81	4.8	88	141	5.9	
Yankton	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.6	28	28	1.2	
Davison	0	0	0.0	0	2	5	0.3	5	5	0.2	
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	9	21	1.3	23	23	1.0	
Aurora	0	0	0.0	0	5	12	0.7	13	13	0.5	
Bennett	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Bon Homme	0	0	0.0	0	13	31	1.9	34	34	1.4	
Brule	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Campbell	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Charles Mix	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.0	18	18	0.8	
Clark	0	0	0.0	0	7	17	1.0	18	18	0.8	
Clay	25	60	10.7	63	11	26	1.6	28	91	3.8	
Corson	2	5	0.9	5	3	7	0.4	8	13	0.5	
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Day	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	38	90	5.4	98	98	4.1	
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	18	43	2.6	46	46	1.9	
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Edmunds	1	2	0.4	3	1	2	0.1	3	5	0.2	
Fall River	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.6	28	28	1.2	
Faulk	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Grant	0	0	0.0	0	29	69	4.1	75	75	3.1	
Gregory	5	12	2.1	13	12	28	1.7	31	44	1.8	
Haakon	3	7	1.3	8	0	0	0.0	0	8	0.3	
Hamlin	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.4	26	26	1.1	
Hand	3	7	1.3	8	2	5	0.3	5	13	0.5	
Hanson	3	7	1.3	8	1	2	0.1	3	10	0.4	
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	8	19	1.1	21	21	0.9	
Hughes	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.4	26	26	1.1	
Hutchinson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Kingsbury	3	7	1.3	8	26	62	3.7	67	75	3.1	
Lake	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Lincoln	20	48	8.5	50	64	152	9.1	165	215	9.0	
Lyman	1	2	0.4	3	5	12	0.7	13	15	0.6	
McCook	0	0	0.0	0	1	2	0.1	3	3	0.1	
McPherson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0	76	180	10.8	196	196	8.2	
Meade	2	5	0.9	5	11	26	1.6	28	33	1.4	
Mellette	20	48	8.5	50	20	47	2.8	52	102	4.2	
Miner	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.4	26	26	1.1	
Moody	2	5	0.9	5	0	0	0.0	0	5	0.2	
Perkins	17	41	7.3	43	26	62	3.7	67	110	4.6	
Potter	0	0	0.0	0	11	26	1.6	28	28	1.2	
Roberts	0	0	0.0	0	10	24	1.4	26	26	1.1	
Sanborn	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Spink	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	1.7	31	31	1.3	
Stanley	25	60	10.7	63	7	17	1.0	18	81	3.4	
Sully	0	0	0.0	0	4	9	0.6	10	10	0.4	
Tripp	10	24	4.3	25	39	93	5.6	101	126	5.2	
Turner	0	0	0.0	0	21	50	3.0	54	54	2.3	
Union	24	57	10.3	60	37	88	5.3	96	156	6.5	
Walworth	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Ziebach	45	107	19.2	113	0	0	0.0	0	113	4.7	
Oglala Lakota	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	12	28	1.7	31	31	1.3	
Unknown	12	29	-	-	62	147	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Last Revised: 30 July 2018  
 \* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**STATEWIDE**

**2020 GENERAL ELECTION**

**February 2020**

Survey conducted February 10 through February 11, 2020. 1,001 likely 2020 General Election voters participated in the survey. Survey weighted to match expected turnout demographics for the 2020 General Election. Margin of Error is +/-3.1% with a 95% level of confidence. Totals do not always equal 100% due to rounding.

800 W 47<sup>th</sup> Street · Kansas City, Missouri 64112 · 816-407-1222  
[www.RemingtonResearchGroup.com](http://www.RemingtonResearchGroup.com)



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q1: In general, do you approve or disapprove of legal trapping in South Dakota?

Approve: 37%  
Disapprove: 31%  
Not sure: 32%

Q2: How much have you seen, read or heard about the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

A lot: 15%  
Just some: 31%  
Nothing at all: 54%

Q3: Based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Approve: 25%  
Disapprove: 25%  
Not sure: 50%

Q4: Do you think people are **illegally** trapping raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers, and red foxes in South Dakota?

Yes: 37%  
No: 28%  
Not sure: 35%

Q5: South Dakota's native wildlife species like raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers and red foxes increase biodiversity, protect crops, and control disease transmission by keeping rodent populations in check.

Do you agree or disagree that raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers, and red foxes are an important asset to South Dakota's ecosystems?

Agree: 68%  
Disagree: 16%  
Not sure: 16%



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q6: South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks touted its Nest Predator Bounty Program as providing trapping opportunities for state residents, while also removing species that they suggested might prey on pheasants during their nesting season. Program participants received a bounty of \$10 for each tail of a raccoon, striped skunk, badger, opossum or red fox they killed.

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the Nest Predator Bounty Program in South Dakota?

Approve: 37%  
Disapprove: 43%  
Not sure: 20%

Q7: The Nest Predator Bounty Program was launched in early 2019. This program was portrayed as an attempt to reduce predation on pheasant nests by native wildlife species. But while South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks estimates that they spent upwards of \$1.7 million on the program in 2019, they have yet to produce any evidence of an increase in pheasant numbers. Therefore, many have questioned why the agency has spent so much of the state's money on such a highly ineffective effort.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Support: 22%  
Oppose: 55%  
Undecided: 23%

Q8: Wildlife management professionals state that bounty programs for predator control are ineffective. Hunting groups like the South Dakota Wildlife Federation have advised against a bounty program, and instead urge a more science-based focus on habitat improvement to increase pheasant numbers.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Support: 28%  
Oppose: 47%  
Undecided: 25%

Q9: Animals caught in traps can languish and die slowly from shock, dehydration, starvation or exposure to the elements. Those who survive long enough for the trapper to return may be killed by inhumane methods. Additionally, nursing mother animals may be killed, leaving young animals to die; or those young animals may themselves be captured, killed, and their tails submitted for a bounty.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Support: 25%  
Oppose: 61%  
Undecided: 14%



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q10: Encouraging citizens, including children, to kill the state's native wildlife species for a cash reward is a slap in the face to South Dakota's hunting tradition of sportsmanship, fair chase and respect for wildlife. By allowing mass slaughter and inhumane deaths to our native species for a cash bounty, the state is abandoning our long-held tradition of sportsmanship.

Do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Support: 25%

Oppose: 55%

Undecided: 20%

Q11: Science shows that nest predator bounty programs are counterproductive to their stated goal of reducing the number of predatory species. Random killing of these species may stimulate the animals to adapt, which results in more predatory animals in the future.

Do you agree or disagree that South Dakota's Nest Predator Bounty Program will have unintended consequences for native wildlife in the state?

Agree: 46%

Disagree: 28%

Undecided: 26%

*Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their minds. I will now read you one of the original questions again. Please feel free to change your answer if you so choose.*

Q12: Based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Approve: 26%

Disapprove: 53%

Not sure: 21%



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q1: In general, do you approve or disapprove of legal trapping in South Dakota?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
Approve	36%	37%
Disapprove	33%	29%
Not sure	31%	33%

Table 1. Q1 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Approve	43%	29%	33%
Disapprove	25%	39%	34%
Not sure	33%	32%	33%

Table 2. Q1 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Approve	45%	30%	33%
Disapprove	25%	34%	42%
Not sure	30%	37%	25%

Table 3. Q1 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Approve	28%	47%
Disapprove	37%	24%
Not sure	36%	29%

Table 4. Q1 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q2: How much have you seen, read or heard about the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>A lot</b>	13%	15%
<b>Just some</b>	30%	32%
<b>Nothing</b>	58%	53%

Table 5. Q2 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>A lot</b>	15%	14%	14%
<b>Just some</b>	30%	31%	35%
<b>Nothing</b>	55%	54%	52%

Table 6. Q2 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>A lot</b>	16%	12%	19%
<b>Just some</b>	29%	36%	21%
<b>Nothing</b>	55%	51%	61%

Table 7. Q2 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>A lot</b>	12%	18%
<b>Just some</b>	28%	34%
<b>Nothing</b>	60%	48%

Table 8. Q2 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q3: Based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>Approve</b>	20%	27%
<b>Disapprove</b>	29%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	51%	48%

Table 9. Q3 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Approve</b>	30%	18%	25%
<b>Disapprove</b>	20%	35%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	51%	47%	49%

Table 10. Q3 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Approve</b>	32%	19%	23%
<b>Disapprove</b>	20%	29%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	48%	52%	47%

Table 11. Q3 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Approve</b>	18%	34%
<b>Disapprove</b>	25%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	57%	40%

Table 12. Q3 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q4: Do you think people are *illegally* trapping raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers, and red foxes in South Dakota?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>Yes</b>	37%	37%
<b>No</b>	25%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	38%	35%

Table 13. Q4 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Yes</b>	35%	37%	41%
<b>No</b>	28%	29%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	37%	34%	33%

Table 14. Q4 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Yes</b>	34%	41%	33%
<b>No</b>	29%	26%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	37%	32%	38%

Table 15. Q4 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Yes</b>	41%	32%
<b>No</b>	20%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	40%	30%

Table 16. Q4 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q5: South Dakota’s native wildlife species like raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers and red foxes increase biodiversity, protect crops, and control disease transmission by keeping rodent populations in check.

Do you agree or disagree that raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers, and red foxes are an important asset to South Dakota’s ecosystems?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>Agree</b>	74%	66%
<b>Disagree</b>	13%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	18%

Table 17. Q5 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Agree</b>	63%	77%	66%
<b>Disagree</b>	17%	13%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	20%	9%	18%

Table 18. Q5 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Agree</b>	63%	73%	70%
<b>Disagree</b>	18%	13%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	20%	13%	15%

Table 19. Q5 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Agree</b>	70%	65%
<b>Disagree</b>	12%	20%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	15%

Table 20. Q5 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q6: South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks touted its Nest Predator Bounty Program as providing trapping opportunities for state residents, while also removing species that they suggested might prey on pheasants during their nesting season. Program participants received a bounty of \$10 for each tail of a raccoon, striped skunk, badger, opossum or red fox they killed.

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the Nest Predator Bounty Program in South Dakota?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FLLS
<b>Approve</b>	29%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	21%	20%

Table 21. Q6 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Approve</b>	45%	23%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	58%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	20%	19%	21%

Table 22. Q6 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Approve</b>	46%	28%	32%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	51%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	19%	22%	17%

Table 23. Q6 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Approve</b>	26%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	49%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	15%

Table 24. Q6 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q7: The Nest Predator Bounty Program was launched in early 2019. This program was portrayed as an attempt to reduce predation on pheasant nests by native wildlife species. But while South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks estimates that they spent upwards of \$1.7 million on the program in 2019, they have yet to produce any evidence of an increase in pheasant numbers. Therefore, many have questioned why the agency has spent so much of the state’s money on such a highly ineffective effort.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FLLS
<b>Support</b>	15%	24%
<b>Oppose</b>	64%	51%
<b>Undecided</b>	20%	24%

Table 25. Q7 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Support</b>	25%	15%	26%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	66%	52%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	19%	23%

Table 26. Q7 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Support</b>	28%	17%	18%
<b>Oppose</b>	48%	60%	60%
<b>Undecided</b>	24%	22%	22%

Table 27. Q7 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Support</b>	15%	30%
<b>Oppose</b>	59%	50%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	20%

Table 28. Q7 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q8: Wildlife management professionals state that bounty programs for predator control are ineffective. Hunting groups like the South Dakota Wildlife Federation have advised against a bounty program, and instead urge a more science-based focus on habitat improvement to increase pheasant numbers.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>Support</b>	22%	29%
<b>Oppose</b>	55%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	23%	26%

Table 29. Q8 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Support</b>	32%	19%	30%
<b>Oppose</b>	40%	60%	47%
<b>Undecided</b>	28%	21%	23%

Table 30. Q8 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Support</b>	35%	21%	23%
<b>Oppose</b>	39%	56%	49%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	23%	28%

Table 31. Q8 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Support</b>	21%	35%
<b>Oppose</b>	49%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	30%	20%

Table 32. Q8 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q9: Animals caught in traps can languish and die slowly from shock, dehydration, starvation or exposure to the elements. Those who survive long enough for the trapper to return may be killed by inhumane methods. Additionally, nursing mother animals may be killed, leaving young animals to die; or those young animals may themselves be captured, killed, and their tails submitted for a bounty.

Knowing this, do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FLS
Support	20%	26%
Oppose	68%	58%
Undecided	11%	15%

Table 33. Q9 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Support	32%	13%	26%
Oppose	52%	79%	57%
Undecided	16%	8%	17%

Table 34. Q9 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Support	34%	17%	18%
Oppose	52%	69%	66%
Undecided	14%	13%	15%

Table 35. Q9 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Support	18%	33%
Oppose	68%	54%
Undecided	15%	13%

Table 36. Q9 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q10: Encouraging citizens, including children, to kill the state’s native wildlife species for a cash reward is a slap in the face to South Dakota’s hunting tradition of sportsmanship, fair chase and respect for wildlife. By allowing mass slaughter and inhumane deaths to our native species for a cash bounty, the state is abandoning our long-held tradition of sportsmanship.

Do you support or oppose the Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FALLS
<b>Support</b>	23%	26%
<b>Oppose</b>	62%	53%
<b>Undecided</b>	15%	21%

Table 37. Q10 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Support</b>	31%	16%	25%
<b>Oppose</b>	46%	72%	54%
<b>Undecided</b>	23%	12%	21%

Table 38. Q10 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Support</b>	32%	20%	20%
<b>Oppose</b>	46%	65%	58%
<b>Undecided</b>	22%	15%	22%

Table 39. Q10 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Support</b>	18%	34%
<b>Oppose</b>	62%	48%
<b>Undecided</b>	20%	18%

Table 40. Q10 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Q11: Science shows that nest predator bounty programs are counterproductive to their stated goal of reducing the number of predatory species. Random killing of these species may stimulate the animals to adapt, which results in more predatory animals in the future.

Do you agree or disagree that South Dakota’s Nest Predator Bounty Program will have unintended consequences for native wildlife in the state?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FLLS
<b>Agree</b>	51%	45%
<b>Disagree</b>	29%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	20%	28%

Table 41. Q11 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
<b>Agree</b>	41%	56%	44%
<b>Disagree</b>	32%	22%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	27%	21%	30%

Table 42. Q11 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
<b>Agree</b>	40%	53%	47%
<b>Disagree</b>	33%	23%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	27%	24%	26%

Table 43. Q11 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
<b>Agree</b>	48%	44%
<b>Disagree</b>	24%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	28%	23%

Table 44. Q11 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their minds. I will now read you one of the original questions again. Please feel free to change your answer if you so choose.

Q12: Based on what you know, do you approve or disapprove of the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program?

Column %	RAPID CITY	SIOUX FLLS
Approve	21%	27%
Disapprove	60%	51%
Not sure	20%	22%

Table 45. Q12 by DMA - Categorical

Column %	Republican	Democrat	Non-Partisan
Approve	31%	15%	28%
Disapprove	43%	71%	52%
Not sure	26%	14%	20%

Table 46. Q12 by PARTY

Column %	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal
Approve	34%	19%	18%
Disapprove	43%	61%	63%
Not sure	23%	21%	18%

Table 47. Q12 by IDEOLOGY

Column %	Female	Male
Approve	17%	35%
Disapprove	59%	46%
Not sure	24%	18%

Table 48. Q12 by GENDER



REMINGTON RESEARCH GROUP

## DEMOGRAPHICS

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	%
<b>RAPID CITY</b>	25%
<b>SIOUX FALLS</b>	72%

*Table 49. DMA - Categorical*

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	%
<b>Republican</b>	52%
<b>Democrat</b>	30%
<b>Non-Partisan</b>	18%

*Table 50. PARTY*

---

	%
<b>Conservative</b>	46%
<b>Moderate</b>	42%
<b>Liberal</b>	12%

*Table 51. IDEOLOGY*

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	%
<b>Female</b>	53%
<b>Male</b>	47%

*Table 52. GENDER*



# Stop the South Dakota Nest Predator Bounty Program

*Cruel, wasteful, and pointless*

## Public opposition to the cruelty and waste

From its inception, South Dakotans have expressed outrage over the Nest Predator Bounty Program, with its related free trap giveaway and appalling body count. At the close of the program's first season in August 2019, more than 50,000 tails belonging to red foxes, raccoons, striped skunks, badgers and opossum had been submitted to South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) in exchange for a \$10 per tail bounty. Approximate program cost to date: upwards of \$1.7 million.<sup>1</sup>

Unsurprisingly, a new Remington Research poll found that only 25% of state residents who were even aware of the program support it. The poll also found that everyday South Dakotans have not realized any benefit from the program, and don't support its continuation. And once those who were polled were educated about the animal suffering the program involves, the amount of money spent on it, and the potential negative effects of removing vital native wildlife species from South Dakota's ecosystem, a majority indicated that they oppose it.

## Hunters and professional wildlife managers agree: bounties are pointless and ineffective

In its 2014 report to former Governor Dugaard, South Dakota's Habitat Work Group said, "Under a bounty system, predator control would not be targeted enough to be effective. Additionally, bounty systems in other states have been ineffective because the origin of the predators cannot be verified. Predators from other states could easily be imported for a bounty, which would be counterproductive."<sup>2</sup>

The Black Hills Sportsmen's Club also objected to the Nest Predator Bounty program, saying in a letter to the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission: "Numerous studies have shown that the sustained low level removal of predators from a population often stimulates reproduction in those populations leading to higher predator densities.

Additionally, the resulting predator population is composed of a higher proportion of juveniles. These unestablished juvenile predators cover more territory, increasing the likelihood of encountering pheasant nests." The letter continued, "More importantly, numerous studies, several conducted in South Dakota by State and University personnel have shown the key to pheasant success is habitat."<sup>3</sup>

Similarly, in 2016 the Pennsylvania Game Commission reminded hunters, "After decades of using predator control (such as paying bounties) with no effect, and the emergence of wildlife management as a science, the agency finally accepted the reality that predator control does not work."<sup>4</sup> And in its new coyote management plan, the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources stresses that bounties are prone to corruption, expensive, do not increase the harvest of game species, and do not target problem animals.<sup>5</sup>

The Izaak Walton League of America concurs: "The League recognizes the intrinsic value of predatory species and their important ecological roles. ... There is no justification for widespread destruction of animals classified as predators."<sup>6</sup> And from Ducks Unlimited: "Predator control cannot result in meaningful increases in duck numbers or birds in the bag and threatens to undermine the broad coalition of public support on which modern waterfowl conservation depends."<sup>7</sup>

The Mississippi Flyway Council, established in 1952 to coordinate the management of migratory game birds in that region, "...does not support the practice of predator removal as a viable management practice to improve waterfowl recruitment over the long term or over large geographic areas," adding that, instead, habitat restoration is a priority for improving waterfowl recruitment.<sup>8</sup> And the National Wild Turkey Federation states, "Removing a random predator from the landscape has no impact

whatsoever on widespread turkey populations...Without good nesting habitat, eggs and poults are simply more vulnerable. Turkeys evolved to cope with predators. As long as they have a place to hide their nests and raise their young, they'll do just fine without predator control.”<sup>9</sup>

### No justification for removal of vital native species

No sound, science-based evidence has been presented to



suggest that raccoons, striped skunks, opossums, badgers or red foxes are adversely impacting pheasant populations in South Dakota. There is also no scientific justification for the random removal of those native species, each of whom plays a unique and important role in South Dakota's ecosystem. In particular, opossums are a tremendous benefit to any area they inhabit, helping to control unwanted, harmful garden pests. Their diet includes snails, mice, rats, and insects such as cockroaches, crickets, beetles, and—in large numbers—disease-carrying ticks.

### A waste of state funds

In March 2019, a GFP wildlife damage specialist estimated to *AgWeek* that as much as \$400,000 of South Dakota hunting license revenue would be used as payout for the Nest Predator Bounty Program. In the same article, however, GFP staff admitted that the real intent of the program is to recruit new people to hunting, fishing, and

trapping in the state—but added that the state does not have a specific budget for hunter recruitment efforts.<sup>10</sup> Why, then, was the state willing to commit hundreds of thousands of dollars of its hunting license revenue to a pointless and counterproductive bounty program?

### The key to more game birds is good habitat

The random killing of native species will not help pheasants and other game birds, whose numbers are primarily affected by weather and the availability of suitable habitat. In January 2019 the editorial board of the *Capital Journal* emphasized that if the state wants to advance pheasant hunting opportunities, it must “focus on habitat, primarily grasslands and wetlands, work with landowners to secure those habitat(s) through incentives, provide hunter access through a strong walk-in program and raise suitable funding to get it done.”<sup>11</sup> The *Rapid City Journal* editorial board agreed: “The three biggest factors affecting pheasant numbers are habitat, habitat and habitat, followed by weather and more weather.”<sup>12</sup>

**In summary, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks should cancel its plan to resume the Nest Predator Bounty Program, which is wasteful, ineffective and cruel.**



**For more information, contact Jocelyn Nickerson at [jnickerson@humanesociety.org](mailto:jnickerson@humanesociety.org).**



<sup>1</sup> “2020 Nest Predator Bounty Program,” staff presentation, pg. 10, February 17, 2010. [https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/2020\\_Bounty\\_Information\\_-\\_Fisk\\_and\\_Robling.pdf](https://gfp.sd.gov/userdocs/docs/2020_Bounty_Information_-_Fisk_and_Robling.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> “South Dakota Governor’s Habitat Work Group 2014: Report to Governor Dugard,” pg. 20, September 2014. <https://habitat.sd.gov/resources/habitatsummitinfo/docs/PHWG%20Final%20Report.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Letter from Black Hills Sportsmen’s Club to South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission, April 2, 2019. <https://blackhillssportsmenclub.com/pages/hunting-film-tour-2018>

<sup>4</sup> Bob Frye, “Habitat, not predators, seen as key to wildlife populations,” *Trib Live*, July 25, 2016 <http://triblive.com/sports/outdoors/10756490-74/game-predator-predators>.

<sup>5</sup> North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, “Coyote Management Plan,” March 1, 2018 [https://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Learning/documents/Species/Coyote%20Management%20Plan\\_FINAL\\_030118.pdf](https://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Learning/documents/Species/Coyote%20Management%20Plan_FINAL_030118.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> The Izaak Walton League of America: “Conservation Policies 2019,” pg. 54 <https://www.iwla.org/docs/default-source/about-iwla/2019-policy-book.pdf?sfvrsn=44>

<sup>7</sup> Chuck Petrie: “Prairies Under Siege: Ducks, Habitat Conservation & Predators,” in the November/December 2003 *Ducks Unlimited* magazine. <https://www.ducks.org/conservation/where-ducks-unlimited-works/prairie-pothole-region/prairies-under-siege-ducks-habitat-conservation-predators>.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> The National Wild Turkey Federation: “Coexist with Predators” <http://www.nwtf.org/conservation/article/coexist-predators>

<sup>10</sup> Nick Lowrey: “South Dakota pheasant nest predator bounty program proposed.” *AgWeek*, March 4, 2019 <https://www.agweek.com/sports/outdoors/4579780-south-dakota-pheasant-nest-predator-bounty-program-proposed>

<sup>11</sup> *Capitol Journal* Editorial Board: “State dollars shouldn’t be used on predator bounties,” January 15, 2019 [https://www.capjournal.com/opinions/editorial/state-dollars-shouldn-t-be-used-on-predator-bounties/article\\_f999ddda-1941-11e9-97b2-afc846d80c64.html](https://www.capjournal.com/opinions/editorial/state-dollars-shouldn-t-be-used-on-predator-bounties/article_f999ddda-1941-11e9-97b2-afc846d80c64.html)

<sup>12</sup> *Rapid City Journal* Editorial Board: “OURS: Brood counts blow holes in predator bounty rationale,” September 13, 2019 [https://rapidcityjournal.com/news/opinion/editorial/ours-brood-counts-blow-holes-in-predator-bountyrationale/article\\_215b420d-5ca1-5230-b7d7-7bea814c662a.html](https://rapidcityjournal.com/news/opinion/editorial/ours-brood-counts-blow-holes-in-predator-bountyrationale/article_215b420d-5ca1-5230-b7d7-7bea814c662a.html)