

Public Comments

Big Game Ammo Minimum Size and Type

Adam Carroll

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Working in the firearm industry and seeing how the fluted bullets navigate and perform on gel, they are phenomenal. Those interested check out the fluted copper bullets made by lehigh defense. The penetration and terminal performance will leave no question to pass this! The way the water sheds off the flutes and causes a wound cavity is incredible!

Dillon Blaha

Pierre SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the addition of copper bullets as allowable for big game hunting. Non-toxic bullets (including copper) are an important alternative to lead bullets for human and environmental safety. Cooper bullets are widely used and effective.

Terry Roeszler

Warner SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

If you want to drive more hunters away then go ahead and bring copper bullets into the mix. The cost to go hunting is already getting plenty high enough without having to spend 2-3 times on copper bullets. Another issue could be knock down power at longer distances. Don't become a nanny state like California !!

Dana Randall

Akaska SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

This is nuts! The tiny bit of lead fired out of a rifle doesn't bother a thing. Nothing is eating it and dying of lead poisoning.

Leave it alone.

Randall Pratt

Mitchell SD

Position: other

Comment:

11 Dec 2020

Greetings,

I would like to comment on the proposal for fluted bullets. I first read an article in the Mitchell Daily Republic this morning which seemed to be confused as to how the proposal was intended. I then went to your site to read it directly and refer to the current wording of law. As a result I found good reason for the reporter's unclear reporting.

In the current law the wording clearly talks about energy requirements and this portion would appear to apply to all weapons. Next, muzzle-loading pistols are specifically singled out as greater than .50 caliber. In reading the sentence, this could imply the energy requirement is either waived or that an additional requirement has been added. Caliber requirements are listed in other paragraphs for centerfire weapons. Why is this weapon type listed here? Then at the end of the paragraph, the soft-point or expanding bullet criteria is listed. Does this apply to all weapons or just to the muzzle loading pistol? The Daily Republic was obviously confused as am I.

Now moving to fluted bullets. I have an engineering background, military career and second career as an inventory manager for Cabelas. There are many types of expanding bullets on the market. Round Nose, spire-point, plastic tips, brass tips, silver tips, partitioned, core-loct, hollow-point. In terms of expansion, fluted is just another method an engineer could use to allow expansion. In fact, hunters have already been using premium copper bullets such as Barnes for 20 years. I believe for the most part these have just been considered as another expanding bullet. The hunting regulation book is getting thicker every year and we are forgoing logic of good intentions with details and legal traps for the hunter. Everyone wants a quick clean kill with no tracking required. Nobody wants to be hamstrung by a regulation that has to spell out bullets by model number and brand. An expanding bullet however it expands is an expanding bullet. Current wording in my opinion would allow for a fluted expanding bullet.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. I would like to see the current working changed but not specifically to single out fluted bullets.

Randall L. Pratt

Steven Pemble

Buffalo SD

Position: support

Comment:

This is a good deal for hunters to help with secondary wildlife impacts from the use of non toxic ammunition if desired. Thank you

Larry Darr

Gary SD

Position: support

Comment:

I moved here from Nebraska almost 2 years ago. I have used Barnes X solid copper bullets for over 20 years in Colorado and Nebraska, Elk and deer hunting . They are an excellent choice to hunt big game. The copper bullet expands well and retains over 90% of its weight. Being copper it is not polluting the environment. Thankyou

Gregory Palmer

Nemo SD

Position: support

Comment:

I totally agree with this proposal.

Jeff Barkley

Webster SD

Position: support

Comment:

I support the proposal to add non-toxic fluted copper bullets to the currently allowed bullet types allowed for big game hunting. I urge the commission to support all efforts to keep lead out of the environment and that it, in addition, recommends but does not require all hunters to use of effective non-toxic ammo whenever possible for all hunting.

Ross Tschetter

Bridgewater SD

Position: support

Comment:

Non-Toxic ammunition should not only be allowed, but encouraged. Scientific studies have shown concerning amounts of "incidental take" attributed to lead poisoning, of species including predators, songbirds, and small mammals.

Dave House

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please allow the use of solid copper, non expanding fluted bullets.
Examples from Black Hills AMMO and Lehigh Defense, both in Rapid City, have been proven legitimate. You can contact either of those companies and see gel pictures on how well these bullets perform on a consistent medium.

Ryan Colling

Spearfish SD

Position: support

Comment:

Please allow big game hunters to use copper bullets.

Kyle Krause

Rapid City SD

Position: support

Comment:

Making this change is a no-brainer. Doing a quick google search for "lead in meat x-ray" quickly reveals how much lead ends up outside the main wound channel. This poses a hazard to humans, as well as to scavengers. Quality lead-free rounds, such as those by Barnes, are accurate and deadly. They should be an option for big game hunters.

Nonmeandered Waters Navigation Lane Process

Michael Grunewaldt

Miranda SD

Position: other

Comment:

Why does the GFP think it is their right to infringe on any private property? Have we not learned anything from the fiasco a few yrs back

Craig Sommers

Lake City SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I oppose this as I do not think the GFP commission has the right to "take" a right of way without legislation.

Paul Lepisto

Pierre SD

Position: support

Comment:

On behalf of Kelly Kistner, President of the SD Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, please see the attached comments on the Nonmeandered Waters Navigation Lande Process.

Jason Bender

Britton SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

This looks like an attempt to acquire private property not owned by game and fish. I can't image that gfp can legally take private land without notification and compensation. If gfp wants more property to manage, buy some.

Curtis Foster

Britton SD

Position: oppose

Comment:

I am a life long resident of Marshall Co. As a hunter fisherman and semi retired farmer I feel the solution for this access issue lies in section 41-23-15 and 43-23-15 of SD codified law chapter 41-23. Thank You. Curtis Foster.

Other

James Feller

Blunt SD

Position: support

Comment:

Why can't landowners hunt their own land on the resident only pheasant hunting season. Why do you want to put additional hunting pressure on limited public hunting areas?
Thank you.

Mark Paschke

Clitherall MN

Position: other

Comment:

For the past 30 years it has been a tradition for a small group of my hunting buddies to take part in the South Dakota pheasant season. We hunt primarily Army Corp land. In the last few years we have encountered many unmarked snares. If our dogs were not trained to hunt close, our good memories of the hunt(s) would have been haunting disasters. Two of our dogs had these nooses tighten around their necks, that luckily we could cut off them. In Minnesota, it is a law for trappers to mark their sets. Why is this not part of a SD trappers requirement? Isn't placing a visible marker for a hunter to stay away from better than having him or her loose a part of their family? Just a side note.....In addition to our dogs almost being victims, we have seen a dead turkey, 2 small dead deer and 1 adult deer deer that when we approached it pulled hard enough to pull the snare out of the ground and run away with it. These snares are not species specific.

Jim Nyhof

Oxbow ND

Position: other

Comment:

I want to extend my nonresident pheasant license start date from 12/27/20 to 1/27/21

Mark Miller

Blackhawk SD

Position: other

Comment:

Hello if you take action on the rule change for hunter safety orange I think that safety yellow should be allowed because people that are color blind can see that better.

Justin Allen

Pierre SD

Position: other

Comment:

I'm emailing in regards to Bennett Co Special Goose Season. Why is the daily limit for the unit 4 per day but the limited draw license for the area have 3 tags? Wouldn't it make sense to match the daily limit for the area and make it 4 per licenses?

Wildlife Damage Management Strategic Plan

Dan Kight

Huron SD

Position: other

Comment:

With deer depredation available to landowners can you make it a mandate with the COs. What are landowners to do when the area CO wont do depredation for deer when the wildlife is ruining sillage piles etc Need to utilize this program va being only based on one COs opinion. Maybe a form landowners complete and goes the that area district leaders and then that decision being handed down the chain for enforcement

Doug Guericke

Alexandria SD

Position: other

Comment:

Last winter, we had 150-200 deer eating our hay and silage. Was very disappointed in service that we received after numerous calls to GF&P. When we started getting results is when I notified our sheriff and he came and took pictures to document the damage. Never once were we offered compensation for the damage. You talk about improving relationship with the farmers, then do something for them. Profit is small and cannot afford to winter a herd of deer.

12-2-20

Please consider a limited, landowner season only for turkeys in Aurora County.

The counties that border Aurora County have had a formal Turkey season for years.

Every year, we see more numbers of birds, so I feel a limited number of tags to land owners could be part of an updated Turkey Management Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lin Peters
Madison, SD



SOUTH DAKOTA
DIVISION

The Izaak Walton League of America

DEFENDERS OF SOIL, AIR, WOODS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE

January 4, 2021

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Commissioners,

The South Dakota Division of the Izaak Walton League of America (Division) thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule to establish a procedure for the public to request a navigation lane through a closed nonmeandered body of water. The rule would only apply when no other legal public access is available to nonmeandered water open for recreational use.

The Division supports the proposed sample rule:

ARSD 41:04:06:06 – Navigation lane petition. Upon receipt of a petition to establish a navigation lane the commission shall, at their next regularly schedule commission meeting, consider the request and either deny, grant, or modify the petition. If the commission grants or modifies a petition it shall be established by rule pursuant to SDCL 1-26 in this chapter.

ARSD 41:04:06:07 – Navigation lanes established. While accessing the navigation lane, the individual shall take the most direct path to the open nonmeandered body of water and shall not recreate in any manner while in the navigation lane. The department shall be responsible for marking all navigation lanes established pursuant to this section. The following navigation lanes are established for transportation purposes:

In a 2017 special session, legislation was passed requiring the Commission to promulgate rules to establish a public petition process. The legislation states a person can request to open a portion of a closed nonmeandered water for limited transportation to areas of that nonmeandered water open for recreational use.

This is a needed process as there isn't anything in place that allows a public petition process.

The Division believes the proposed rule, with the 60 day comment period, creates a fair process where landowners and recreationalists will have input in how lanes are created. We think this brings balance for all interests to this important issue and protects the rights of all citizens.

The Division supports the current system that taxes flooded land at the lowest rate. We would also support refunds or reductions of property taxes on inundated land if that water is open for the public's use.

The South Dakota Division of the Izaak Walton League of America appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. We again support the rule that establishes a procedure where the public can request a navigation lane through a closed nonmeandered water when no other legal public access is available to that nonmeandered water that is open for recreational use.

Thank you for your time and consideration and for your service to the people of South Dakota.

Stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Kistner".

Kelly Kistner

National IWLA President and President of the South Dakota Division of the IWLA

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