

## Comes, Rachel

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**From:** Miller, LouAnn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 3:23 PM  
**To:** Comes, Rachel  
**Subject:** FW: Allowing hunters to follow lions on Custer National Forest with hounds

**Categories:** Commission

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Hotchkiss [<mailto:danhotchkiss@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 3:17 PM  
To: GFP Wild Info  
Subject: Allowing hunters to follow lions on Custer National Forest with hounds

My name is Dan Hotchkiss and we live up against national forest land. In the past we have had problems with mountain lions and it would be a huge help to be allowed to use hounds on the Custer National Forest. Thank you.

## Comes, Rachel

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**From:** Miller, LouAnn  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2016 8:39 AM  
**To:** Comes, Rachel  
**Subject:** FW: Fishing tournament Fees

**Categories:** Commission

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**From:** Dennis DeKraai [[mailto:walleye\\_dek@msn.com](mailto:walleye_dek@msn.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2016 8:14 AM  
**To:** SDGFPINFO  
**Subject:** Fishing tournament Fees

It has been brought to my attention that the GFP was considering charging a fee for tournaments. It is my belief that this will have a bad outcome for the GFP. It is already very expensive to participate in tournaments. The GFP already make a lot of money on these tournaments. I fish the 3M tournament in Mobridge. I have to buy a fishing license and pay for a state parks sticker because the tournament is at the Indian Creek State Parks boat ramp. Plus all of the money spent on fuel, lodgeing, food, bait, boating and fishing supplies, and so on. And if additional fees are charge to have the tournament I believe many people will be forced to quit the tournament.

## Comes, Rachel

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**From:** Miller, LouAnn  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2016 7:41 AM  
**To:** Comes, Rachel  
**Subject:** FW: Fishing Tournament Rules Proposal

**Categories:** Commission

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**From:** Doug Alvine [<mailto:dougalvine@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 9:29 PM  
**To:** GFP Wild Info  
**Cc:** Spies, Jim; Lindgren, Scott  
**Subject:** Fishing Tournament Rules Proposal

Dear Commission,

I represent the Kampeska Chapter of the Izaak Walton League that has 60 members. Our chapter is concerned about the fishing tournament rules that are being proposed.

We are fine with the concept of tournament fees, but not having the fee based on the number of fishermen in the tournament. We think that it should be a flat fee, because it is very difficult to know how many fishermen there will be at the time of application. For example, our chapter's ice fishing derby has over 200 tickets sold, but normally only 75-100 fishermen actually show up and fish. A lot of people buy a ticket as a donation. They also have a chance to win a cash prize without being present at the derby. If you base your fee on the number of fishermen, we may put 75 people on the permit as that is what is normal, but what happens if it is a nice day and 200 show up to fish? Will we be in violation? A flat fee will cover all tournaments and not cause a group or organization to be in violation unintentionally. We feel that there should be a minimal or no fee for non-profit or charitable groups.

Many people buy a fishing license to fish in our tournament and other tournaments. Fewer licenses will be sold if the number of tournaments is reduced. Fishing license fees should help pay for the administration fees.

This leads us to your enforcement proposal. We think that it would be wrong to make it a violation for fishermen to fish in a tournament if it is not permitted. Fishermen have no clue if the tournament is permitted or not. If a tournament is not permitted, then the organization or the person running the tournament should be in violation.

We have had our ice fishing derby for many years. It is meant to be a fun event for families and especially kids. We have many prizes donated locally so every kid entered wins something. We have cash prizes for the adults. Our derby is one of our main fundraisers. A fee that is too high may make it difficult for us to justify our tournament.

Sincerely,

Doug Alvine  
Kampeska Chapter President  
Watertown, SD  
881-7496

September 26, 2016

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks  
Foss Building  
523 East Capitol  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3128

Subject; Proposal to establish application fees for fishing tournaments.

Dear GFP Commissioner;

First of all, we support the idea of a fee for South Dakota Fishing Tournaments. However; we are wondering about a clause for non-profit organizations.

The McCook County Wildlife Club has applied for a permit to hold our annual fishing derby, fifty boat max, at Buryaneks Boat Ramp since 1995. In 2016 we raised our limit to sixty boats due to the family and friends that wanted in; however we ended up with 44 boats. We could go back to a fifty boat maximum.

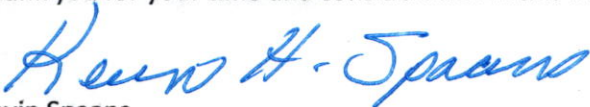
We do allow more than two people in a boat; but they can only bring in the eight fish limit. Our derby has become a big event for family and friends of members for raising funds for the Take-A-Kid-Fishing Day. We pay out up to eight places with many winners donate their winnings back to the club.

The club has used the profits received from our derby to host Take-A-Kid-Fishing Day held on the second Thursday in June at Lake Vermillion. We allow up to thirty kids that may have never been fishing, to do so along with their parents. At this event, we give each participant a rod and reel combo, tackle box with goodies, provide a meal to all. That's approximately eighty to ninety people with parents, siblings and workers. The cost is approximately \$32-40 per participant.

Our club also sponsors many youth activities; Youth Goose Hunt, Pierre, Take-A-Kid-Fishing Day, Step Out Side Program with GFP, Youth Hunt Safe Courses for both gun and archery, Youth Trap Shoot 12-16 years old, archery shooting range that's open to the public, and the trap shooting range open to members.

We ask that you think of the clubs, such as ours, when deciding your fees for tournaments; "Set a fee for the application under 50 boats" and no number of participants. We are a small, local club, investing our time and funds, to the youth of our area, as they will be the hunters and fishermen and women of tomorrow.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.



Kevin Spaans  
McCook County Wildlife Club  
Even Organizer for Annual Fishing Derby McCook County Wildlife Club  
44064 250<sup>th</sup> St, Salem, SD 57058  
Cell # 605-421-4773

# The Great Outdoors

## Fishing tournament fees proposed for 2017 by GFP Commission

BY ANDREW JOHNSON  
 ajohnson@aberdeennews.com

A proposal to establish application fees for fishing tournaments on South Dakota waters was adopted by the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission during its meeting in Pierre on Aug. 4.

Currently, there are no application fees for fishing tournaments in the state. According to GFP data, the number of tournaments each year is climbing, rising from 150 in 2008 to nearly 200 this year.

The fee proposal is designed to recoup expenses for GFP administrative and field staff to process applications and to help compensate for field work associated with tournaments, said John Lott, GFP aquatics section chief.

Money generated from application fees would go directly to the state's game fund.

"It is the state fund that contains license and administrative fees collected and federal funds the Division of Wildlife uses to administer programs and manage fish and wildlife resources for the public," Lott said in an email.

Examples of GFP expenses during a fishing tournament include law enforcement, cleanup, parking provisions and more.

Tournament fees would increase based on the number of boats or anglers entered.

According to the proposal, a tournament

with 20-49 boats, or 50-99 participants, would be assessed an application fee of \$200. At the high end of the spectrum would be a fee of \$800 for tournaments with more than 100 boats or more than 200 participants.

Tournaments with fewer than 20 boats or fewer than 50 participants would not incur a fee under the proposal, and youth events would also remain exempt.

### Whole different ballgame

Jesse Konold, who is co-chairman of the Mobridge Area Chamber of Commerce's Tourism Committee, said he understands the need for application fees, but he also believes the proposed fee structure deserves a closer look.

"I think everyone is in agreement that there needs to be some kind of tournament application fee," he said. "I think the tiering they're using needs to get tweaked a bit, though."

As part of his committee role, Konold is involved in planning several Mobridge-based tournaments of different sizes — several tournaments during spring and summer, as well as the massive 525-team Mobridge Ice Fishing Tournament each winter. That gives him a unique perspective on how a tiered fee system could affect different tournaments.

"When I look at the Mobridge Ice Fishing

Tournament, which would be in that \$800 entry fee category, GFP staff keep the ramps open and make sure we can get to the ice, so I'd say let's roll with it," Konold said. "For that tournament, we'd gladly pay that fee to know the ramps are open and because we know there are definitely costs involved there."

On the other hand, Konold said an \$800 entry fee could be hard to swallow for smaller tournaments, such as the Denny Palmer Memorial Walleye Classic in Mobridge each June.

His concern is that entry fees would ultimately reduce cash payouts and, as a result, make traveling to tournaments less attractive for anglers.

"It's somewhat tough to break even in smaller tournaments, especially during the summer, and you have to have payouts high enough for anglers to come and participate," he said. "In those cases, that \$800 becomes a whole different ballgame."

### Alternatives

The recommended fee structure was based on charging \$2 to \$3 per participant with the theory that the amount of GFP resources expended on a tournament increases with the size of the tournament, Lott said.

However, Konold said basing the fee schedule on entry dollars instead of the number of participants could be another option



Photo by Andrew Johnson

A pair of tournament anglers hold up their starting number as they prepare to take off for a day of competitive fishing on Lake Oahe. A GFP Commission proposal would assess a tournament application fee starting next year.

the commission should consider.

"The state should absolutely recoup some costs through fees, but the fees need to make sense," he said. "Hopefully, the commission reaches out to communities that host four to 10 tournaments a year and examines the costs involved in organizing a tournament, along with what the potential economic impact those tournaments have on local economies."

Cory Richardt, co-founder of the SODAK Ice Fishing League, echoed those thoughts, saying the proposed fee structure is cause for concern.

"I wholeheartedly agree there should be some form of compensation or fee,"

Richardt said. "However, if the proposal stays the same, we'd have to pay \$1,600 in application fees to cover our five events. That's a steep, pretty substantial amount, especially for a tourney like ours that doesn't want to pocket anything and wants to give away all the money. We won't raise the fees for our anglers, so something like this would cut into payouts or force us to find additional sponsorship money."

He believes the cost GFP associates with each tournament should be relative to each individual tournament, rather than a generic attempt to cover all the bases at once.

"Will large two- or three-day tournaments

held on the same weekend just have a blanket fee similar to a one-day tournament? Will the fee be the same fee for a half-day tourney on a small lake or for a three-day event on the Missouri River? That's comparing apples to oranges," he said. "There are a lot of different ways to look at it. Maybe they should base the fee on a percentage of a tournament's total payout?"

The commission will act on the proposal during its next meeting Oct. 6-7 in Mobridge, which allows for nearly a two-month window for the commission to receive comment from the public. If finalized, the rule would go into effect Jan. 1.

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**TAKE-A-KID-FISHING EVENT:** It couldn't have been a nicer evening for the McCook County Wildlife Club's annual Take-A-Kid-Fishing event at Lake Vermillion, although the heat was a little intense. Kids from Salem, Spencer, Montrose, Bridgewater and Canistota were in

attendance. Above, the kids try their hand at everything from baiting the hooks, to casting the rod, to reeling in their catch. Members of the SD GF&P and the McCook County Wildlife Club helped the young anglers with their fishing.

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...the July 4 holiday.

*A poem for you dad: Roses are red, violets are blue, Don't forget, I love you too!*

*Vivian Koepsell*



**TAKE-A-KID-FISHING DAY HELD:** McCook County Wildlife Club held their annual Take-A-Kid-Fishing Day last Thursday at Lake Vermillion. Around twenty-six kids from Salem, Spencer, Montrose, Bridgewater and Canistota were in attendance. The event is sponsored by the club using proceeds from its annual fishing derby held each year on the Missouri River. The kids are chosen by application. The club hopes to introduce the sport of fishing to this younger generation in hopes of them finding an interest in it. Fishing poles, tackle, and

tackle boxes are given to all the participants and are theirs to keep. A small lunch was served prior to fishing. The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks assisted with the event. This year it was a great evening for the event as there was minimal wind, no bugs, and no rain, although it was quite warm. The catch was slim but every kid had a blast. The McCook County Wildlife Club is located 3 miles east of Salem and generally meets on the last Wednesday of most months. An advertisement in this newspaper may be found prior to meeting dates.

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utilize excess moisture, cover crops can alleviate future moisture issues.

"Because they treat the issue, cover crop acres are typically the best to plant into the following spring," he says.

Growers have many options when it comes to selecting a cover crop mix. Fruechte encourages them to choose a diverse mix of annuals such as legumes, brassicas and grasses.

"With the right blend, farmers don't have to worry about dealing with field trash when they are ready to plant next spring," Fruechte says.

To learn more about how cover crops can improve your field's health and select a blend that is right for your acres, contact Fruechte at [JustinF@millbornseeds.com](mailto:JustinF@millbornseeds.com) or 605-697-6306.

# The Salem Star

2015

The Only Newspaper on Earth Devoted Primarily to the Welfare of the Salem

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theirs to keep. A small lunch was served prior to fishing. The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks assisted with the event. This year it was a great evening for the event as no wind, no bugs, and no rain were the rule. Comfortable temperatures also contributed to a nice summer evening. The catch was slim but every kid had a blast. The McCook County Wildlife Club is located 3 miles east of Salem and generally meets on the last Wednesday of most months. An advertisement in this newspaper can be found prior to meeting dates.

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## Comes, Rachel

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**From:** Miller, LouAnn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 10:10 AM  
**To:** Comes, Rachel  
**Subject:** FW: Walleye in the Black Hills

**Categories:** Commission

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**From:** Robert Eddy [<mailto:redy@rushmore.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 9:56 AM  
**To:** GFP Wild Info  
**Subject:** Walleye in the Black Hills

To the SDGFP Commission,

Please vote **NO** on the expansion of walleyes into the Black Hills reservoirs. With only Pactola, Deerfield, and Sheridan lakes available in the whole state to allow a cold fisheries experience, these three should be protected for the best use they can provide. Angostura, Orman, and Shadehill provide the warm-water opportunity to those wishing such catches, along with the Missouri river and hundreds of other warm bodies of water in the state. These three reservoirs are in a limited group, please don't complicate them by adding another species. Thank you!

Robert Eddy  
Rapid City