



# SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

## Outdoor Report

The week of August 27, 2018

- **Sportsfest Registration is now available. Please contact the Watertown GFP office for more information.**
  - **Archery Deer Season opens September 1, 2018.**
- **Canada Goose early season starts September 1, 2018. Remember the daily limit has changed. LIMIT IS 8.**
- **East River Deer paper applications are due August 31. Online applications are due September 5 before 8am.**
  - **There are still a few HuntSAFE classes available for registration online only.**
  - **Visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/outdoor-learning/hunter-education/ClassList.aspx>**

### Aberdeen Area

#### Fishing Report



**James River:** Anglers are catching catfish. Bow fishermen are also having good luck shooting carp and gar. **Bow fishermen are reminded that it is against the law to throw back shot fish or leave fish on the shoreline.**

**Elm River:** Anglers are catching crappie and walleye. With some recent rains the Elm River is flowing.

**Richmond Lake:** Anglers are catching crappie and bluegill, but the bite has been hit or miss. The bite has been better in the mornings.

**Elm Lake:** Anglers are catching walleye, northern pike, and catfish. Anglers are catching lots of walleye in the 12-14 inch range, so bring your measuring board. **Anglers are reminded that Elm Lake has a 15 inch minimum length limit on walleye.**



#### Hunting Report:

**Dove:** We are seeing good numbers of doves in the area. Hunters that scout the harvested wheat fields should have good success.

**Goose:** The Canada goose population is down a little this year with the cold spring we experienced. There are some geese up by Hecla and Sand Lake Refuge that are using the bigger bodies of water. Scouting is the key to have success during this season. Hunters that scout the harvested wheat fields should have decent success.

### Clark County

#### Fishing Report



**Dry 2:** The lake has had a lot of angler traffic, typically seeing 80 boats on Saturday's at the boat ramp. Many boats are anchored up just north of the Boat Ramp. Bring your patience at the boat ramp. Fishing typically has been a lot harder the last couple weeks than it has been. The bite has definitely declined.

**Reid:** A few boats seen at the lake. Still catching some fish but most are on the smaller side with it being hard to get a limit of good eaters.



#### Hunting Report:

**Dove:** Have not seen any big concentration of Dove flocks yet. With the cooler weather the Doves might start heading for warmer weather and sandy beaches.

**Goose:** Reminder that goose daily limit changed to 8. Seeing a few fields of geese but numbers seem to be down slightly. Good luck to all this week!

### Codington County

#### Fishing Report



**Kampeska:** Little to no activity.

**Pelican:** Little to no activity.

**Goose:** Fishing has slowed down and so has the pressure. Fishermen are still catching a few walleye in the early mornings or late evenings.

**Dry Lake:** Fishermen are still catching a few walleye in the 13-15 inch range, along with a few perch in the 10-12 inch range. Anchoring up and using slip bobbers, has worked best for the perch.





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## Hunting Report:

**Dove:** Good numbers of doves around currently. There should be good opportunities for the opening weekend. Good numbers have been around harvested wheat fields.

**Goose:** There are a few good fields around the Watertown area that provide good hunting opportunities. Hunters will have to go out and scout to find a good field.

## Day County



### Fishing Report

**Bitter:** Anglers reported catching a few more walleye this past weekend. Fishing seems to be the best in shallower water.

**Waubay:** Fishing success was minimal this past week with anglers catching a few nice walleye and some white bass.

**Rush:** Anglers have had success catching a few nice walleye and northern pike both from shore and from boats.

**Enemy Swim:** Anglers are catching some nice bluegill with the occasional walleye and crappie.



## Hunting Report:

**Dove:** good numbers throughout the county.

**Goose:** will have to put time in scouting, as birds are very spread out and not really grouped up.

## Hamlin County



### Fishing Report

**Poinsett:** The bite continues to be slow but fishermen have been seeing catching a mix bag of small walleyes, perch, and crappie. **Walleye size limit is the state wide limit of 4 fish with 1 being over 20".**

**Lake Albert:** Little to no activity.



## Hunting Report:

**Dove:** There has been plenty of wheat fields harvested which will be magnets for Doves. Population looks good for some successful hunts early in the season.

**Goose:** Fair populations of Canada Geese have been spotted throughout the county.

## Marshall County



### Fishing Report

**Clear:** The panfish bite is still a bit slow. The bass bite continues to be decent, all other species slow.

**Opitz:** The walleye bite is decent near main lake points.

**White:** A few walleye have been caught, along with the occasional crappie.



## Hunting Report:

**Dove:**

**Goose:**



## Park Report:

- **We are looking for some fall seasonal employees. If you're interested, please contact your local park.**



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- **Fort Sisseton State Park:** Lantern Tour – See the Fort in a different light on August 31<sup>st</sup> at 9pm! Ever wonder what Fort Sisseton looked like at night without electricity? Ever wonder if it was haunted by ghost? See Fort Sisseton in a different light by joining us for one of our Lantern Tours of the buildings. Listen to the history of the Fort from a first person view point while hearing stories about those who might remain....
- Also at **Fort Sisseton State Park** on Sunday, September 2nd at 2pm we will be having a Victorian Era Etiquette and Tea: Who knew that just the simple task of eating once had so many rules! Educate yourself on the proper rules and procedures for everyday living in the Victorian Era!
- Call (800-710-CAMP) or go online (campsd.com) to find any available spots for Labor Day weekend in your area!
- Be sure to check out the event calendar at <https://gfp.sd.gov/events/> to see events happening near you!
- **State Parks:** a reminder to watercraft users that all boats, personal water craft, canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, and other similar vessels are not allowed inside zoned swim beaches (inside “swim area” buoys). They are allowed on other beach areas that are not buoyed off for your enjoyment.
- **Reminder** – hunting is not allowed in any state park or lakeside use area until October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Camping season does not end after Labor Day! All state parks in the area have campsites open for the remaining weekends in September after Labor Day Weekend and in October. Fall is a great time to enjoy cool nights around the campfire and hike our trails to see the changing leaf colors!

