

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

Outdoor Report

The week of October 8, 2018

East River Landowner applications are now available online.

Aberdeen Area

Fishing Report

James River: Fishing has been slow. The water levels have dropped making fishing difficult. Anglers are catching some catfish by Sand Lake Refuge.

Richmond Lake: Anglers have been catching perch and crappie.

Elm Lake: Anglers are catching walleye, crappie, 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: With the colder weather most of the doves have moved south, but there are still some doves around.

Goose: Scouting is going to be your best bet for getting geese this season. There is not a lot of geese around, but the ones that are, are using harvested wheat fields and the harvested corn fields.

Duck: Hunters hunting the northern part of Brown county are having the best success, although there are some ducks down south. Hunters that are hunting the water are having a fair amount of luck. While hunters hunting the harvested corn fields are having the best success. Scouting is the key to success.

Clark County

Fishing Report

Dry 2: The lake has been slow with very little boating traffic. A few anglers are still fishing just west of the boat ramp.



Hunting Report

Goose: Numbers are good. Most hunters are having luck hunting geese over harvested fields near water.

Ducks: Numbers are a little down from last week. Hunters are still shooting a mixed bag of puddle ducks and divers, but we are not seeing near the numbers we were seeing last week.

Codington County



Fishing Report

Kampeska: Little fishing activity.

Pelican: Fishermen are catching a few walleye and occasionally one over 20 inches.

Goose: Fishermen are catching a few walleye. The ramp has had gravel added to it and the dock will remain out, do to

the time of year.

Dry Lake: Little fishing activity.



Hunting Report

Dove: Not a lot of mourning doves around the area, the colder temperatures have pushed most of them south. **Goose:** There are still a decent number of geese around the area, they are starting to hit the harvested corn fields.

Duck: Duck hunting has been slow this past week, most of the local ducks have moved out and we have not had a push of northern ducks yet.

Day County



Fishing Report





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Bitter: Anglers are starting to pick up a few more walleye with the cooling water temps.

Waubay: Fishing remains slow but anglers are picking up a few walleye. **Blue Dog**: Anglers are catching a few nice walleye with the occasional pike.



Hunting Report

Goose: Hunters are having decent success hunting harvested fields in the area. New birds are moving into the area so now is a good time to get out scouting.

Duck: Hunters are having good success hunting water and harvested fields. Most hunters are focusing around smaller ponds or fresh cut fields.

Deer: Deer are started to get more active with the colder weather. Now is a good time to get out and get in the stand.

Hamlin County



🖢 Fishing Report

Poinsett: There were colder temperatures this past weekend. Fishermen that still came out and tried their luck had some success with walleye and perch. Walleye size limit is the state wide limit of 4 fish with 1 being over 20".



Hunting Report

Dove: Still a few doves around but with colder temp's looks like the opportunity to harvest doves is going to be slim. **Goose**: There has still been a fair amount of success out there this past week. Most hunters are targeting the silage fields.

Duck: With colder temp's ahead and possible snow. It will be interesting to see if we get a slight push of birds to come through. Success has be fair so far throughout the county.

Deer: Most of the deer movement can be seen in the evenings. A lot of the main buck movement has gone nocturnal for the "October Lull". This is good time to wait for the rut to begin.

Marshall County



Fishing Report

Clear: Anglers are catching bass, walleye and the occasional northern pike.

Opitz: The fall bite is on, a good walleye bite on main lake near timbered points.

Roy: Anglers are reporting the occasional walleye and pike.

South Red Iron: Anglers reported catching some really nice walleye and bass.



Hunting Report

Goose: The majority of geese are in the eastern portion of the county. The geese are using corn fields cut for silage and cut wheat to feed in.

Duck: Great duck numbers across the county. Seems like the majority of wetlands are holding water. Some migration activity has been observed.

Deer: I have observed a few rubs and scrapes the rut is getting closer. Now is a great time to be in the stand.



Park Report:

- We are looking for some fall seasonal employees. If you're interested, please contact your local park.
- **Fort Sisseton Historic State Park**: Haunted Fort Come trick-or-treat from 1-4 p.m. and enjoy the fort in a friendly, non-scary setting. October 13, 2018, starting at 5 p.m., however, things get spooky! Walking tours, sure to tingle the senses, offer guests a look at some of the history that never left. Reservations required for evening tours, 605.448.5474.





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- **Richmond Lake Recreation Area**: Forest Drive Fright Night is a Halloween event put on in the Forest Drive area of Richmond Recreation Area. The event is a fun, non-scary event that has a Halloween theme. The event offers games for all ages, a hayride, scavenger hunt, prizes participants can win, snacks, and warm drinks. Participants are encouraged to wear their favorite Halloween costume.
- Oakwood Lakes State Park: Mortimer's Monsterous Halloween Event join us for a fun afternoon of Halloween activities. These will include; hay rides, face painting, trick-or-treat tables, scavenger hunt, and fun games. Fun for the whole family!
- Camping season does not have to end! All state parks in the area have campsites open for the remaining weekends in October. Facilities are still open and fall is a great time to enjoy cool nights around the campfire and hike our trails to see the changing leaf colors!
- Be sure to check out the event calendar at https://gfp.sd.gov/events/ to see events happening near you!

