



Outdoor Report

The week of December 10, 2018

- Please use caution if venturing out on ice.
- We would like to remind deer hunters only 2018 antlerless tags are eligible for the antlerless season December 8 – 16, 2018.

Aberdeen Area

Fishing Report



The lakes, sloughs, and rivers are almost completely frozen over with a thin layer of ice. There are still open spots on Richmond Lake, Elm Lake, and the James River. **The ice is not safe for ice fishing.**



Hunting Report

Waterfowl: The duck season closed on Dec 11 and the Canada goose season closes on Dec 16. Most of the waterfowl have migrated out of Brown County, but there are still a few small flocks of Canada geese hanging around.

Deer: The antlerless deer season is open from Dec 8-16. Only antlerless deer licenses are valid for this season, any deer tags are not valid during this season.

The apprentice, mentor, archery, and muzzleloader deer seasons are open until Jan 1, 2019. There were not many hunters out this weekend hunting deer.

Pheasants: Pheasant hunters are having good success. Hunters having the best success are hunting in cattail sloughs. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge pheasant season is open from Dec 10-Jan 6. The pheasant season will close on January 6, 2019.

Clark County

Fishing Report



Fishing activities have started to pick up around Clark County. Be safe on the ice as reports in some areas on lakes are open to 11 inches.



Hunting Report

Waterfowl: There are still some lingering waterfowl in the area. Go towards the bigger bodies of water to find birds.

Deer: Muzzleloader, mentor, apprentice and archery are still going until January 1 2019.

Pheasants: Target sloughs and heavy cover, we have still been seeing good numbers of pheasants.

Codington County

Fishing Report



Goose: Depending on the day, fishermen are finding a few walleye.

Dry Lake: Fishermen are catching a few walleye.



Hunting Report

Waterfowl: Not much for geese left in the area. Reminder, that December 16th is the end of the Canada goose season.

Deer: Muzzleloader, mentor, apprentice and archery seasons are still in full swing.

Pheasant: Hunters continue to average about 1 to 2 birds per hunter. Pheasants are starting to group up around areas with good cover and a nearby food source.

Day County

Fishing Report



Waubay: Anglers are catching some nice perch and occasional walleye, mostly fishing on the north side of lake.

Enemy Swim: Little activity, a few anglers are trying for pan fish.



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201



Hunting Report

Pheasant: Hunters had good success this last weekend finding birds in thick sloughs.

Deer: Hunters are having decent success chasing late season archery and muzzleloader deer.

Hamlin County



Fishing Report

Poinsett: There was quite a crowd over the weekend; success was poor for both perch and walleyes.



Hunting Report

Waterfowl: Very little waterfowl around.

Deer: Late season food sources are good areas to fill some muzzleloader or apprentice doe tags.

Pheasant: The birds have been grouping up near winter cover.

Marshall County



Fishing Report

Roy: Anglers have found some nice northern pike and the occasional perch and walleye.

Clear: Anglers have been out searching for the nice panfish with a few being caught near main lake points. Anglers have also caught a few bass and walleye.

Opitz: A few anglers have ventured out with a few nice walleye being caught.

White: The crappie bite is very slow and the walleye bite is decent in the evenings.



Hunting Report

Deer: The deer are moving to food sources and really starting to herd up across the county.

Pheasant: Hunters are having success in the western portion of the county near harvested crop fields and cattails sloughs. Good luck and be safe.



Park Report:

- Come get your 2019 Park Entrance Licenses and gift cards for the holiday season. They make great gifts!
- Snowmobiling season starts December 15, 2018 and goes through March 31, 2019. Over 1,500 miles of snowmobile trails exist in South Dakota, from the open prairie east of the Missouri River to the 1 million acres of ponderosa pine in the Black Hills. For more information on license fees, registration procedure and where to snowmobile, see the snowmobiling webpage at gfp.sd.gov/snowmobiling
- **Pelican Lake Recreation Area:** Join us for a guided night hike to celebrate the Winter Solstice on Friday, December 21. Experience night hiking at its finest under the stars and bright, full moon on the trails of Pelican Lake Recreation Area to the lookout tower. Bundle up and join us at the picnic shelter at 4:45pm for sunset viewing. The hike begins at 5pm. After the hike, stay for s'mores and hot chocolate!
- Join us for some holiday cheer on Sunday, December 30 from 2:00 – 5:00pm at **Pelican Lake Recreation Area**. Bundle up and head out to the park for an afternoon holiday party. We will have activities for children and adults of all ages. Escape boxes, Bingo, crafts, games, snacks, and more. Register by calling the Watertown Game, Fish & Parks office at 605-882-5200.
- **Hartwood Beach State Park:** Join us for some holiday cheer on Sunday, December 28 from 2:00 – 5:00pm. Bundle up and head out to the park for an afternoon holiday party. We will have activities for children and adults of all ages. Escape boxes, Bingo, crafts, games, snacks, and more. Register by calling the Watertown Game, Fish & Parks office at 605-882-5200.





SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

- Check out the event calendar at <https://gfp.sd.gov/events/> to see other events happening near you!

