

# GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

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## Goose Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:16

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>May 1-2, 2014</b>	<b>Custer State Park</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>June 5, 2014</b>	<b>Yankton</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>June 5-6, 2014</b>	<b>Yankton</b>

### DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

**Season Dates:** August 16-31, 2014

**Open Area:** Brookings, Brown, Clark, Codington, Day, Deuel, Hamlin, Hanson, Hutchinson, Grant, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, Marshall, McCook, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Pennington (west of the Cheyenne River), Roberts, Spink, Turner and Union counties.

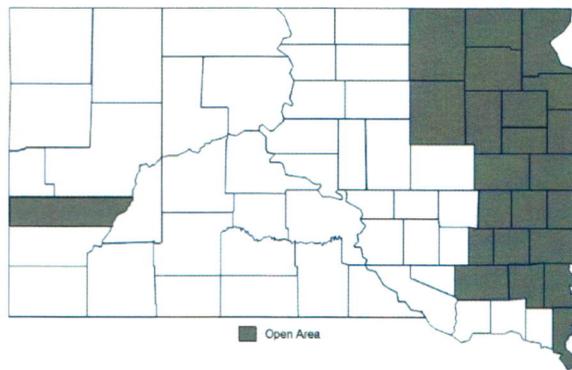
**Daily Bag Limit:** 15 Canada geese

**Possession Limit:** None

**Licenses:** Residents only

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Annual small game or combination license and state migratory bird certification. Federal waterfowl stamp is not required.
2. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.
3. All other restrictions are the same as during the Early Fall and Regular Canada Goose Season.



**Recommended changes from last year:**

1. Modify the season dates to the third Saturday of August to August 31. Currently starts the first Saturday of August.

### SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Resident Canada goose numbers have shown an increasing trend since the early 1990's in South Dakota and are monitored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's annual May Breeding Waterfowl Survey. Though the 2014 survey has not been conducted, this survey showed a spring population index of 247,000 Canada geese in South Dakota during 2013. The most recent 3-year average (2011-2013) is 248,000 birds. This is significantly higher than the management plan goal of 80,000-90,000.

Year	Number Hunters	Ave. Days Hunted	Ave. Season Bag	Harvest
2010	3,538	2.99	8.21	29,047
2011	3,211	2.74	9.44	30,300
2012	3,581	3.08	10.26	36,757
2013	2,345	3.42	7.93	18,592

**APPROVE** \_\_\_\_\_
**MODIFY** \_\_\_\_\_
**REJECT** \_\_\_\_\_
**NO ACTION** \_\_\_\_\_