

Central Regional Advisory Panel
Gettysburg Fire Hall
October 27, 2015

Attendees:

Panel members Present (8):

Jack Broome - Burke
Fred Hubbard – Miller
Herb McClellan – Mobridge
Danielle McGee-Campbell – Onida
Lyle Perman – Lowry
Leonard Spomer – Pierre
Kevin Swensen - Chamberlain
Bill Waeckerle - Akaska

GF&P Staff:

Cliff Stone

Welcome & Introductions

Cliff welcomed the group to Gettysburg, the group then traveled to the SD Game, Fish and Parks Whitlock's Bay Salmon Spawning Station. SDGFP Wildlife Biologist Bob Hanten Jr. provided the group an overview of the salmon program in SD and a tour of the facility. The panel members were then able to observe the salmon spawning/egg take operation. The panel returned to the Gettysburg Fire Hall

Panel Member Updates/Issues

Herb McClellan – It appears that local deer numbers are coming back. The local Mobridge Ice Fishing Tournament committee is partnering with the City of Mobridge and GFP to compete and all season fish cleaning station (heated in winter, AC in the summer). The 2016 Mobridge Ice fishing tournament is already full, Committee had 33 open spots available by lottery and sold 3 on Ebay (sold for over \$2000/ea.), already over \$200,000 in prizes. Cabela's also has plans to bring a large open water walleye tournament to Mobridge in 2016. Pheasant numbers seem to be up in the local area. Recently, the local fall fishing has been better north of Mobridge.

Leonard Spomer – Fishing in the Pierre area over summer was spotty, trend seems to be continuing into the fall. Fall hunting season started with lots of doves, grouse was also good. The weather was very warm on the Resident pheasant opener and in general pheasant hunting success has been varied. Most big game seasons have yet to open.

Fred Hubbard – Pheasant opener wasn't real good in the Miller area, some local concern over did something happen to the birds after brood survey. Fishing in area lakes has been spotty. Fred brief the group on several diseases/toxins that are in SD that can affect wildlife, blue green algae – confirmed by Lake Byron can be toxic, avian influenza – wild birds tested all negative for the infectious form, however the non-pathogenic form has been detected and tularemia – 7 human cases in Rapid City this summer.

Kevin Swenson – Fishing overall in the Chamberlain was OK this, fall fishing hasn't picked up. Pheasant hunting has been fair, lots of corn in the fields. Grouse numbers have been good and deer

numbers OK. Concern that the waterfowl season will be quick, due to warm weather and potential quick migrations through the area as cold weather arrives

Danielle McGee-Campbell – Opening weekend of pheasant hunting was pretty good in the Onida area, especially near water. Hasn't heard many recent fishing reports. Fall waterfowl probably will be hit or miss with the weather and migration patterns. Experiencing local issues with big game hunters compounded, by the local CO position being vacant. Deer numbers are OK, seeing an increased number of mule deer in and around town.

Bill Waeckerle – Akaska anglers have had good luck, especially in Moreau River, catching a good number of 15"-23" walleye. Anglers are also seeing an abundance of smallmouth bass and white bass in the catch, as well as some crappies, yellow perch, and bluegills. There have been reports of a sturgeon and a paddlefish being caught in the Moreau. Pheasant hunters had pretty good success. Mule deer numbers appear to be improving and Whitetail deer numbers are about the same. There is a local issue with trespass, but a challenge with local prosecution. Annual youth ice fishing tournament will be Jan 16th.

Lyle Perman – Similar to Bill on fishing and the early pheasant hunting success was similar to last year. Deer, lots of activity with archers claiming to see a fair number of deer.

Jack Broome – Fishing has been OK in the Burke area and on Lake Francis Case. Locally, it appears that the predator population, primarily coyotes are way up. Deer numbers seem to be on the increase, good numbers of grouse/prairie chickens in the area, pheasant number seem to be similar to last year, and they are starting to see more partridge in the area. Turkey numbers seem to be way down. Waterfowl should be good. Good moisture going into the winter.

Update on stakeholder groups.

Cliff updated the group on the activities of the two active public stakeholder groups (Turkey – Leonard represents Central RAP, Goose – Jack represents) that are currently meeting. Stakeholder groups are designed to assist GFP with identifying issues and development goals/objectives in species management plan development. A stakeholder group for the deer management plan is being selected. Panel members were encouraged to review and comment on the various species management plan when they are made available for public review.

Non-Residents in South Dakota

Cliff provided the panel members with information on license sales, participation and license revenue from resident and non-resident anglers and hunters in South Dakota. The panel discussed the various impacts (positive and negative) of non-resident anglers and hunters in South Dakota.

Next Meeting: Next meeting was tentatively scheduled for April.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM