GFP Commission Denies Petition to Restrict Recreational Use on Portions of Cattail-Kettle Lake

At the November GFP Commission meeting, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission denied a petition submitted by Cattail Land and Cattle Company, LLC, to restrict recreational use on portions of Cattail-Kettle Lake in Marshall county.

A contested case hearing was conducted on the morning of Nov. 2, 2017, in Brookings where the GFP Commission heard testimony from the petitioner requesting to close a 100 yard buffer zone surrounding their property from all recreational use. The GFP Commission also heard testimony from other interested parties who were both in favor and opposed to the petition. They then considered evidence as it related to privacy, safety and substantially affected financial interests of the petitioner in addition to historical use of the waters, the water quality, water quantity and the public’s interest in recreational use of the water.

In failing to meet the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence, the GFP Commission unanimously approved a resolution denying the petition. As a result, all portions of Cattail-Kettle Lake remain open to public recreational users.

About the Petition Process: In June 2017, during a special legislative session, the South Dakota Legislature adopted H.B. 1001 which allowed landowners who owned property underlying nonmeandered lakes the ability to close water overlying their property. Section 8 of the bill outlined specific nonmeandered lakes (e.g., Cattail-Kettle Lake) that would remain open to the public for recreational purposes. The Legislature tasked the GFP Commission to institute a process by which a landowner could petition the GFP Commission to request the ability to close their private property underlying a section 8 lake from recreational use. Cattail Land and Cattle Company, LLC, was the first petitioner to go through this process.

Editor’s note: SDWF testified in opposition to the closing of the Public’s water at this hearing. SDWF’s Legal Counsel testified that the petition did not meet the requirements of closing in HB 1001, SDWF is the ONLY Conservation organization fighting for the Public’s rights to recreate on our water.

Why and How to Get Today’s Youth into Hunting

Why to Involve Our Youth in Hunting

Hunting in the Midwest is an activity that is ingrained in the culture. However, with gun rights and hunting opportunities being constantly challenged, it is a portion of the culture that requires specific focus to make sure it is passed down to the next generation. South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks has made a concerted effort to provide opportunity for the next wave of young hunters. Educating yourself on when the time is right and how to get your kids involved is doing your part to perpetuate the sport.

Determining When the Time is Right

Some states do not have age limitations for hunter safety courses and license purchasing, but South Dakota has age limitations for both. Despite the age limitations being a bit older than some states, the state offers a variety of ways to get your child involved starting at age 10.

South Dakota mandates that kids between the ages of 12 and 15 complete the HuntSAFE program and provide the certificate as evidence of completion when they go to buy a license. Kids that are 11 can take the HuntSAFE class, but their certification will not be valid until they turn 12. Kids that are at least 10 years old can hunt under the state mentored program.

While the state sets some minimum age guidelines for when your child can start actually hunting, once they are past the legal age, the final decision on readiness is up to the parent or mentor.

Taking your kid along on your own hunts is the best way to determine their readiness. Make sure to teach them ethics and safety along the way. These are the things that they will be tested on in the HuntSAFE course. If they are over the required age and you feel they have an understanding and respect of the safety and ethics themes involved in hunting, they should be ready for the course. Because they already have a good foundation of understanding, the course should just provide reinforcement for what they know.

All first-time archery hunters, youth or otherwise, must also complete the National Bowhunter Education Foundation (NBEF) course before being issued their initial archery hunting license.

How to Get Them Started

As mentioned above, South Dakota offers lots of youth hunting opportunities.

Once your child turns 10, they are eligible to hunt under the mentored youth program. For this program, they must be accompanied by a licensed adult over the age of 18, who is hunter education certified (they must carry proof of hunter education completion with them). The mentored program is valid for residents only, under the age of 16. Kids that participate in the mentored hunt program are not eligible to participate in the general youth deer hunting season. This program offers more opportunity to teach kids about hunting in real life scenarios.

A child who is over 12 and has passed the HuntSAFE program has a lot of additional youth hunting opportunity. For most of the fall, youth hunters (age 12 to 18) are allowed to harvest an antlerless deer from September into January. Consult the annual regulations for exact birth date cutoffs and official season dates.

Children can also hunt antlerless antelope and spring and fall turkeys under the mentored program. A license must be purchased by the mentor for each.
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Executive Director by Chris Hesla

SDWF and our lobbying arm SDWF-Camo are the two arms that do the work, the SDWF is a great Conservation minded organization with Camo doing the Legislative work needed to make sure our world is protected and safe-guarded as best we can and the outcomes and conservation is science based and is the best we can do with the information provided.

SDWF CAMO Coalition is reaching out to you because we all share the same love for South Dakota, as well as working to protect our natural resources. We strive to safeguard our wildlife, their habitats, and our air and water. We believe access to publicly owned natural resources is a critical and essential right. Earlier this year Governor Daugaard called a special legislative session to deal with the non-meandered water issue in northeastern South Dakota.

Special Session House Bill 1001 was passed and signed into law. You may have heard this bill is a compromise. It may have been a compromise between the handful of legislators and legal counsel for the landowners involved in drafting the bill, but we are unaware of any input from conservation groups or individual sportsmen/women.

Special Session House Bill 1001 has many shortcomings:

- No compromise with outdoor recreational users.
- No specific recognition that recreational use of public waters is beneficial.
- Mass privatization and commercialization of public waters.
- No ability to petition public waters open.
- Violates the Public Trust Doctrine, the common principle of laws and court cases which have served South Dakota since territorial times, if not since the very founding of the United States.

SDWF CAMO Coalition and South Dakota Wildlife Federation is asking for your help in two ways:

First, SDWF CAMO Coalition and South Dakota Wildlife Federation is asking for your financial support. We have retained an attorney-lead lobbying firm to assist our current lobbyists. The additional attorney/lobbyists will focus solely on the non-meandered water issue. Our new attorney/lobbyists are well known, highly respected and will work to replace or amend Special Session House Bill 1001 into a bill that safeguards the integrity of the Public Trust Doctrine as well as protecting our natural resources for the public. The bill must also provide reasonable benefit and protection for landowners who own flooded farm lands.

Second, we ask you and all of our members to help educate others and to lobby each of our legislators to work on a true compromise we all can live with.

We ALL need to work together and are asking for your donations of time and money, and a strong commitment to helping pass sound legislation in the 2018 session that is truly a compromise and protects the rights of all.

Just as we strongly believe in the right of landowners to enjoy the benefits of their land, we also believe in the public’s right to use our publicly owned lands and waters. To unjustly deny the public use of their own property is no different than denying a private landowner’s use of his or her property.

We are currently drafting language to amend Special Session House Bill 1001, and will share our language and plan with any like-minded groups and individuals showing a commitment to join together and work toward passing a reasonable and fair bill into law for the good of all of our citizens.

For more information or to make a donation: SDWF Camo, PO Box 952, Pierre, SD 57501 or for more information please call 605-224-7524 or e-mail sdwfcamo.net.
President’s Column by Mark Widman

By the time you read this, many of us have had plenty of opportunities to hunt grouse, pheasants, ducks, geese and deer. Many of us have hunted on public lands and are thankful for public access. My story begins opening weekend for “Resident Pheasant”. I invited my buddy Jeremy and his 9th grade son Carter to go hunting with Charlie (my GSP) and me. We went out to a game production area along the Missouri River to hunt for Sharptail grouse/Prairie Chickens in the morning and then Pheasants in the afternoon.

We started the morning hunt in anticipation, but I warned Jeremy and Carter to not get their hopes up. Pheasant numbers have been on a big decline due to the loss of grasslands and wetlands over the last decade and with the drought occurring earlier this year, I figured it would be a long day of walking. I was thrilled to have them with me as my brother Rich wasn’t able to join me due to back surgery. As we walked along the Missouri River breaks, Charlie pointed three porcupines that morning. I was able to pull him off of two porcupines through a little electro-therapy, but he decided to try a taste of the third porcupine. That didn’t work out so well, as he got a big mouthful of quills in addition to his left leg. He had so many quills he looked like a dog from the movie “Hellraiser”. (Google “Hellraiser” and you’ll see what I mean.) Charlie was in a lot of hurt! I didn’t have a pliers on me and we were a good mile away from my truck with several hills and ravines between us. I gave my shotgun to Jeremy and decided to run back to my pickup as I called for Charlie to heel. He ran with me on three legs, but stopped several times to try and pull the quills out of his leg with his mouth, which was still full of quills. We finally made it back to the truck and I pulled as many quills out of his mouth as I could. When Jeremy and Carter got back to the truck, Jeremy said that he’d never seen me run so fast. I guess when you’re in a state of panic, your adrenaline kicks in and allows you to do things above and beyond your normal ability. We then headed to the vet where they sedated him and pulled out many more quills. The Vet said that quills have a tendency to travel throughout the body and we would find more over the next few weeks. Two weeks later, I had to take him back to our Vet as Charlie had more quills making their way out of his leg. As I write this, he’s still in pain and only able to walk on three legs. We’ll get through this, but I need my hunting partner back by my side sooner than later. There’s a good chance that I’ll be doing a lot more waterfowl hunting this Fall. I hope your hunts have been fun, memorable and free of injury so far!

The SDWF has been busy this Fall. We are preparing for the upcoming legislative session and working on a fix for HB 1001… The Non-Meandered Water bill. Earlier this year, South Dakota Governor Daugaard called a special legislative session to discuss the controversial issue of access to non-meandered waters. Shortly after that, Special Session House Bill 1001 was passed and signed into law.

This bill allows landowners to close publicly-owned, non-meandered waters so they can privatize and commercialize South Dakota’s waters and fish.

You may have heard this bill was a compromise. However, the landowners’ legal counsel wrote most of this bill and there was no input allowed whatsoever from sporting or conservation groups! Bottom line, not a compromise!

Special Session House Bill 1001 has many shortcomings:
- No specific recognition that recreational use of public waters is beneficial.
- Allows mass privatization and commercialization of public waters.
- No ability to challenge the closing of most public waters.
- No ability to petition the subsequently closed public waters.

The SDWF Camo Coalition, our 501(c)(4) lobbying arm, is working to introduce amendments to Special Session House Bill 1001 that clearly articulates the public’s right to use publicly-owned waters. This is the most important battle we have ever fought and we need your help!

With that being said, many of our members including me have families that farm and ranch in this great state. Therefore, I want it to be known that we do support and fought for tax abatements for those landowners with flooded lands. We also would include legislation that says landowners are not liable for any accidents that happen on the water above their land, along with supporting the 660’ buffer zones to help keep the separation from those recreating and those living on the land.

On another note, we’ve been working with our Congressional delegation and the SD Secretary of Agriculture, Mike Jaspers to fix the septic system at Camp Bob Marshall. Money was appropriated to the USFS for the fix, but I understand that money was used to help fight the massive range fires in the West. Failure to fix the septic system has brought additional and unexpected costs to our camp. Sec. Jaspers has met with USFS and is working to get the septic system fixed as it affects the 4H Campers as well. He is optimistic that things will get fixed and we’ll be able to use Camp Bob Marshall for future camps. I’d like to thank Sec. Jaspers for his help in this matter.

As always, we need to continue building our membership and raising money to pay for our lobbying effort in Pierre! We need you to impress upon your hunting and fishing buddies to JOIN the SDWF (which costs less than $2.00/month), donate money to our cause, purchase raffle tickets for our “Ultimate Fishing Package” worth $3,200 and if you buy at least $100 in tickets, you will be entered into another drawing for a Guided Fishing Package worth $1,500. If you are reading this… Thank You for your continued support!

Hunting season is upon us. Be safe, enjoy your time outdoors, PICK UP THE LITTER and make some memories!

By Jon Sutton

Jon Sutton loves to spend time in the woods and on the water. His life has revolved around outdoors since his early childhood days when he was tagging along father’s deer hunts. Since then he has grown into a full-fledged outdoorsman and has hunted deer, elk, and waterfowl including archery. He also enjoys camping and traveling. He is currently a content manager for Outdoor Empire.

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Cont. from page 1 - Youth Hunting

Other youth opportunities exist for waterfowl and pheasant hunting. All of the youth seasons share a common theme—good odds of success and hunts that are focused on the young hunters. In the mentored hunts, the adult is not allowed to carry a firearm other than a legally concealed handgun. The same is true for all of the youth hunt opportunities, excluding scenarios where the adult has a valid license for big game in the same geographical area that the youth is hunting antlerless deer.

Conclusion - As you are getting your kid into hunting, remember it is supposed to be fun. Do not overbear them with pressure or keep them out hunting past when they are ready to go home. With any luck, they will develop the passion that many hunters share, and one day will be in the field dark to dark on their own accord. Youth who grow to enjoy the sport will one day be responsible for protecting hunting opportunities and rights, as well as passing this important piece of culture to the next generation.

Outdoors 2
JUST ONE

CAMP YEAR-ROUND AT SOUTH DAKOTA STATE PARKS

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) wants to remind park visitors that camping isn’t just for summer. Parks accept reservations and electricity stays on year-round.

Camping cabins and group lodges can be reserved as few as two days before arrival. Campsite reservations are available right up until the day of arrival. Reserve online at campsrd.com.

Facilities like shower houses are kept open as long as weather allows, and roads and trails are plowed where possible. Contact the park directly to check their status before you arrive.

“The fall and winter months are a great time to explore the outdoors,” said visitor services coordinator Lynn Spomer. “Hiking, bird watching, snowshoeing and nature photography are all fun ways to spend time outside when the seasons change.”

Special events go on year-round too. The parks offer snowshoe hikes and holiday happenings this winter. See the events calendar at gfp.sd.gov for programs in your area.

GFP COMMISSION REJECTS EXPANSION OF MOUNTAIN LION HUNTING ON PUBLIC LAND

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission did not adopt their proposal which would have expanded the use of hounds to hunt mountain lions.

The initial request, through the citizen petition process, asked to remove the restrictions of the use of hounds on public land outside of the Black Hills Fire Protection District. In October, the GFP Commission accepted a petition as a proposal which allowed for public input and a public hearing at their November meeting.

After receiving public comment and further discussing the matter, the GFP Commission did not adopt the change. Lion hunting with hounds outside the Black Hills Fire Protection District will remain under the same structure. Pursuits must originate on private land and can culminate on School and Public Lands or Bureau of Land Management properties with the exception of the Fort Meade Recreation Area.

RULES FOR MARKING NONMEANDERED WATERS NOW FINALIZED

House Bill 1001 requires the department to establish specific standards for markers used to indicate closure of nonmeandered waters to recreational use. The Commission passed the following rules:

1. Nonmeandered water closures shall be marked with buoys or department-supplied signs.
2. Signs and buoys must be placed no further apart than 660 feet.
3. Signs and buoys shall be installed so they are conspicuous.
4. Buoys shall be of polyform design.
5. Buoys shall be red with contrasting 3 inch minimum letters stating: “Closed.”
6. Buoy size shall be a diameter of not less than 14.5 inches and a length of not less than 19.5 inches.
7. Signs and buoys are to be installed, removed and maintained by the owner or their designee of the private property.
8. Property corner boundaries located in the water must be marked by signs or buoys.

Any landowner who wishes to close the water overlying their flooded land on a nonmeandered water body must mark the water as closed to recreational use and notify the Department within a reasonable time of doing so. Any landowner who wishes to restrict access on a Section 8 nonmeandered lake must petition the GFP Commission to request such closure.


BROWN COUNTY CONSERVATION OFFICERS RECEIVES GFP DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Brown County conservation officer Nick Cochran was awarded the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks’ (GFP) Distinguished Achievement Award at the GFP Commission’s November meeting.

Cochran, who is a 15 year veteran with GFP was awarded the Department’s highest honor in part for his excellent service to hunters, anglers, GFP and his community.

“Nick has been the face and voice of the Department in the Aberdeen area for 12 years,” said GFP wildlife director, Tony Leif. “He has gained the public’s trust and respect with accountability and his willingness to be available at any time.”

Cochran also serves on the local Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation board, recruits mentors for youth looking to become active in the outdoors and is instrumental in Aberdeen’s successful Youth Sport fest.

“Nick is an excellent communicator with the public and takes the time to explain a law, management technique or procedure until an individual has a full understanding,” said Leif. “He is a prime example of our Department’s expectation of serving the public by inspiring confidence through compassion.”

OUT OF DOORS 2
November / December 2017
In a continuing effort to increase access to hunting and fishing on public lands, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced a final rule to open or expand opportunities across 132,000 acres on 10 national wildlife refuges. This will bring the number of refuges where the public may hunt up to 373 and up to 311 where fishing is permitted.

Hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities contributed more than $156.3 billion in economic activity across the United States according to the Service’s National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, published every five years. More than 101.6 million Americans – 40 percent of the U.S. population 16 and older – pursue wildlife-related recreation. The final rule opens more than 60,000 acres of Refuge System lands for hunting species not previously authorized in these areas.

“The nation’s sportsmen and women lead the conservation of wildlife and their habitats throughout our nation. They are passionate about the outdoors and are committed to sustainably managing these resources for all Americans to enjoy. Refuges provide all Americans with places to hunt, fish, observe the natural world firsthand and experience the great outdoors,” said Service Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan. “We are pleased to be able to offer hunting and fishing opportunities and other recreational activities where they are compatible with national wildlife refuge management goals.”

Hunting and/or fishing will expand or be opened on the following refuges:

**Georgia and South Carolina**
* Savannah National Wildlife Refuge: Expand migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing.

**Indiana**
* Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge: Expand migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing.

**Minnesota**
* Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge: Expand migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing.

**North Dakota**
* Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge: Open moose hunting for the first time. The refuge is already open to upland game and other big game hunting.
* Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge: Open moose and turkey hunting for the first time. Expand upland game and big game hunting. The refuge is already open to upland game hunting, other big game hunting, and sport fishing.

**Oklahoma**
* Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge: Expand upland game and big game hunting. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing.

**Oregon**
* Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge: Expand migratory game bird hunting. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting.
* Siletz Bay National Wildlife Refuge: Open sport fishing for the first time. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting.

**Wisconsin**
* Fox River National Wildlife Refuge: Expand big game hunting. The refuge is already open to big game hunting.
* Horicon National Wildlife Refuge: Expand migratory game bird hunting and upland game and big game hunting. The refuge is already open to migratory game bird hunting, upland game and big game hunting, and sport fishing.

More than 50 million Americans visit refuges every year. National wildlife refuges provide vital habitat for thousands of species and access to world-class recreation, from fishing, hunting and hiking to nature watching, photography and environmental education. In doing so, they support regional economies to the tune of $2.4 billion per year and support more than 35,000 jobs. The unparalleled network of 566 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts means that there is a national wildlife refuge within an hour’s drive of most major metropolitan areas.

Under the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, the Service permits hunting and fishing along with four other types of wildlife-dependent recreation, including wildlife photography, environmental education, wildlife observation and interpretation, when they are compatible with an individual refuge’s purpose and mission. Hunting, within specified limits, is currently permitted on 336 wildlife refuges and 37 wetland management districts. Fishing is currently permitted on 277 wildlife refuges and 34 wetland management districts.

The final rule will become effective upon publication in the Federal Register on November 8, 2017.
Encourage your friends that enjoy the outdoors to join the SDWF directly or through a local affiliate club. “JUST ONE” new member can make a world of difference!

Or give it as a gift and get them hooked!

SDWF Membership is $20 a year, please enclose check, Credit card and send to:
SDWF, PO Box 7075, Pierre, SD 57501

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: __________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Credit Card: ____________________________

Exp Date: __________ Three digit code: __________

Love the outdoors and need a tax deduction this year?
If you have a car, van, truck, ATV, or boat that's in reasonably good shape and you aren't using, donate it to the SDWF. You'll get a nice tax break and will feel great knowing you helped our great organization protect South Dakota's outdoors.

SDWF Mission:

To Promote the Conservation of South Dakota's Wildlife & Recreation Opportunities
Grassland and wetland terrain in the Missouri Coteau, part of the Prairie Pothole Region in North Dakota.

Dwindling grassland remnants in the Great Plains continued their decline last year with the loss of 2.5 million acres consumed by expanding crop production.

The reduction, which included a loss of 266,127 grassland acres in North Dakota, was tallied by a “Plowprint” report recently released by the World Wildlife Fund.

The loss of grassland acres has been an ongoing concern to conservationists. The longstanding trend accelerated a few years ago when high crop prices enticed farmers to expand their cropland. The trend continued in 2016, although at a slower rate, even with the more recent drop in farm commodity prices, the World Wildlife Fund report said.

The previous year, 2015, 3.7 million grassland acres disappeared due to crop conversion. Since 2009, about 8 percent of grasslands in the Great Plains have been lost to crop expansion, according to the World Wildlife Fund report.

“Converting these grasslands impairs their ability to offer services, such as providing habitat for wildlife, storing carbon, stabilizing the soil, connecting migration corridors and filtering and retaining water for communities in this region and downstream,” the World Wildlife Fund report said. “It is their dual role in providing for human communities and wildlife that makes the conservation of these grasslands so critical.”

Grasslands are an “absolutely underappreciated ecosystem,” said Martha Kaufman, the World Wildlife Fund’s managing director for the northern Great Plains, based in Bozeman, Mont. “Globally one of the most threatened and least-protected ecosystems.”

Although high crop prices have encouraged farmers to plow under grassland, declining support to set aside marginal land as conservation reserve acres also can play a role, according to conservationists.

“The economics are what drive a lot of the behavior we see,” Kaufman said. “Another driver is policies that kind of set up the playing field out there. Policies can definitely influence which way things go.”

‘Area of high concern’

The northern Great Plains lost more than 700,000 grassland acres last year, an annual loss rate of 0.55 percent, down from the 0.75-percent loss rate the year before.

A handful of crops accounted for most of the grassland acres that were converted to cropland: 43 percent were planted in wheat, 11 percent in corn, 7 percent in soybeans and 7 percent lentils, according to the World Wildlife Fund report, which is drawn from figures compiled by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In North Dakota, about 25 percent of the grassland habitat that predated settlement still exists, according to an estimate by Ducks Unlimited, a conservation group that works to preserve wetlands and grasslands. In South Dakota, about 35 percent of grasslands remain.

Advertisement (1 of 1): 0:28

The vast Prairie Pothole Region, which includes much of North Dakota, critical wetland and grassland habitat for waterfowl, is especially threatened, Kaufman said.

“The Prairie Pothole Region is definitely experiencing the fastest losses,” she said. “It’s also where there tend to be better soils. It’s an area of high concern.”

In the Prairie Pothole Region of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota and Iowa, about 10 million acres of grassland have been preserved, according to Ducks Unlimited.

This year’s “Plowprint” report, the second in what the World Wildlife Fund intends to be an annual report, highlights the importance of grasslands in supporting waterfowl and in helping filter and store water.

Estimates by the World Wildlife Fund project that conserving grasslands that are expected to be lost could save 1.7 trillion gallons of water, or about 4 percent of the total flow in the Missouri River Basin. That’s enough water for 11.6 million four-person households annually.

At the same time, that amount of grassland conservation would also save 46 million tons of sediment each year, or about 9 percent of the total sediment in the Missouri River Basin, as well as saving significant amounts of phosphorous and nitrogen, fertilizers that run off farm fields and pollute waterways.

Nutrient pollution has been linked to dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico, which are killing marine life.

Despite the continued net loss of grasslands, in some areas cropland is going back into perennial, grassland cover: 336,037 acres throughout the Great Plains, including 264,229 acres in the northern Great Plains.

But North Dakota has seen 59,238 fewer acres in perennial cover plants, according to Kaufman.

Despite the incentive to plow under grassland to convert it to cropland, conservation programs remain popular with farmers and ranchers, said Johann Walker, director of conservation for Ducks Unlimited in the Dakotas and Montana.

“We can deliver as much conservation as we have funding to provide,” he said. Because of limited funding, however, not all interested landowners can enroll. Now that work is beginning on the 2018 farm bill, conservationists hope more money can be made available, Walker said.
Sportsmen/women—Want to help fund SDWF and the Youth Conservation Camp plus reduce your taxes this year? Donate stocks and land to the SDWF. You not only won’t have to pay taxes on those assets, you will pay less tax because of your generosity!

SDWF Camo reserves the right to offer cash settlement instead of prizes equal to the value of the prize. Drawing to be held December 24, 2017.

SDWF Camo, PO Box 952, Pierre, SD 57501 • (605) 224-7524
Void where prohibited by law. You presence or contribution not necessary to win.

2018 South Dakota Wildlife Federation
Custer State Park Buffalo Shoot

Winner has choice of:
◆ Guided Buffalo Shoot with rifle or bow during 2018 Season
or ◆ $3,200.00 Cash

Winner will need to apply to Custer State Park to enter non-trophy buffalo lottery
Drawing will be held during SDWF’s Annual Convention in August 2018.
Buy all three tickets and get a Free ticket chance for Striker Predator Ice Bibs/Jacket.

2018 South Dakota Wildlife Federation
Custer State Park Buffalo Shoot

$10 a Ticket 3 for $25

SDWF CAMO Ultimate Ice Package Giveaway

Package includes:
* Otter XT Pro Cabin & accessories
* Striker Ice Predator Bibs / Jacket
* Strike Master Lithium 40v Auger
* Marcum LX-65LI Digital Lithium Shuttle
* (2) Glacier Lakes Outdoors Eye Candy Ice Rods
* (2) Pflueger President Reels

* If you buy seven tickets for the ULTIMATE ICE FISHING PACKAGE for $100, you will get one FREE bonus chance at a Striker Predator Bibs/Jacket.
** If you buy seven tickets for the ULTIMATE ICE FISHING PACKAGE, PLUS three tickets for the SD GF&P 2018 BUFFALO SHOOT for a total of $125, you will receive a SECOND FREE bonus chance at the Striker Predator Bibs/Cloth.

$20 a Ticket 3 for $50
7 for $100

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