

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Mountain Lion Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:61, 41:06:02

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	August 5-6, 2010	Aberdeen
	Public Hearing	October 7, 2010	Spearfish
	Finalization	October 7-8, 2010	Spearfish

WILDLIFE DIVISION RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates: January 1 – March 31, 2011

Open Area: Statewide

Licenses: Unlimited resident only

Harvest Limit: 45 mountain lions or 30 female mountain lions

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Residents may harvest no more than one (1) mountain lion in a season.
2. No person may hunt mountain lions with the aid of dogs, traps, or bait.
3. Shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. No mountain lion with a spotted coat (kitten) and no mountain lion accompanying another mountain lion may be harvested.
5. A person may use an electronic call to hunt mountain lions.
6. All firearms, muzzleloaders and archery equipment must meet the same minimum requirements as established in rules for deer hunting.
7. The Game, Fish, and Parks Commission may, by resolution, authorize the mountain lion season to extend beyond March 31.
8. All mountain lions harvested within the Black Hills must be presented to a department representative at the Rapid City regional office within 24 hours of harvest for inspection and pelt tagging. Any person who harvests a mountain lion outside of the Black Hills region must present the mountain lion to a conservation officer, state trapper, or other department representative within 24 hours of harvest.
9. Landowners who have purchased a mountain lion license can harvest a mountain lion year round on private land they own or private land they lease outside the Black Hills Fire Protection District. All harvested mountain lions must be presented to a conservation officer, state trapper, or department representative within 24 hours.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Increase the license fees to \$25 (includes the \$5 surcharge).
2. A resident is limited to one mountain lion license per year.
3. Move language that pertains to the use of electronic calls from the Mountain Lion Season Chapter (41:06:61) to the Hunting Requirements and Prohibited Methods chapter (41:06:04).

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Year	Licensed Hunters		Mountain Lions Harvested		
	Black Hills	Prairie	Males	Females	Total
2005	2,294	303	6	7	13
2006	3,016	290	8	8	16
Statewide					
2007	4,070		3	16	19
2008	No Season				
2009	2,428		11	15	26
2010	2,082		16	24	40

APPROVE _____ **MODIFY** _____ **REJECT** _____ **NO ACTION** _____