



Instructor Insider

1st Quarter

Jan/Feb/March 2009

Wanted: 100 Instructors for Rapid City Conference

Plans are coming together for the third bi-annual HuntSAFE Instructor Conference. The conference will be held on April 3rd and 4th, 2009 at the Grand Gateway Hotel in Rapid City. The goal for the conference is to bring 100 instructors together from around the state and to make this the biggest and best conference ever.

While several guest speakers are planned for the conference, nothing is finalized as this newsletter goes to print. With the current state budget situation, avail-

able funds for speakers have yet to be determined. Some of the events that are definitely on the agenda include a shotgunning clinic on Friday afternoon before the main conference, an awards ceremony recognizing the HuntSAFE individual instructor and team of the year on Friday night and the rollout of a new DVD accompanied with lesson plans concerning firearm safety and hunter ethics.

As has been the case in the past, GFP will be supplying rooms, meals and travel expense money. A block of 50 rooms has been reserved for the event. Both single and double rooms are available. Please see the registration form in this newsletter for more details and to register.

If you, as an individual HuntSAFE Instructor or team, would like to present some information at the conference, please contact me by phone at 605-773-4506 or by email at curt.robertson@state.sd.us

See you at the conference in April!!!

Coordinator's Corner

What's New 2008/2009

It has been a busy year for the HuntSAFE program and the Division of Wildlife in 2008 and it is sure to continue into 2009. We have added several instructors to the program and increased the number of graduates in the HuntSAFE program for the third year in a row. While the number of total youth in the state is declining, it is a testament to your hard work and pride in the program that HuntSAFE numbers keep increasing.

Below is a short summary of two projects that started in 2008 that will have a big impact on youth opportunities to enjoy the outdoors in the future. While neither of these is directly related to HuntSAFE, both will have an impact on the program in positive ways.

One of the major endeavors taking place in the division of Wildlife is the new learning center that is to be built in Rapid City over the next couple of years. The Learning Center will not only provide new offices for the staff in that region, but will become a major hub for conservation and environmental education in the western part of the state. Besides providing educational opportunities to the public at large, the learning

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HuntSAFE: By The Numbers

Another successful hunter education season has concluded for 2008. A huge thank you goes out to all volunteer instructors as well as GFP personnel who made this year a success. Without your continuing participation in hunter education, the hunting heritage of South Dakota would be in jeopardy.

South Dakota HuntSAFE classes are designed for students 11-15 years of age. There are three primary objectives for the HuntSAFE course:

1. To teach the safe handling of firearms
2. To develop safe, responsible, ethical and knowledgeable hunters
3. To certify students to make them eligible for hunting licenses

YEAR	GRADUATES	HuntSAFE Graduates 1992-2008	
		# OF 12 YEAR OLD IN SD	% TAKING HUNTSAFE
1992	4,031	12,179	33.1
1993	4,063	12,167	33.4
1994	4,135	12,406	33.3
1995	3,817	12,161	31.4
1996	4,286	12,041	35.6
1997	3,919	11,726	33.4
1998	3,925	11,936	32.4
1999	3,826	11,542	33.1
2000	3,841	11,236	34.2
2001	3,733	11,359	32.7
2002	3,861	11,387	33.9
2003	3,996	10,981	36.4
2004	3,831	11,071	34.6
2005	3,636	10,476	34.7
2006	3,692	10,169	36.3
2007	4,046	10,121	40.0
2008	4,114	10,125	40.6

HUNTING FISHING LICENSE BUYERS

Counts Made with Duplicates Deleted

Number of Unique Resident Hunters

*Prior to 1999 includes anglers and hunters

AgeClass	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998*	1997*	1996*	1995*	1994*	1993*
12-15	11,088	11,091	11,119	12,161	13,732	13,062	13,463	14,973	16,572	16,980	17,781	17,862	17,862	12,533	11,190
16-18	9,355	9,495	8,817	9,513	8,926	8,851	8,965	9,042	11,122	15,602	15,113	14,983	14,228	10,338	9,037
19-29	29,209	28,805	28,266	28,132	28,225	26,119	26,509	26,752	31,483	49,581	48,864	50,545	49,774	40,017	35,842
30-39	21,776	21,971	22,011	22,994	24,351	23,812	25,084	26,691	33,745	54,820	56,089	59,259	59,500	46,472	43,147
40-55	40,241	40,952	41,210	42,190	42,753	40,461	40,334	39,609	48,457	73,232	70,959	70,217	66,024	47,951	42,547
56-100	24,304	22,877	21,664	20,951	20,224	17,844	17,945	17,988	21,629	44,013	43,196	44,557	42,589	34,936	32,091
	135,973	135,191	133,087	135,941	138,211	130,149	132,300	133,854	161,409	253,820	251,201	257,342	249,977	192,247	173,854

Stockup for 2009

As another year begins, its time to look at your inventory of supplies and stock up on items you need for your students education. While some of these supplies are available from your regional offices and you pick them up regularly before your classes, others you may not be aware of and need to be attained through the HuntSAFE office in Pierre. Below is a list of items available for your use.

Paperwork Needs: Certification cards, student rosters, parental permission forms, volunteer hour forms, vouchers for reimbursement

Safety items: Ear plugs, youth shooting glasses, orange hats, dummy shells for demonstrations

General supplies: Student manuals, tests, test scoring templates, 100% student lapel pins, Instructor manual, Policies and procedures manual

DVD's: The Hunters Path, Firearms Safety and the Hunter, Shoot/Don't Shoot, The Last Shot, Preparing to Survive, HE Tools (DVD version), Opportunity for All: North American Conservation Model

Computer software: HE Tools, PowerPoint of hunting manual

Remember that instructor reimbursement remains at \$3 per student in 2009. This amount can be paid to one certified instructor per class. This voucher is given to your local Conservation Officer who in turn gives it to the regional office for payment. Do not send this voucher to the HuntSAFE office. You may need to fill out a W-9 tax form if one is not on file.

HuntSAFE Classes By Region

	# OF CLASSES	STUDENTS CERTIFIED
Region 1	31	873
Region 2	24	530
Region 3	68	1,912
Region 4	34	799

REGISTRATION FORM

2009 HuntSAFE Conference and Workshop

Friday and Saturday April 3 and 4, 2009

Location: Grand Gateway Hotel, 1721 N Lacrosse St. Rapid City, SD

Registration Deadline: Monday March 2, 2009

Submit your registration form to the Hunter Education office in Pierre (Address below)

Please print neatly

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Time Phone: _____ Evening: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

There are 50 rooms available at Grand Gateway and are available for single and double occupancy. Spouses are more than welcome to attend. To reserve a room, contact Curt at 605-773-4506 or curt.robertson@state.sd.us. When rooms are filled, you are responsible for procuring your own lodging. The Hunter Education office will reimburse you at \$46.50 per night plus tax. You must return the original receipt to the Hunter Ed. office for reimbursement. You are responsible for incidental fees such as phone calls, etc.

If you wish to stay overnight on Saturday, April 4, you are responsible for all costs.

Mileage will be reimbursed at the usual state rate of 37 cents per mile.

Please be aware that all of the Grand Gateway rooms are non-smoking

Meals:

Meals will be provided on Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday noon.

Either Fax or Mail Form

Fax #: 605-773-6921

Mail:

Curt Robertson
Hunter Education Coordinator
412 W. Missouri
Pierre, SD 57501

TIP's Pays Off



Turn in poachers was started in South Dakota in 1984 by sportsmen concerned about the stealing of fish and wildlife from the citizens of the state. Since the program started, over 8,000 calls have been received with over 2,600 violators being arrested. Below is a case in northern South Dakota that was prompted by a TIP's call.

Three Wisconsin men are in trouble after they were alleged to have taken part in the poaching of a buck deer in Campbell County. Allegations are that that the three

men went out on a night hunt driving rural roads when they encountered a large five point white tail buck. The animal was shot from a vehicle and loaded into the back where it was taken to a local lodge where the men were staying. They are alleged to have removed the antlers and backstrap and dumped the carcass in the countryside. The three men were interviewed and later arrested. Charges include killing big game with aid of an artificial light, killing big game during a closed season, killing big game

without a license, unlawful transportation of big game, shooting big game from a vehicle, shooting big game from a road right of way, wanton waste of game and aiding, abetting and advising commission of a misdemeanor.

Thanks to the responsible and ethical hunter that reported this alleged crime, this act of poaching was caught and will be prosecuted. If you should see suspicious activities while you are out hunting, call the TIP's hotline at 1-888-OVERBAG. You may remain anonymous if you wish.

Bobcat Study in Bon Homme Co.

These pictures were taken in November during a bobcat study in Bon Homme County. The big kitty is 22 pounds while the smaller offspring is 11.5



A mother and daughter await release

pounds. Certainly healthy but perhaps not so happy at the moment.



Cory Mosby, a grad student at SDSU and Todd Crownover, the CO in Bon Homme Co., get information from the bobcats

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center will also provide a central location to hold HuntSAFE classes in Rapid City.

Another major project within the Division of Wildlife was the establishment of regional advisory panels across the state. The panels are comprised of private citizens across the state that have an interest in youth hunting and angling.

I have talked to the panels from Region II, III and IV and was impressed by their enthusiasm for the outdoors and specifically their commitment to youth becoming involved in outdoor activities. To learn more about the panels, go to www.sdgifp.info/Wildlife/Index.htm and follow the Regional Advisory Panel links.

While new learning centers and

citizen advisory panels are an important part of providing youth opportunities in South Dakota, there is still no substitute for boots on the ground volunteers like yourself getting youth involved in the outdoors. Thanks for all of your hard work in 2008 and I wish for each of you a happy new year in 2009.

Instructor Resources Online

Instructor resources are available online at the IHEA website, www.ihea.com. Find the instructor resources link and then use the following to gain access to the resources:

Username: instructor

Password: gohunt

These are both lower case with no space in the password