



Outdoor Report

The week of January 1, 2018

- Only antlerless deer licenses are valid for the East River Deer antlerless deer season December 30, 2017 – January 7, 2018.
- Only antlerless deer licenses are valid for Muzzleloader and Archery deer seasons through January 15, 2018.
- Light Goose Season closes January 12, 2018.

Aberdeen Area

Fishing Report:



Richmond: No fishing activity.

Elm: Fishermen have been catching a few perch and the occasional walleye.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Hunters have had to put in time to find pheasants. Hunters that are willing to walk found some birds. Hunters have had the best luck hunting cattail sloughs. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Renziehausen Game Bird Refuge pheasant season is from Dec 11-Jan 7.

Deer: The antlerless deer season opens on Dec 30-Jan 7, 2018 for antlerless deer licenses only. Any deer tags are not valid for the antlerless deer season. Hunting was tough this weekend with the extreme cold temperatures.

Clark County

Fishing Report:



Cottonwood: Fishermen are catching a few walleye and perch. Walleye range in size from 16-19 inches and Perch range in size from 10-14 inches.

Dry Lake #2: Fishermen are catching a few perch and walleye.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Hunters are starting to find some success, now that the crops have come out and the temps have dropped. Hunters are averaging 2 to 2.5 birds per hunter. Pheasant season closes Jan. 7th, 2018.

Codington County

Fishing Report:



Kampeska: Anglers have had a pretty tough time staying on the fish. A few crappie and smaller walleye being caught but pretty slow action

Pelican: Only a few walleye being caught on the east end of the lake, otherwise pretty slow.

Stink: Very little fishing activity with a few smaller perch being caught.

Blythe Slough: A few anglers have reported catching decent numbers of perch but most of them are on the small side.

Bailey's Slough: A good perch bite from time to time with a few perch being over the 11 inch mark.

Goose: Starting to see quite a bit of fishing traffic, the walleye have been more consistent than the perch. However if anglers can find the perch they are pretty nice fish. Walleye have been ranging in sizes from 14-18 inches but most of them are around 14 inches.



Hunting Report:

Pheasants: The snow helped bunch up some birds especially in the cattail sloughs. Hunters were able to take advantage and bag a few more birds.

Deer: Starting to see some deer group up making it easier for late season youth antlerless deer hunters to fill some tags.



Day County

Fishing Report:

Waubay: Angler success slowed this past week with anglers catching a few perch and walleye.

Bitter: Anglers are catching a fair number of walleye, most are under 15".

Enemy Swim: Anglers are catching crappie, bluegill and the occasional walleye.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Hunters are having the best luck hunting cattail sloughs with heavy cover.

Hamlin County

Fishing Report:

Poinsett: There has been plenty of fishing pressure. Over the weekend there were a couple vehicles that fell through the ice. Anglers need to remember no ice is safe and use caution when out there. Anglers have reported catching some perch and walleye. **Walleye size limit is the state wide limit of 4 fish with 1 being over 20".**

Lake Albert: There have been a few reports of anglers fishing the north end. Anglers have reported the perch bite to be fair.



Hunting Report:

Deer: Only two more weekends left for the Youth Deer season. Cold weather has set in. Deer activity has been seen mostly near food sources.

Pheasant: Only one more weekend left for the regular pheasant season. With cold temperatures setting in most hunters will find success near the winter cover.

Marshall County

Fishing Report:

Roy: Anglers are catching a few Northern pike and the occasional Walleye.

South Buffalo: A few nice Walleye and Pike have been caught along with some nice sized pan fish.

Opitz: A few Walleye and perch have been caught mainly in the evenings.

White: Anglers have caught a few Walleye and the occasional Crappie.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Majority of the birds are located in the western portion of the county. Hunters focusing efforts in tree lines and cattail sloughs seem to be having the best success.

Deer: I've noticed that the deer are starting to concentrate around food sources. It seems like the deer are very active in the early morning and evenings.

Be sure to obtain permission before entering private land, good luck and be safe.



Park Report:

Richmond Lake Recreation Area: January 6, 2018 snowshoeing/hiking through Forest Drive. Beat the winter blues and snowshoe through Forest Drive at Richmond Lake Recreation Area. Meet at the District Headquarters/Park Shop at 1:30pm. Snowshoes will be provided or bring your own. The park has a limited supply of snowshoes, so please call in advance to reserve yours prior to event.

- Be sure to check out the event calendar at <http://gfp.sd.gov/calendar.aspx> to see upcoming events in the area.



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

- **Ice Anglers:** A reminder that electricity in the campground stays on year-round and the cabins have heat. Cabins make a great base camp for the weekend and sleep 3-5 depending on how friendly your group is with each other. Cabins are available at Roy Lake, Fort Sisseton, Pickerel, Richmond, Mina, Lake Louise, Pelican, Hartford Beach on Big Stone, Lake Cochrane, Poinsett, Thompson, Oakwood Lakes, Lake Herman and Walkers Point. Reservations available through www.campsd.com or 1-800-710-2267(CAMP).