

## OUTDOORS DIGEST

Gary Howey | Of The Outdoors

## Snow Goose Migration Enters South Dakota

PIERRE — People traveling in southeastern and south central South Dakota are seeing a familiar spring event — the annual migration of snow geese.

Geese have been arriving in growing numbers in areas along the southern South Dakota border and northward to Interstate 90.

The snow goose population has ballooned in the past several years. To help control them and prevent further habitat degradation that those nesting birds have caused to the Arctic tundra, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a Conservation Order to states that allow hunting of snow geese in the spring.

In South Dakota, the Conservation Order runs from Feb. 16 through May 5. Hunting is allowed statewide with no limit on the number of snow geese that may be taken. Hunters are required to have a valid hunting license, but the federal waterfowl stamp is not required. Nontoxic shot is mandatory.

The Conservation Order is specific to snow and blue geese, and Ross' geese. Other waterfowl may not be shot.

For more information on the Spring Conservation Order, visit the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department website at <http://www.gfp.sd.gov/hunting/waterfowl/spring-light-geese.aspx>

GFP has information on snow goose migration movement and hunting opportunity at <http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/waterfowl/migration/>

## Changes To Special Buck Licenses Made

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission has approved significant changes to a popular deer hunting license for 2013.

Hunters will only be able to possess either an East River or West River Special Buck License this year. Previously, a hunter could get both licenses.

The commission has set the level of resident licenses for East River Special Buck and the resident and nonresident West River Special Buck licenses at four percent of the total licenses allocated the previous year, which includes an "any deer" tag or a minimum of 500 licenses for that specific season, whichever is greater.

## GFP Commission Proposes Several SD Elk Seasons

PIERRE — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission is proposing a slight reduction in the number of licenses available to elk hunters this year.

The 2013 Archery Elk Season is proposed to run from Sept. 1-30 with 77 "any elk" and 15 "antlerless elk" licenses available. That is a reduction of five licenses from 2012.

This year's Black Hills Elk Hunting Season is proposed to run from Oct. 1-31 for 380 "any elk" licenses and from Oct. 16-31 and Dec. 1-15 for 165 "antlerless" licenses. Changes from 2012 include a reduction of 15 "any elk" licenses and 10 "antlerless elk" licenses.

The 2013 Prairie Elk Hunting Season will have a proposed total license allocation of 45 "any elk" and 51 "antlerless elk," a reduction of four licenses from last year. Several changes to hunting units and season dates are proposed for the Prairie Elk Season.

As proposed, Unit 30 (Gregory County) would no longer include Boyd County, Neb. Unit 30 season dates would be adjusted to Sept. 1-Dec. 31. Unit 11 (Bennett County and portions of Mellette County) has several proposed changes. Unit 11B is proposed to run from Sept. 1 through the Friday before the third Saturday in Oct. Unit 11D has proposed dates of Sept. 1-Dec. 31.

To see the full proposals for those elk seasons, visit: <http://www.gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/default.aspx>

Written comments on those proposals will be taken until 5 p.m. CDT on April 3. Comments can be emailed to [wildinfo@state.sd.us](mailto:wildinfo@state.sd.us). To be included in the public record, please include your full name and city of residence.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission will finalize elk hunting proposals at its April 4 meeting at the Winner Holiday Inn Express. The public hearing for those seasons will begin at 2 p.m. CDT on April 4.

## HB1123 Signed Increasing Hunting License Surcharge

PIERRE — House Bill 1123, "an Act to increase the surcharge on certain hunting licenses for predator control purposes, approve temporary funding provisions relating to predator control, and to declare an emergency," was signed into state law today by Governor Dennis Daugaard.

The law includes an emergency provision that puts it into immediate effect when signed by the Governor.

It increases the surcharge on certain hunting licenses from \$5 to \$6, in essence raising the fee of these hunting licenses by \$1: Resident Combination, Resident Senior Combination, Resident Small Game, Nonresident Small Game, Nonresident Waterfowl, Nonresident Early Canada Goose, Nonresident Spring Light Goose, all Shooting Preserve licenses, and all big game hunting licenses with the exception of Youth Deer and Mentored Big Game hunting licenses.

Previously South Dakota law required a \$5 surcharge on these licenses that was split evenly between sportsmen's access and landowner deprecation programs.

The South Dakota legislature enacted the new law to provide additional \$1 funding to the state's animal damage control fund that assists agriculture producers with predator and varmint control issues.

The fee change is now in effect for general license sales through storefront license agents and the Game, Fish and Parks online license system. The additional fee will be added to all future applicable big game licenses.

BY GARY HOWEY

Hartington, Neb.



Gary HOWEY

I'm like everyone I know, who has had enough winter and looking forward to spring, which arrived the 20th. I know now that we've changed our clocks, it won't be long and we'll be shedding our heavy clothing and ready for all that spring brings.

We just came through that time of the year, when there are just a few things going on such as Gun Shows/Sport and Boat Shows while we're waiting for the Spring Goose season and the open water fishing.

It looks like the snow we had late February and early March has forced the million plus Snow Geese jumping back and forth and now coming into our area.

The warm weather will make the snow disappear quickly, bringing the birds north into our area and as long as snow remains up north, the birds should hang in our area for a few days.

Team Outdoorsmen Adventures member has been hunting with Neu Outdoors outside of Yankton, S.D. and getting into a few birds, on their first day hunt they ended up bagging 53 birds.

Before I put the boat away, I plugged in my on board battery chargers, charging them to full capacity. Even though they were fully charged before I put the boat away, it's not a bad idea to put a charge into them sometime before spring making sure they'll crank my motor when I hit the water.

All we need to do now is to wait for the ice to go away, put away our winter long johns and wait for the turkeys to start gobbling and we'll be ready for what ever comes our way, especially the warmer weather

While we're waiting for this and other upcoming seasons, it's a good time to get all your fishing gear ready for the upcoming open water fishing.

Since ice fishing is winding down, it's not a bad idea to get your gear cleaned up and put away for next season. I'll back of all of my drags, assuring that they won't be froze up when I take them out the first time next winter.

Once you have this gear stored away, it's time to get your open water fishing gear out and be ready when the time comes. You'll want to check everything out, including your rods and reels.

The main thing which needs to be check on your rods are the guides and eyes, you'll want to check them for cracks or nicks. The easiest way to do this is to take a Q-Tip and run it around the guide and the eyes, if there are any rough spots, nicks or cracks a small



TEAM OUTDOORSMEN ADVENTURES PHOTO

With Spring arriving the 20th, it's time, to get ready for spring fishing by re-spooling the line on your reels, cleaning your tackle bags and checking your tackle.

piece of cotton will stick to the rough area and you'll need to replace them.

As I mentioned before, when you put your reels away late last fall, the drags should have been backed off so they'll be loosened up when it's time to hit the water. If you didn't do this, you'll want to check the drag on your reel to make sure they aren't froze up.

I like to pull the spool off of my spinning reels and clean off any dust, grime or dirt in the shaft, then apply a dab of reel grease to the shaft where it runs up and down.

Before spring fishing takes off, I'll check

my line to see how it has held up, if I find any nicks or knots in the line, I'll pull the line down past the nick, cut the line and make sure there's enough line so it's spooled properly. If there isn't enough line, I'll replace it with new line.

It's not a bad idea to check your line on a regular basis. I replace any line regularly on the rods & reels I use the most as fishing line isn't all that expensive and I don't want to risk breaking off a good fish for the few bucks it cost to re-spool.

One thing you need to take a good look at is the knots you tie, I've talked with hun-

dreds of folks at shows/seminars and been told they have a problem as there line keeps breaking, when more than likely it was a knot that slipped. When your line breaks and you reel it in and it comes back looking like a pig tail all curled up, it's a knot that slipped.

On monofilament line, the clinch improved or double improved clinch knot is a great knot, but on super lines such as Fire-line, the clinch knot won't hold and will slip, so I use the Polamar knot as it's a 90 percent knot, which means it will hold up to 90 percent of the line strength. I tie this knot when I'm using super lines as well as monofilament.

If you want to learn how to tie it or any knots, go to [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com) it's an animated site showing you how to tie any fishing knot.

With things slowed down in the winter, I have plenty of time to restock my tackle bags, cleaning out any trash that might be in them and then checking each tackle box out, adding any of the new stuff I purchased at the Sport and Boat shows as a guy never has enough stuff and there's always something new out there that we just have to have.

I have certain color jigs and baits I call my Go To baits, ones I use the most and because of this take a beating. I'll replace any beat up baits and replace those that have been lost or misplaced.

Since we have favorite lures, which we use over and over, catching fish, snags, rocks and weeds, all of which can really screw up your hooks. I'll pull my favorite crankbaits out and check the hooks, making sure they aren't bent, weak or dull. I'll fix those that can be straightened and sharpened, those beyond repair, I'll replace with new treble hooks.

On some baits, the hooks seem a little small to me and if a larger treble hook looks like it would do a better job without screwing up the action of the lure, I upsize the hook, not jumping two or three sizes, as one size larger than what's on the lure is generally enough.

Sharpen dull hooks on your crankbaits. We're looking forward to spending a lot more time on the water and in the field this year where, hopefully we'll meet up to catch some fish, call some turkeys and swap fishing

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is a former tournament angler, fishing and hunting guide. Howey is the Producer/Host of the award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series which can be seen on Fox affiliates throughout the upper Midwest. He and Simon Fuller are the hosts of the Outdoor Adventures radio program on Classic Hits 106.3 and ESPN Sports Radio 1570. If you're looking for more outdoor information, it can be found at [www.outdoorsmenadventures.com](http://www.outdoorsmenadventures.com)

## Ravens Open On Road Because Of Orioles Conflict

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens will open their title defense on the road next season because of a scheduling conflict with the Orioles.

The NFL wanted to have the Ravens start at home on Sept. 5 as part of its annual Thursday night season opener. Instead,

the NFL says the Ravens will play somewhere else.

The Orioles are scheduled to host the Chicago White Sox that same night. The Ravens and Orioles have adjacent stadiums and share a parking lot, so they avoid playing at the same time because of the traffic.

The Orioles say both teams and the leagues looked at moving the starting time of the baseball game, but that logistics didn't work out.

The NFL says it is looking at ways to hold a Super Bowl celebration in Baltimore while the Ravens open on the road.

## NCAA

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would indicate, put the game out of reach with a 14-0 run midway through the first half of their first NCAA tourney game in five years.

Pacific (22-13), the California team that played its last game for retiring longtime coach Bob Thomason, was no match for the Atlantic Coast Conference's regular season and tournament champions.

Miami plays Illinois on Sunday. ILLINOIS 57, COLORADO 49: AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Brandon Paul and D.J. Richardson made consecutive 3-pointers to give Illinois back the lead with 6 minutes left and the seventh-seeded Illini pulled out a tough win over Colorado.

Illinois led by 16 at halftime only to watch Colorado rip off a 21-2 run in the second to grab the lead. The Illini looked desperate until Paul and Richardson coolly knocked down their shots to put Illinois ahead 48-44.

Four free throws by Paul eventually put the game away for the Illini (23-12).

Paul led Illinois with 17 points.

Askia Booker scored 14 points for Colorado (21-12).

## MIDWEST

DUKE 73, ALBANY 61: PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Seth Curry scored 26 points, Mason Plumlee had 23 and second-seeded Duke beat Albany.

The Blue Devils (28-5) will meet seventh-seeded Creighton in the third round Sunday. Duke shot 58.7 percent (27 of 46), just off its season-beat 60.8 percent against Florida State.

The Blue Devils, who lost 75-70 to 15th-seeded Lehigh in the second round last year, never really pulled away from the Great Danes (24-11), who got as close as eight points with 4:40 to play.

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski extended

his all-time lead with his 80th career victory in the tournament that he has won four times.

Jacob Ilati had 15 points for Albany, which was making its third NCAA appearance, all since 2006.

CREIGHTON 67, CINCINNATI 63: PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Doug McDermott had 27 points and 11 rebounds, and Gregory Echenique scored 13 points to help Creighton hold on.

Ethan Wragge added 12 for the Bluejays, who won their NCAA tournament opener for the second straight year.

McDermott, the two-time Missouri Valley Conference player of the year and 2012 All-American, made all 11 free throws to help the seventh-seeded Bluejays (28-7) move on to play Duke on Sunday.

Sean Kilpatrick's driving layup after Cincinnati had the arrow on a jump ball cut it to 64-63 with 17 seconds left.

Austin Chatman sank two free throws for Creighton. Kilpatrick's attempt at a tying 3 rimmed out, and the Bearcats were whistled for traveling after grabbing the rebound.

Kilpatrick scored 19 points, and Cashmere Wright had 15 for the 10th-seeded Bearcats (22-12) in their camouflage-patterned shorts.

## WEST

MISSISSIPPI 57, WISCONSIN 46: KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Marshall Henderson shook out of a shooting slump and scored 17 points in the second half, giving the Rebels their first NCAA tournament win since 2002.

For the cold-shooting Badgers (23-12), the upset loss snaps a string of six straight first-game victories. Ole Miss (27-8) trailed 25-22 at halftime and Henderson, who led the Southeastern Conference with 20 points a game, had only two points on 1-for-11 shooting.

But the flamboyant and outspoken guard found his touch just in time for Ole Miss, and wound up hitting 6 of 21. His back-to-back 3-pointers tied it 36-36 and his layup and two free throws in the final minute sealed the win.

Reginald Buckner had nine points and 12 rebounds. Sam Dekkar had 14 points for Wisconsin.

The Rebels will play No. 13 La Salle on Sunday.

LA SALLE 63, KANSAS STATE 61: KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jerrell Wright made three foul shots in the final 30 seconds, and No. 13 seed La Salle advanced after blowing an 18-point halftime lead to beat fourth-seeded Kansas State.

Wright, who scored a game-high 21 points for the Explorers (22-9), made the first two free throws to give La Salle a 62-61 lead. Kansas State's Jordan Henriquez missed in the paint at the other end, and Wright made the first of two more free throws with 9.6 seconds to go.

The Wildcats (27-8) raced down court, but point guard Angel Rodriguez got hung up in the corner by the Kansas State bench, and his off-balance shot over the corner of the backboard missed everything as the final buzzer sounded and the Explorers leaped off their bench to celebrate the upset.

Henriquez and Shane Southwell scored 17 points each for Kansas State.

OHIO STATE 95, IONA 70: DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Sam Thompson had career highs with 20 points and 10 rebounds, part of a dominating performance by Ohio State's front line against Iona.

The second-seeded Buckeyes (27-7) have won nine straight, including their last five games of the regular season and a run to the Big Ten tournament title.

Deshaun Thomas had 24 points as the Buckeyes' fast breaks led to dunks and a season high in points, thrilling the large Ohio State contingent in Dayton.

Aaron Craft had a season-high six steals and seven assists for the Buckeyes. Shannon Scott tied his career high with 10 assists.

Ohio State plays either Notre Dame or Iowa State on Sunday, one win away from a fourth straight trip to the round of 16.

Iona (20-14) returned to the court where it suffered the biggest meltdown in NCAA tournament history last year, blowing a 25-point lead against BYU.

Tavon Sledge scored 20 points for Iona, which had 19 turnovers that led to 29 of the Buckeyes' points.

## Poppe

From Page 10

Wednesdays, when players from both teams had to be out of the gym before 6 p.m. due to religious obligations.

When the season began, Poppe had both varsity teams practicing with him in the main gym, with both JV squads practicing in the auxiliary gym. By the end of the season, the girls were in one gym and the boys in the other.

"If we had to make an adjustment, like with the Wednesday practices, we did," Yost said. "Overall, I think Brad had things well thought out. He had a pretty good plan that worked pretty well."

## A Learning Experience

While players are expected to learn a lot during the course of a season, this past season was also an educational experience for both assistants.

For Thury, who was in his first year of coaching, the lessons not only included the basics of coaching, but lessons in inter-personal relations as well.

"There was definitely a lot of 'X's' and 'O's,' whether it was setting up a play or what plays to run at different times, as well as when to call a time out," he said. "I also learned about the relationships with kids, what makes each one special in their own way."

"It was a lot of both, a lot of growing for me."

Yost, who had a couple of years of experience under Darla Van Gerpen, Avon's previous girls' basketball coach, the experience included learning about what it takes to prepare to prepare a team.

"Brad puts a lot of time into preparing for a game. He does his homework," she said. "What I learned the most was how to be prepared. He creates a great practice plan for whoever the next opponent might be."

For the Avon players, the season was an exercise in individual growth, including becoming closer to the other squad.

"Before, there was a separation between the teams," Yost said. "This year it felt like a big family. We all had to work together to make it work. It had its challenges, but overall it was a good experience."

That closeness showed when one team or the other was on the court.

"We spent quite a bit of time in the same gym," Kocmich said. "I think we support each other more now than in the past couple of years."

The change was visible even to those outside the basketball program.

"The kids were cheering more at all of the games," Culver said. "It was nice to see that support. It made a big difference."

## Moving Forward

While no decision has been made about the head coaching situation for next year, Culver's first choice would be to have Brad Poppe coaching one, but not both, of the teams.

"I feel awful having him do that," he said. "The longer you do that, the more chance you have of someone burning out, and I don't want that to happen."

But Culver is confident that Poppe could handle the workload, if the need arose again.

"If we had to do it another year, I would be confident in having Brad do it," he said. "I know Brad would put his heart and soul into it."

His players are also confident that Coach Poppe would do well for them again next year.

"It would be great," Kocmich said. "I loved having him coach both us and them (the girls). It was a fun experience."

As he did this past season, Coach Poppe will "do what needs to be done."

"We'll wait and see," he said. "I enjoyed both seasons, enjoyed spending time with the kids."

And, whatever Coach Poppe needs to do, he'll have support at home as well.

"We talked about it the other day," Shelly said. "And I told him that whatever next year brings, whatever he decides, I've got his back."

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at [twitter.com/aceman904](http://twitter.com/aceman904)

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