

NDG&F December 15th Newsletter

Coyote Catalog Available for Hunters, Landowners

The Coyote Catalog, a statewide effort connecting coyote hunters and trappers with landowners who want fewer coyotes in their areas, has been reopened by the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

"I encourage landowners, especially farmers and ranchers who have problems with coyote depredation, to sign up for the Coyote Catalog," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "Hunting and trapping are valuable tools in managing these predators."

This past season, 74 landowners signed up for the Coyote Catalog, a more than 50 percent increase over the previous year. Nearly 900 hunters and trappers also signed up.

NDDA officials estimate livestock producers in North Dakota lost more than \$1 million last year to coyotes. At the same time, coyotes are a popular furbearer species for hunters and trappers.

"This can be a good way for hunters and trappers to locate new places to go," said Game and Fish Director Terry Steinwand. "We've also had some positive feedback from landowners as well."

Goehring and Steinwand said the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services should be the first contact for landowners experiencing coyote depredation of livestock.

Landowners can sign up on the NDDA website at www.nd.gov/ndda/coyote-catalog. Required information includes county and contact information.

Hunters and trappers can [sign up](#) at the NDGF website, gf.nd.gov.

Throughout the winter, hunters or trappers will receive information on participating landowners, and they can then contact landowners to make arrangements.

Anyone who registered for the Coyote Catalog in the past must register again to activate their names on the database.

The Coyote Catalog will remain active through March 31, 2015.

For more information, contact Stephanie Tucker, NDGF, at 701-220-1871; satucker@nd.gov; or Jamie Good, NDDA, at 701-328-2233 or jgood@nd.gov.

Tentative 2015 Season Opening Dates

To help North Dakota hunters prepare for hunting seasons in 2015, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department annually provides its best estimate for opening dates for the coming year.

Dates become official when approved by governor's proclamation. Tentative opening dates for 2015 include:

Spring Turkey	April 11
Dove	September 1
Deer and Pronghorn Bow, Mountain Lion	September 4
Sharptail, Hun, Ruffed Grouse, Squirrel	September 12
Youth Deer	September 18

Youth Waterfowl	September 19
Early Resident Waterfowl	September 26
Pronghorn Gun	October 2
Regular Waterfowl, Youth Pheasant	October 3
Pheasant, Fall Turkey	October 10
Mink, Muskrat, Weasel Trapping	October 24
Deer Gun	November 6
Deer Muzzleloader	November 27

Hunter Education Classes in 2015

Students interested in taking a [hunter education class in 2015](#) should visit the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website at gf.nd.gov for a statewide list of courses. Many classes will be added over the next several weeks, and the rest will be added throughout the year as they are finalized.

[To register](#), click on the online services tab, and “online course enrollment” under the hunter education heading. Classes are listed by city, and can also be sorted by start date. To register for a class, click on “enroll” next to the specific class, and follow the simple instructions. Personal information is required. Those who do not have access to the Internet and want to sign up for a class can call the hunter education program in Bismarck at 701-328-6615.

Individuals interested in receiving a notice by email when each hunter education class is added can click on the “[subscribe to news, email and text alerts](#)” link found below the news section on the department’s home page. Check the box labeled “hunter education class notification” under the education program updates.

State law requires anyone born after December 31, 1961 to pass a certified hunter education course to hunt in the state. Hunter education is mandatory for youth who are turning 12 years old, and children can take the class at age 11.