

PRAIRIE NEWS

<http://SD-PheasantHunting.com>
1-855-SD Lodge

June 2013

35451 253rd Street
Kimball, SD 57355

Hunting Update:

If there an ammunition shortage? Whatever the answer to this question, the Dakota Prairie Lodge & Resort includes ammunition in our all-inclusive hunting packages so hunting with us is easy, SAFE and stress-free.

There has been endless media speculation during the last few months on the reasons behind the empty ammunition shelves at major outdoor stores. Some of the most commonly cited include:

- Government hoarding – If the government purchases all available ammunition, they may be plotting a back-door approach to disarming gun owners. Alternatively, obsolescence of their existing inventory may have led to unusually high orders recently.
- Consumer stockpiling – Fearful of potential ammunition legislation such as registration requirements recently enacted in Connecticut and New York, gun owners may be purchasing greater quantities of ammunition as reserves.
- Price escalation – Although ammunition manufacturers have largely kept prices constant and many retailers have been similarly inclined, less scrupulous parties are buying any available merchandise and reselling it online with a hefty profit margin.
- Internet rumors – Sometimes it's difficult to distinguish between hype and accurate information, and the internet is a prime source of such confusion. For example, a proposed ammunition tax was unfounded but marginally related to stalled legislation in California and Illinois.
- Component shortages – Although ammunition manufacturers are consistently maintaining that they are in full production 24/7, the media has hypothesized that brass and gunpowder deficiencies are limiting fabrication.

What is the real answer? As with many issues, the problem is complex and the answer even more so, but probably includes a grain of truth from each of the issues mentioned above. The government certainly bears some responsibility. Whatever their motive, the amount of ammunition ordered is



huge. In addition, expectations of gun legislation by the current administration have led to substantial gun acquisitions, which coincide with expanded ammunition purchases. The media is probably the next biggest culprit. Without their wild speculation and fear-mongering, stockpiling would probably not be an issue and internet racketeers would not be able to profit from consumer hysteria.

We believe the best advice is to buy the ammunition you actually need, which is probably *not* a 10-year supply, and don't be taken in by internet schemes. Ammunition for both hunting and target practice is supplied at the Lodge. We will communicate with you about your party's guns and ammunition preferences prior to your arrival so that we have exactly what you require.



Target Shooting:

As noted last month, our target shooting stand is nearing completion. The banners for the side panels are in production. As soon as those are completed, the throwers will be attached and updated pictures will be forthcoming.

Fishing Update:

With all the recent rain, the Missouri River is at a good level, and spring is far enough along that flooding is not anticipated. Fishing at all the major lakes along the river is excellent, and we would like to share several resources to assist you in planning your fishing expedition:



<http://www.gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/fish-tournaments.aspx> Virtually every weekend throughout the summer is packed with fishing tournaments and derbies, and this site provides details of these events.

<http://www.sdgreatlakes.org/report/> This site is updated every weekend so it contains very current status reports on all the lakes and popular areas along the river.

http://www.sierraclub.org/lewisandclark/fishing_guide/missouri2.asp Including a bit of history with their fishing report, this site describes which fish are available at specific locations.

Prairie Puzzle:

The answer to last month's question about the most consecutive days of hunting for out-of-state guests is ten. Congratulations to winner Mr. Nowlin from Indiana!

June question: ***What is the average number of kernels on an ear of corn? Hint: There is one piece of silk for each kernel.***

a) 800

b) 100

c) 2,000

d) 3

Please submit your answer by June 15, 2013 to be included in the prize drawing for a free Dakota Prairie Lodge & Resort hunting hat. Responses will be accepted via mail, phone, or email. Good luck!