

GREAT PLACES

Conserving South Dakota's Great Outdoor Places: A Foundation 24-7 Priority

By *Sue and Dick Brown, Development Directors, SD Parks & Wildlife Foundation*

In good as well as challenging economic times, the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation provides an opportunity for each of us to help preserve and protect South Dakota's Great Places. We invite you to become an active supporter and advocate of South Dakota's unique outdoor heritage.

The South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation is making a difference and so can you. The Foundation was formed 25 years ago to be a charitable support organization for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP). The Foundation attracts private and other support for the Department's job to "perpetuate, conserve, manage, protect and enhance South Dakota's wildlife resources, parks, and outdoor recreational opportunities for people of this state and its visitors."

Since its inception, the Foundation has granted over \$5,000,000 in land and financial assistance to GFP. From

January of 2010 through December of 2012, the Foundation is projected to receive well over \$2,000,000 in private contributions, all but a fraction of which will be granted to GFP to assist with priority projects such as The Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City and efforts to establish a premier state park within the Blood Run National Historic Landmark near Sioux Falls.

There are many ways private donors like yourself can assist the Foundation in accomplishing great projects with GFP. Together we can continue to make a difference for South Dakota's Great Places.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS FOR YOU TO HELP

1. Support an existing project. These include:

- The Outdoor Campus West, Rapid City – educational enhancements
- The Outdoor Campus East, Sioux Falls – new exhibits and educational features
- Blood Run National Historic Landmark – land purchase and initial development as a premier state park
- Tony Dean's Acres Memorial – purchase of land for public access hunting and funds for outdoor education
- Custer State Park – improvements and educational projects
- Curt Ewinger Memorial Access – for a boating access project on Bitter Lake
- Mickelson Trail – improvements and an extension from Hill City to Mt. Rushmore
- Any State Park or recreation area for maintenance and improvements

2. Become a Friend of the Foundation or increase your annual contribution. This program provides for Foundation and GFP mission support. Details are available on line at parkswildlifefoundation.org. Membership levels start at \$25 a year.

3. Donate to the Unrestricted Endowment of the Foundation. Like every endowment, this fund in the Foundation will be invested for the long term, thereby earning the best returns over time. The annual distribution from the endowment will provide a reliable, steady stream of income to support GFP's mission. Over the next 9 months, every dollar donated will be matched 2:1 by two of the Foundation's Board members – Larry Ness of Yankton and Tom Lillibridge of Bonesteel up to a total of \$50,000.

4. Talk with the Foundation about land that you wish to donate now or in your estate that can be used for wildlife production, public access or some other charitable outdoor purpose.

5. Come to the Foundation with an idea for a project it might sponsor to enrich South Dakota's unique outdoor heritage.

Right: Mickelson Trail in the Black Hills.

Below: Doug Hofer, Parks Division Director for GFP, explains the vision for development of the Blood Run Landmark into a premier State Park.



Yes, I want to support the SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks through the SD Parks & Wildlife Foundation in 2011!

Enroll me as a Friend of Parks and Wildlife \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$5000 Other_____

Match my contribution of \$_____ to the Unrestricted Endowment of the Foundation.

Use my contribution of \$_____ to support the following GFP project, park, or program_____

Please contact me to discuss the following GFP project, park, or program_____

Phone_____ Email: _____

If you would like to make a contribution by credit card, visit the Parks and Wildlife Foundation's website at www.parkswildlife foundation.org and click "Make a Contribution"

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Mail this card with your check to: **South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation**
523 East Capitol - Pierre, SD 57501-3182

For further information, contact Dick and Sue Brown, Development Directors for the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation, 24866 Rocky Road, Custer, SD 57730, 605-673-4017, brownassociates@goldenwest.net.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!