

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26.2-mile Veterans March to be held in the Black Hills

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota National Guard’s Enlisted Association will host its ninth annual Black Hills Veterans Honor March on Saturday, Sept. 22, in the northern Black Hills.

The march pays tribute to the many sacrifices made by this nation’s veterans. Many participants also march in honor of fallen service members.

The 26.2-mile march is open to all military service members and the civilian public. Participants can compete as individuals or in five-member teams and can complete the course by walking, running or marching. There is also a 13.1-mile mini-march available for participants.

Marchers will start on the Mickelson Trail at approximately 8 a.m. (MDT) at the Rochford Trailhead and finish at the Deadwood Fairgrounds. The first half of this march will be uphill to Dumont, then, downhill to the finish line. The march can take between six and eight hours to complete.

Interested participants and volunteers can register for the event by going to the website: www.blackhillsveteranmarch.com or by contacting Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Lamp at (605) 357-2939.

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110926-A-5816L-021: Participants of the 8th annual Black Hills Veteran’s Honor March take off from the start line Sept. 24, 2011, near Rochford, S.D., as they embark on the 26.2-mile march along the Mickelson Trail toward the finish line in Deadwood. More than 180 service members and civilians entered this last year’s march, which pays tribute to the many sacrifices made by this nation’s veterans and fallen service members. (SDNG photo by Maj. Anthony Deiss) (RELEASED)

MEDIA – Media are encouraged to participate in the event and/or capture the march from various sponsored rest stops along the route.

FOR MORE INFORMATION please contact Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Lamp at (605) 357-2939, or Maj. Anthony Deiss at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail ngsd-pao@ng.army.mil.