

# **MENTORED YOUTH DEER**

There were 6,985 resident single-tag antlerless mentored youth deer licenses issued for 2023. All mentors/hunters that provided a valid email address were surveyed and 3,093 responses (46%) were received.

The Mentored Youth licenses were valid during the Youth Deer season which ran from September 9, 2023, through January 1, 2024. Respondents reported hunting an average of 4.08 days each, which projects to 28,500 recreation days for the season.

Projections for the season indicated that a total of 328 whitetail bucks, 2,630 whitetail does, 2 mule deer bucks, and 225 mule deer does were harvested. The total harvest for the Mentored Youth Deer season was 3,185, and the overall success rate was 46%. The five deer management units with the highest reported harvest were the Black Hills, Minnehaha, Beadle, Brookings, and Hamlin.

The average satisfaction rating for those responding (1 being very dissatisfied and 7 very satisfied) was 5.24.

## Summary for the 2014-2023 Mentored Youth Deer hunting seasons

YEAR	Licenses Sold	Harvest						Avg Days Hunted	Average Satisfctn
		Bucks		Does		Total	Success		
		WT	Mule	WT	Mule				
2014	3,096	214	29	1,187	167	1,595	52%	3.98	5.70
2015	3,646	261	25	1,556	243	2,086	57%	3.96	5.89
2016	3,646	287	30	1,495	301	2,114	58%	3.56	5.85
2017	4,069	230	31	1,567	320	2,147	53%	3.78	5.83
2018	5,357	324	51	2,335	439	2,824	53%	3.61	5.89
2019	5,715	348	45	2,123	417	2,932	51%	3.52	5.79
2020	6,387	371	21	2,772	472	3,636	57%	3.77	5.77
2021	6,207	301	5	2,446	226	2,977	48%	3.92	5.69
2022	6,723	320	5	2,525	301	3,150	47%	3.88	5.59
2023	6,985	328	2	2,630	225	3,185	46%	4.08	5.24

## 2023 Mentored Youth Deer Harvest Projections

Last Revised:		Harvest Projections											Average	Avg	
29-Apr-24	License Holders	Licenses Available	Licenses Sold		Response Rate	Tag Success	Whitetail			Mule Deer			Total Harvest	Satisfaction Score **	Days Hunted
Unit			Resident	Nonresident			Bucks	Does	Doe Fawns	Bucks	Does	Doe Fawns			
MHD-03	849	Unlimited	796	53	40%	57%	17	205	34	2	191	34	484	--	--
MHD-13	6,136	Unlimited	5,936	200	46%	44%	311	2093	298	0	0	0	2,701	--	--
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,985</b>		<b>6,732</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>45.7%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>2,298</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,185</b>	<b>5.24</b>	<b>4.08</b>

\*\* Refers to a satisfaction scale of 1=very dissatisfied to 7=very satisfied.

## 2023 Mentored Youth Deer Harvest Distribution by Management Unit

Unit	Projected Harvest							Total Estimate	%
	Whitetail			Mule Deer					
	Bucks	Does	Fawn	Bucks	Does	Fawn			
	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Fawn	Adult	Fawn			
01A (Minnehaha)	22	93	20	0	0	0	135	4.2%	
02A (NE Penn/SE Meade)	0	9	2	0	12	0	23	0.7%	
02C (SE Pennington)	4	13	2	0	0	0	20	0.6%	
03A (Brown)	11	62	9	0	0	0	82	2.6%	
04A (Beadle)	13	80	15	0	0	0	108	3.4%	
05A (Codington)	9	62	13	0	0	0	84	2.6%	
06A (Brookings)	9	84	4	0	0	0	97	3.1%	
07A (Yankton)	9	20	2	0	0	0	31	1.0%	
08A (Davison)	4	29	4	0	0	0	38	1.2%	
10A (Aurora)	4	24	11	0	0	0	40	1.2%	
11A (N Bennett)	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0.1%	
11B (S Bennett)	0	4	2	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
12A (Bon Homme)	2	22	0	0	0	0	24	0.8%	
13A (Brule)	7	22	7	0	0	0	35	1.1%	
13L (Brule GPA's/Corps)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
14A (Buffalo)	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
15A (Butte)	7	38	11	0	12	5	72	2.3%	
15B (SW Butte/Lawrence)	2	29	2	0	7	0	40	1.3%	
16A (Campbell)	0	4	2	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
17A (Charles Mix)	9	31	11	0	0	0	51	1.6%	
18A (Clark)	4	55	9	0	0	0	68	2.2%	
19A (Clay)	0	24	2	0	0	0	27	0.8%	
20A (Corson)	0	13	0	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
21A (E Custer/S Penn)	2	22	2	0	0	0	27	0.8%	
21B (C Custer/C Penn)	0	4	2	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
22A (Day)	9	44	7	0	0	0	60	1.9%	
23A (Deuel)	4	44	4	0	0	0	53	1.7%	
24A (Dewey)	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0.1%	
24B (Little Moreau)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
25A (Douglas)	2	13	2	0	0	0	18	0.6%	
26A (Edmunds)	9	38	4	0	0	0	51	1.6%	
27A (NW FRiver/SW Cust)	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	0.1%	
27B (Fall River)	0	18	0	0	0	0	18	0.6%	
27L (Hill Ranch Area)	2	4	0	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
28A (Faulk)	7	20	7	0	0	0	33	1.0%	
29A (Grant)	7	49	7	0	0	0	62	1.9%	
30A,B (Gregory)	4	60	4	0	0	0	68	2.2%	
31A (Haakon)	0	27	2	0	27	5	61	1.9%	
32A (Hamlin)	15	77	13	0	0	0	106	3.3%	
33A (Hand)	7	33	2	0	0	0	42	1.3%	
34A (Hanson)	2	31	4	0	0	0	38	1.2%	
35A (W Harding)	0	7	0	0	20	0	26	0.8%	
35C (E Harding)	0	11	2	2	7	2	25	0.8%	
35L (Custer Nat Forest)	0	0	0	0	5	5	10	0.3%	
36A (Hughes)	2	9	0	0	0	0	11	0.3%	
37A (Hutchinson)	4	7	2	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
38A (Hyde)	0	13	2	0	0	0	15	0.5%	
39A (N Jackson)	2	9	2	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
39B (S Jackson)	4	9	0	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
40A (Jerauld)	0	13	7	0	0	0	20	0.6%	
41A (Jones)	2	13	0	0	0	0	15	0.5%	
42A (Kingsbury)	7	46	7	0	0	0	60	1.9%	
43A (Lake)	13	66	4	0	0	0	84	2.6%	
44A (Lincoln)	4	44	4	0	0	0	53	1.7%	
45A (W Lyman)	0	29	7	0	0	0	35	1.1%	
45B (E Lyman)	2	11	0	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
45C (NE Lyman/SE Stanley)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
45D (Ft Pr Nat Grslnd)	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	0.3%	
46A (McCook)	11	46	7	0	0	0	64	2.0%	
47A (McPherson)	7	11	0	0	0	0	18	0.6%	
48A (Marshall)	0	29	7	0	0	0	35	1.1%	
49A (W Meade)	2	27	4	0	15	2	50	1.6%	
49B (NE Meade)	2	11	0	0	29	2	45	1.4%	
50A,B (Mellette)	4	20	2	0	0	0	27	0.8%	
51A (Miner)	0	46	7	0	0	0	53	1.7%	
52A (Moody)	4	44	2	0	0	0	51	1.6%	
53A (N Perkins)	0	7	2	0	29	12	50	1.6%	
53C (S Perkins)	2	13	4	0	27	0	47	1.5%	
54A (Potter)	2	13	0	0	0	0	15	0.5%	
55A (Roberts)	4	53	2	0	0	0	60	1.9%	
56A (Sanborn)	2	35	0	0	0	0	38	1.2%	
57A (Spink)	7	33	9	0	0	0	49	1.5%	
58A (Stanley)	4	24	4	0	0	0	33	1.0%	
59A (W Sully)	2	13	0	0	0	0	15	0.5%	
59B (E Sully)	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0.3%	
60A (Tripp)	0	18	2	0	0	0	20	0.6%	
61A (Turner)	7	24	0	0	0	0	31	1.0%	
62A (Union)	13	20	7	0	0	0	40	1.2%	
63A (Walworth)	2	9	0	0	0	0	11	0.3%	
64A (Ziebach)	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0.3%	
65A (Oglala Lakota)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
67A (Todd)	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0.2%	
BH (Black Hills)	22	261	40	0	0	0	323	10.1%	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>2,298</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,185</b>		

Use these figures for approximations only!

# Mentored Youth Deer 2008-2023

