Deer Draw and Licensing Changes

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Objectives of Combined Firearm Draw

• Get more hunters in the field.

• Increase hunter’s chance of drawing “preferred” license.
Firearm Deer Draw Changes

- Prior to 2019: Could apply for initial draw of each deer season.

- Beginning in 2019: Could apply for or hold licenses in only 2 seasons through first 2 draws.
  - Draw 3: Residents could apply for any season provided they did not hold a license for that season.
  - Draw 4: Residents could submit 5 applications and allowed multiple applications/season.
  - Nonresidents had to wait until the leftover license draw 5 before they could apply for >2 seasons and hold >1 license/season.

West River/WR Special Buck
- *no nonresident allocation*

East River/ER Special Buck
- *no nonresident allocation*

Black Hills
- *no nonresident allocation*

Muzzleloader
- *no nonresident allocation*

Refuges
- National Wildlife Refuge System

Custer State Park
- *no nonresident allocation*
Firearm Deer Draw Changes

- 2018 1st draw resident firearm hunters
  - 1 application: 34,665; 2 applications: 11,758; 3+ applications: 5,820

- West River/WR Special Buck
- East River/ER Special Buck
- Black Hills
- Muzzleloader
- Refuges
- Custer State Park

*no nonresident allocation
Summary of Improvements for Firearm Deer Hunters
Getting more firearm deer hunters in the field each year

- 400 more resident buck hunters despite fewer buck licenses available.
- 800 more hunters with 1 or 2 buck licenses
  - 400 fewer hunters with 3+ buck licenses.
- Increased individual success by hunter from 66% to 70%

### West River/WR Special Buck
- 73%
- No Change

### East River/ER Special Buck
- 58% to 68%

### Black Hills
- 28%
- No Change

### Muzzleloader
- 13% to 20%
- Nearly doubled

### Refuges
- 13% to 24%
- Nearly doubled

### Custer State Park
- 1% to 3%
- Tripled

*no nonresident allocation
Summary of Improvements for Firearm Deer Hunters

Unique Hunters that Applied

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Residents</th>
<th>Nonresidents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>2,500</td>
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Only Purchased Preference Point

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<tr>
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<th>Residents</th>
<th>Nonresidents</th>
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</thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>600</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Summary of Improvements for Firearm Deer Hunters

Total Buck Applications

2016-2018 average
• 53,588 applicants
• 82,687 applications

2019-2021 average
• 50,443 applicants
• 72,922 applications
Summary of Improvements for Firearm Deer Hunters

Buck hunter draw success
hunters with at least one buck license

2016-2018 average
• 53,588 applicants
• 82,687 applications
• 35,101 hunters
• 66% success
• 40,961 licenses
• 50% success

2019-2021 average
• 50,443 applicants
• 72,922 applications
• 35,441 hunters
• 70% success
• 40,917 licenses
• 56% success
Summary of Improvements for Firearm Deer Hunters

2016-2018 average
- 1 buck license: 29,931
- 2 buck licenses: 4,581
- 3+ buck licenses: 589

2019-2021 average
- 1 buck license: 30,251
- 2 buck licenses: 5,016
- 3+ buck licenses: 173
Questions?

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  - 400 fewer hunters with 3+ buck licenses.
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