

GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

West River Deer Hunting Season Chapter 41:06:20

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	April 4-5, 2019	Rapid City
	Public Hearing	May 2, 2019	Custer State Park
	Finalization	May 2-3, 2019	Custer State Park

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Duration of Recommendation: 2019 and 2020 hunting seasons

Season Dates: All units excluding Gregory County: November 16 – December 1, 2019
 Gregory County (Unit 30A): Nov. 9-12 and Nov. 25 – Dec. 1, 2019
 Gregory County (Unit 30B): November 16 – December 1, 2019
 Antlerless deer tags only: December 14-22, 2019

All units excluding Gregory County: November 14-29, 2020
 Gregory County (Unit 30A): Nov. 7-10 and Nov. 23-29, 2020
 Gregory County (Unit 30B): November 14-29, 2020
 Antlerless deer tags only: December 12-20, 2020

Open Area: See the attached map

Licenses: Residents: 12,308 one-tag, 5,220 two-tag, and 400 three-tag licenses
 Nonresidents: 989 one-tag, 418 two-tag, and 32 three-tag licenses

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. 500 resident and 500 nonresident “any deer” licenses are available through the “Special Buck” application.
2. One-half of the licenses allocated in each unit are available for landowner/operator preference applicants.
3. Landowners may also purchase an “any deer” or “any deer + any antlerless deer” license that is valid only on their property as long they do not hold a regular West River deer license that allows the harvest of a buck.
4. Only persons using a wheelchair may apply for the licenses in Stanley County (Unit 58D) designated as a special “Hunters with Disabilities Unit.”

Proposed changes from last year:

1. Adjust resident license numbers from no more than 15,340 one-tag and 3,320 two-tag deer licenses to 12,308 one-tag, 5,220 two-tag deer licenses and 400 three-tag deer licenses.
2. Establish Units 15P (includes that portion valid within Unit 15A of Butte County), 27P (includes that portion valid within Unit 27B of Fall River County), and 45P (includes that portion valid within Unit 45B of Lyman County). These units are for antlerless whitetail deer licenses and would be private land only; all public lands are closed to license holders within these respective units, including Walk-in Areas.

Year	Buck Tags	Doe Tags	Total Tags
2017-2018	16,175	5,805	21,980
2019-2020	15,895	8,053	23,948

Buck Tags (-2%)
Doe Tags (+39%)

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The recommendation to establish private land-only units is a management tool that is being considered to meet deer management population objectives and focus the harvest of antlerless whitetail deer on private land.

Year	Licenses Sold	WT Bucks Harvested	WT Does Harvested	MD Bucks Harvested	MD Does Harvested	All Deer Harvested	Tag Success
2014	19,828	6,641	2,244	2,448	274	11,607	59%
2015	19,565	7,739	2,367	2,804	182	13,091	61%
2016	21,237	7,600	3,557	2,869	257	14,283	53%
2017	20,142	6,896	2,799	3,373	213	13,280	56%
2018	20,163	6,696	2,916	3,320	250	13,182	56%

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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