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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Buck Tags</th>
<th>Doe Tags</th>
<th>Total Tags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>16,175</td>
<td>5,805</td>
<td>21,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>15,895</td>
<td>8,053</td>
<td>23,948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

APPROVE  ____  MODIFY  ____  REJECT  ____  NO ACTION  ____
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.

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