Statewide Combined Deer Harvest

There were 51,271 resident deer licenses (plus unlimited licenses) available in 2019 and 98,426 were issued. Nonresidents had 2,337 licenses (plus unlimited licenses) available and 7,890 were issued. Statewide, there were a total of 106,316 licenses sold that represented a total of 120,921 tags, an increase in 23 licenses and 919 tags from 2018. A total of 68,644 individual hunters were issued deer licenses in 2019, down from 69,255 in 2018.

Random samplings were taken for each unit within each season unless the numbers of hunters were low enough that all were sampled to satisfy the statistical analyses. Response rates ranged from 51% for Landowner Antlerless Deer to 91% for Custer State Park.

The projected statewide deer harvest was 50,736, a decline of over 1,000 from 2018. This estimate included 26,403 whitetail bucks, 17,735 whitetail does, 5,239 mule bucks and 1,360 mule does. An increase in the number of tags issued and decrease in harvest resulted in a 1% decrease in harvest success from 2018.

Decreases in white-tailed buck, mule buck, and mule doe harvest accounted for the decline in overall harvest from 2018. Mule deer made up approximately 13% of the total harvest.

The 2019 overall statewide harvest success decreased to 42% from 43% in 2018. Harvest success ranged from 29% for Archery to 77% for West River Special Buck.

Respondents reported hunting an average of 4.93 days per hunter, which projects to a statewide total of 523,848 recreation days in 2019.

Average hunter satisfaction values (1=very dissatisfied to 7=very satisfied) ranged from 3.92 for Sand Lake Refuge to 5.95 for West River Special Buck.
## 2019 Statewide Deer Harvest Projection Summary

### Harvest Statistic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licenses/Tags</th>
<th>Residents Licenses Sold</th>
<th>Residents Tags Sold</th>
<th>Nonresident Licenses Sold</th>
<th>Nonresident Tags Sold</th>
<th>Total Licenses Sold</th>
<th>Total Tags Sold</th>
<th>Hunters Sold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold</td>
<td>25,970</td>
<td>3,942</td>
<td>5,715</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>19,913</td>
<td>4,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>30,295</td>
<td>4,424</td>
<td>5,715</td>
<td>3,340</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>23,834</td>
<td>4,424</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recreation

- Average Days Hunted: 10.57, 3.93, 3.52, 4.95, 2.68, 3.02, 3.52, 3.43, 3.90, 4.15, 5.20, 2.54, 2.93, 2.79, 4.09, 4.74, 3.44
- Mean Satisfaction Score: 5.25, 5.70, 5.79, 5.10, 4.79, 5.18, 5.41, 5.95, 4.77, 4.95, 5.07, 3.92, 4.53, 4.82, 5.50, 5.37, 5.81

### Harvest

#### White-tailed Deer

- Bucks: 5,436, 263, 348, 295, 4, 6,618, 762, 337, 7,787, 1,955, 233, 27, 6, 9, 2,249, 9, 26, 26,403
- Does: 2,210, 1,722, 2,123, 795, 126, 3,340, 387, 5, 4,977, 1,156, 8, 11, 3, 0, 843, 4, 24, 17,735

#### Mule Deer

- Bucks: 910, 37, 45, 112, 0, 2,874, 506, 419, 191, 67, 22, 0, 0, 0, 57, 0, 0, 5,239
- Does: 1,400, 297, 417, 17, 0, 256, 160, 6, 20, 45, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,360

#### Total Deer Harvest

- Bucks: 6,346, 300, 392, 407, 4, 9,492, 1,268, 756, 7,978, 2,062, 255, 27, 6, 9, 2,306, 9, 26, 31,642
- Does: 2,350, 2,020, 2,540, 812, 126, 3,597, 547, 12, 4,998, 1,202, 8, 11, 3, 0, 843, 4, 24, 19,095

#### Success

- 29%, 52%, 51%, 38%, 41%, 51%, 51%, 44%, 77%, 43%, 33%, 53%, 32%, 40%, 41%, 61%, 50%, 58%, 42%