

MOUNTAIN GOAT

The 2017 season for Mountain Goats in the Black Hills was open from September 1 through December 31. There were two licenses issued for the Mountain Goat season in the Black Hills. There were 3,505 applicants for those two licenses. Both hunters harvested billies and reported hunting 28 total days, an average of 14 days per hunter.

Comparison of the 2003-2017 Black Hills Mountain Goat seasons

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Apps/License</i> | <i>Billies Harvested</i> | <i>Nannies Harvested</i> | <i>Success</i> | <i>Avg. Days Hunted</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2003 | 2,046/3 | 1 | 2 | 100% | 5.7 |
| 2004 | 2,189/3 | 1 | 2 | 100% | 6.3 |
| 2005 | 2,591/2 | 0 | 2 | 100% | 2.5 |
| 2006 | 2,678/2 | 0 | 1 | 50% | 5.5 |
| 2007-2014 | No Season | | | | |
| 2015 | 3,758/2 | 1 | 1 | 100% | 4.3 |
| 2016 | 3,564/2 | 2 | 0 | 100% | 8.0 |
| 2017 | 3,505/2 | 2 | 0 | 100% | 14.0 |

BIGHORN SHEEP

The 2017 season for Bighorn Sheep was open from September 1 through December 31. In addition to the traditional unit in Pennington County west of SD Highway 79, an additional unit 2 was created in 2008 in Custer County west of Highway 79 with one license available. There were 4,357 applicants for the two any-bighorn licenses (2,304 for unit 1 and 2,053 for unit 2). An additional license was auctioned to the highest bidder and was valid in unit 2. All hunters were surveyed and all were successful at harvesting a ram. The three hunters reported an average of 16.7 days hunting. The Custer State Park Bighorn Sheep season remained closed in 2017.

Comparison of the 2008-2017 Black Hills Bighorn Sheep seasons

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Apps/License</i> | <i>Rams Harvested</i> | <i>Ewes Harvested</i> | <i>Success</i> | <i>Avg. Days Hunted</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2008 | 3,533/5 | 5 | 0 | 100% | 4.8 |
| 2009 | 3,541/5 | 5 | 0 | 100% | 8.6 |
| 2010 | 3,643/5 | 5 | 0 | 100% | 23.0 |
| 2011 | 3,614/3 | 3 | 0 | 100% | 6.7 |
| 2012 | 3,381/2 | 2 | 0 | 100% | 6.0 |
| 2013 | 4,033/2(+1) | 3 | 0 | 100% | 4.5 |
| 2014 | 4,336/2(+1) | 3 | 0 | 100% | 9.2 |
| 2015 | 4,757/2(+1) | 3 | 0 | 100% | 13.0 |
| 2016 | 4,538/2(+1) | 3 | 0 | 100% | 4.0 |
| 2017 | 4,357/2(+1) | 3 | 0 | 100% | 16.7 |

Comparison of the 2001-2017 Custer State Park Bighorn Sheep seasons

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Applications</i> | <i>Licenses</i> | <i>Ram Harvest</i> | <i>Success</i> | <i>Avg. Days Hunted</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2001 | 2,466 | 3 | 3 | 100% | 1.7 |
| 2002 | 2,424 | 2 | 2 | 100% | 2.5 |
| 2003 | 2,506 | 2 | 2 | 100% | 1.5 |
| 2004 | 2,725 | 3 | 3 | 100% | 4.0 |
| 2005-2017 | CLOSED | | | | |