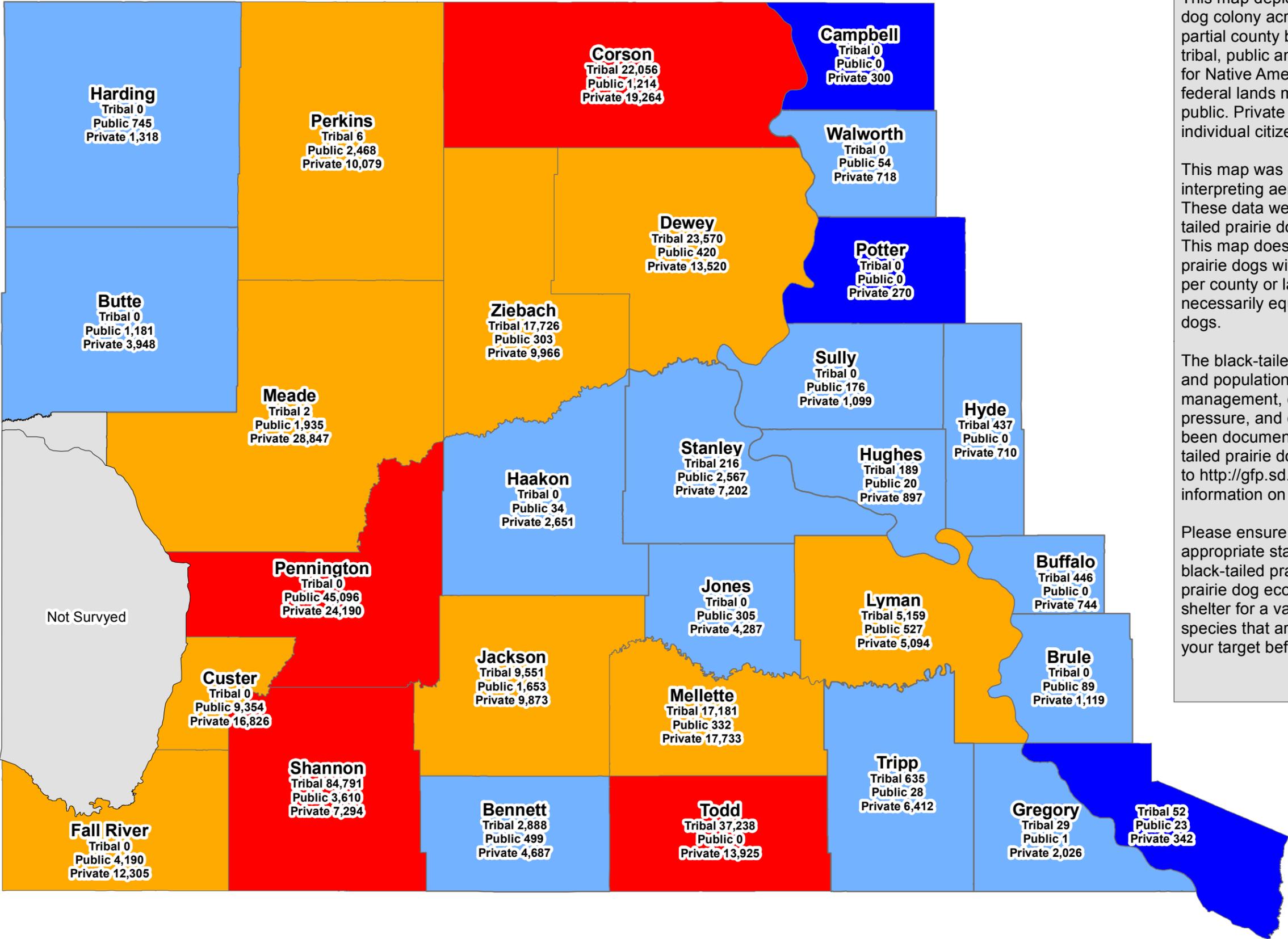


Acres of Black-tailed Prairie Dog Colonies in South Dakota by Landownership



This map depicts the total number of black-tailed prairie dog colony acres within each South Dakota county or partial county based upon three land-ownership categories: tribal, public and private. Tribal lands are those held in trust for Native American tribes. Public lands are state and federal lands managed by government agencies for the public. Private lands are those owned and managed by individual citizens or groups.

This map was developed using data collected by visually interpreting aerial photographs that were taken in 2012. These data were originally collected to determine black-tailed prairie dog distribution and acreage in South Dakota. This map does not indicate the total number of black-tailed prairie dogs within each county. A higher number of acres per county or land-ownership category does not necessarily equate with more individual black-tailed prairie dogs.

The black-tailed prairie dog ecosystem is dynamic; colony and population size fluctuates with weather, climate, land management, efforts to control or enhance, shooting pressure, and disease. Please note that sylvatic plague has been documented and has substantially impacted black-tailed prairie dog colonies in parts of South Dakota. Refer to <http://gfp.sd.gov/wildlife/diseases/plague.aspx> for more information on this disease.

Please ensure that you have landowner permission and the appropriate state and/or tribal permits before you shoot black-tailed prairie dogs in South Dakota. The black-tailed prairie dog ecosystem is unique and provides food and/or shelter for a variety of other wildlife species including species that are rarely found in the wild. Always be sure of your target before you shoot.

Legend

Colony Acres

- 42,000 - 120,000
- 10,000 - 42,000
- 600 - 10,000
- 0 - 600

