

EAST RIVER FIREARM DEER

There were 33,183 licenses issued for the 2024 East River Firearm Deer season (24,409 regular, 491 Special Buck and 8,283 Landowner Own Land Only) for a total of 37,582 tags.

The East River season was open 16 days from November 23 through December 8 in all units. The season was also open from December 14-22 for all unfilled antlerless deer tags.

All hunters that listed a valid email address were surveyed using Survey123 Software for the regular East River season, the East River Special Buck season, and Landowner Own Land Only licenses. Final response rates were 46% for regular East River Deer, 33% for Landowner Own Land, and 57% for Special Buck.

Respondents reported hunting an average of 4.39 days per hunter for the regular season, 4.84 days for Landowner Own Land and 5.61 days for Special Buck, resulting in a projected total of 149,859 recreation days for the entire East River season. Regular East River season hunters reported harvesting approximately 88% of their antlerless deer from November 23 – December 8, and 12% from December 14-22.

The East River projected deer harvest was 10,633 for the regular season, 3,754 for Landowner Own Land, and 263 for the Special Buck season. Success rates were 44% for the regular season, 30% for Landowner Own Land, and 54% for Special Buck.

The mean satisfaction score for those responding to the regular East River survey was 4.14 (1 = “very dissatisfied” and 7 = “very satisfied”).

Summary comparison of the 2015-2024 East River Deer seasons (including Special Buck and Landowner)

YEAR	Licenses Sold				Harvest				Total Harvest	Success	Avg Days	Avg Satis
	Resident		Nonres		Bucks		Does					
	Lics	Tags	Lics	Tags	WT	Mule	WT	Mule				
2015	32,287	40,420	836	1,276	13,060	369	7,331	104	20,866	50%	4.15	4.96
2016	31,048	44,311	759	1,595	10,659	359	7,972	117	19,107	42%	4.16	4.70
2017	31,501	39,556	830	1,313	11,636	312	6,446	96	18,489	45%	4.40	4.86
2018	31,791	39,926	718	1,143	11,329	348	6,616	95	18,388	45%	4.36	4.86
2019	33,353	39,891	526	538	10,015	280	6,142	66	16,503	41%	4.15	4.77
2020	33,816	40,884	437	451	11,801	339	7,066	59	19,265	47%	4.56	5.30
2021	33,836	39,740	257	257	11,759	243	6,150	30	18,182	45%	4.43	5.01
2022	33,722	38,962	342	385	12,819	278	6,204	61	19,362	49%	4.21	4.87
2023	33,479	37,747	262	336	11,249	286	5,098	53	16,685	44%	4.44	4.45
2024	32,859	37,144	324	438	9,546	256	4,803	45	14,650	39%	4.63	4.14

2024 East River Deer Antlerless Harvest by Date			
	Total	Nov 23 - Dec 8	Dec 14 - 22
Reports	1,756	1,552	204
Percent of total		88%	12%
Projected	3,886	3,434	451

2024 East River Deer Harvest Projections

Last Revised:

10-Apr-25

Unit/Type		Licenses										Harvest Projections										Total Deer Harvest CI (95%)	
		Resident					Nonresident					Whitetail					Mule Deer						
		Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Tags sold	Response Rate	Success 1st tag	2nd tag	Success	Hunter	Bucks Adult	Does Fawn	Bucks Adult	Does Fawn	Bucks Adult	Does Fawn	Bucks Adult	Does Fawn					
01A-01	685	400	407	leftovers	0	407	48%	38%	38%	38%	126	4	19	4	0	0	0	0	153	+/-20			
01A-13	39	200	199	leftovers	0	199	43%	37%	37%	37%	0	5	65	5	0	0	0	0	74	+/-15			
03A-01	1,365	800	793	leftovers	0	793	50%	38%	38%	38%	259	2	34	2	2	0	0	0	299	+/-27			
03A-13	37	600	599	leftovers	0	599	47%	29%	29%	0	13	153	6	0	0	0	0	173	+/-23				
04A-11	801	500	498	leftovers	0	498	47%	52%	52%	211	2	45	2	0	0	0	0	260	+/-23				
04A-13	34	150	148	leftovers	0	148	48%	38%	38%	0	10	44	2	0	0	0	0	56	+/-12				
05A-01	703	400	397	leftovers	0	397	46%	51%	51%	173	2	29	0	0	0	0	0	204	+/-21				
05A-13	27	200	199	leftovers	0	199	44%	31%	31%	0	2	54	5	0	0	0	0	61	+/-14				
06A-01	774	450	452	leftovers	0	452	51%	45%	45%	168	2	32	0	0	0	0	0	201	+/-20				
06A-13	50	150	149	leftovers	0	149	44%	36%	36%	0	9	41	5	0	0	0	0	54	+/-13				
07A-01	431	250	231	leftovers	0	231	48%	24%	24%	48	0	6	2	0	0	0	0	56	+/-13				
07B-19	17	50	48	leftovers	0	48	46%	23%	23%	0	0	9	2	0	0	0	0	11	+/-6				
08A-11	310	250	241	leftovers	0	241	44%	28%	28%	64	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	68	+/-15				
10A-11	500	250	243	leftovers	0	243	48%	51%	51%	110	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	125	+/-16				
10A-13	32	150	146	leftovers	0	146	37%	37%	37%	0	0	51	3	0	0	0	0	54	+/-15				
12A-01	355	225	207	leftovers	0	207	60%	26%	26%	34	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	54	+/-10				
12B-19	14	50	47	leftovers	0	47	38%	22%	22%	0	0	8	3	0	0	0	0	10	+/-7				
13A-01	259	100	98	leftovers	0	98	47%	26%	26%	19	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	26	+/-9				
13A-11	282	800	783	leftovers	0	783	45%	31%	31%	205	2	36	0	0	0	0	0	243	+/-28				
13A-13P	3	150	144	leftovers	3	147	35%	38%	35%	0	2	39	5	0	0	0	0	46	+/-14				
13L-01	96	20	17	leftovers	0	17	53%	78%	78%	9	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	13	+/-3				
14A-01	80	100	99	leftovers	0	99	53%	40%	40%	29	0	2	0	10	0	0	0	40	+/-9				
14A-13P	1	50	41	leftovers	5	46	33%	36%	40%	0	3	17	0	0	0	0	0	20	+/-9				
14A-18	42	250	245	leftovers	0	490	38%	24%	4%	25%	44	0	26	5	0	0	0	75	+/-28				
16A-01	126	30	30	leftovers	0	30	53%	81%	81%	6	0	2	0	13	0	4	0	24	+/-4				
16A-11	234	400	395	leftovers	0	395	48%	47%	47%	159	2	21	2	0	0	0	0	184	+/-20				
17A-01	204	25	24	leftovers	0	24	63%	53%	53%	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	13	+/-4				
17A-11	452	250	247	leftovers	0	247	50%	39%	39%	78	2	14	2	0	0	0	0	96	+/-15				
18A-01	817	600	598	leftovers	0	598	46%	47%	47%	241	4	28	7	0	0	0	0	280	+/-26				
18A-19	40	200	200	leftovers	0	400	44%	42%	19%	42%	0	9	102	11	0	0	0	123	+/-29				
19A-01	271	100	90	leftovers	0	90	64%	29%	29%	20	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	26	+/-6				
22A-01	924	600	595	leftovers	0	595	46%	48%	48%	233	2	46	2	0	0	0	0	283	+/-26				
22A-13	16	300	293	leftovers	0	293	43%	42%	42%	0	12	102	9	0	0	0	0	123	+/-19				
23A-01	586	500	500	leftovers	0	500	49%	46%	46%	183	6	39	0	2	0	0	0	230	+/-23				
23A-13	10	200	198	leftovers	0	198	41%	27%	27%	0	2	49	2	0	0	0	0	54	+/-15				
25A-11	201	250	249	leftovers	0	249	49%	30%	30%	57	0	16	2	0	0	0	0	76	+/-15				
25A-13	3	100	100	leftovers	0	100	45%	16%	16%	0	0	9	7	0	0	0	0	15	+/-8				
26A-01	728	600	596	leftovers	0	596	49%	58%	58%	273	12	53	6	0	0	0	0	345	+/-24				
26A-13	19	300	298	leftovers	1	299	39%	46%	51%	0	14	133	12	0	0	0	0	159	+/-21				
28A-01	590	600	598	leftovers	0	598	42%	53%	53%	272	5	34	2	2	0	0	0	316	+/-28				
28A-13	11	500	432	leftovers	64	496	30%	45%	53%	0	26	240	14	0	0	0	0	280	+/-30				
29A-01	629	400	397	leftovers	0	397	49%	45%	45%	145	4	31	0	0	0	0	0	180	+/-20				
29A-13	25	100	99	leftovers	0	99	46%	49%	49%	0	2	44	2	0	0	0	0	48	+/-11				
32A-01	668	600	597	leftovers	0	597	49%	45%	45%	215	6	49	0	0	0	0	0	271	+/-24				
32A-13	17	200	200	leftovers	0	200	50%	40%	40%	0	16	55	10	0	0	0	0	81	+/-14				
33A-01	76	10	10	leftovers	0	10	60%	33%	33%	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	+/-2				
33A-11	479	350	347	leftovers	0	347	50%	59%	59%	195	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	205	+/-18				
34A-11	318	250	231	leftovers	0	231	43%	40%	40%	73	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	92	+/-17				
34A-13	4	50	47	leftovers	1	48	38%	17%	17%	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	8	+/-7				
36A-01	282	150	147	leftovers	0	147	55%	58%	58%	34	0	2	0	49	0	0	0	85	+/-11				
36A-11	227	250	245	leftovers	0	245	56%	46%	46%	94	0	18	2	0	0	0	0	113	+/-14				
37A-11	344	200	177	leftovers	0	177	47%	39%	39%	51	0	17	2	0	0	0	0	70	+/-13				
38A-01	61	10	10	leftovers	0	10	40%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-				
38A-11	263	300	299	leftovers	0	299	43%	57%	57%	159	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	171	+/-19				
40A-11	328	250	251	leftovers	0	251	51%	53%	53%	107	0	22	4	0	0	0	0	132	+/-15				
40A-13	4	150	149	leftovers	0	149	41%	35%	40%	0	7	48	2	0	0	0	0	56	+/-13				
42A-01	812	500	497	leftovers	0	497	50%	48%	48%	205	6	28	2	0	0	0	0	241	+/-22				
42A-13	30	200	200	leftovers	0	200	46%	42%	42%	0	2	68	13	0	0	0	0	84	+/-15				
43A-01	633	300	297	leftovers	0	297	56%	56%	56%	137	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	166	+/-15				
43A-13	22	150	150	leftovers	0	150	53%	43%	43%	0	4	55	6	0	0	0	0	65	+/-11				
44A-01	382	150	139	leftovers	0	139	53%	36%	36%	41	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	51	+/-10				
46A-01	638	350	344	leftovers	1	345	49%	40%	40%	118	2	18	0	0	0	0	0	138	+/-18				
46A-13	42	300	291	leftovers	0	291	47%	36%	36%	0	19	68	17	0	0	0	0	105	+/-17				
47A-01	673	500	499	leftovers	0	499	45%	55%	55%	232	2	25	4	9	0	0	0	272	+/-24				
47A-13	21	500	496	leftovers	0	496	34%	51%	54%	0	16	230	26	0	0	0	0	272	+/-28				
48A-01	633	500	496	leftovers	1	497	47%	41%	41%	173	4	26	0	0	0	0	0	203	+/-23				
48A-13	10	150	147	leftovers	0	147	46%	33%	33%	0	4	41	2	0	0	0	0	48	+/-12				
51A-01	535	400	396	leftovers	0	396	41%	52%	52%	181	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	208	+/-23				
51A-13	32	350	348	leftovers	0	348	43%	34%	34%	0	11	106	2	0	0	0	0	120	+/-20				
52A-01	504	300	301	leftovers	0	301	50%	50%	50%	115	2	30	4	0	0	0	0	152	+/-17				
52A-13	30	250	247	leftovers	0	247	47%	34%	34%	0	15	64	4	0	0	0	0	84	+/-16				
54A-01	161	50	49	leftovers	0	49	61%	60%	60%	15	0	2	0	10	0	3	0	29	+/-5				
54A-11	366	400																					

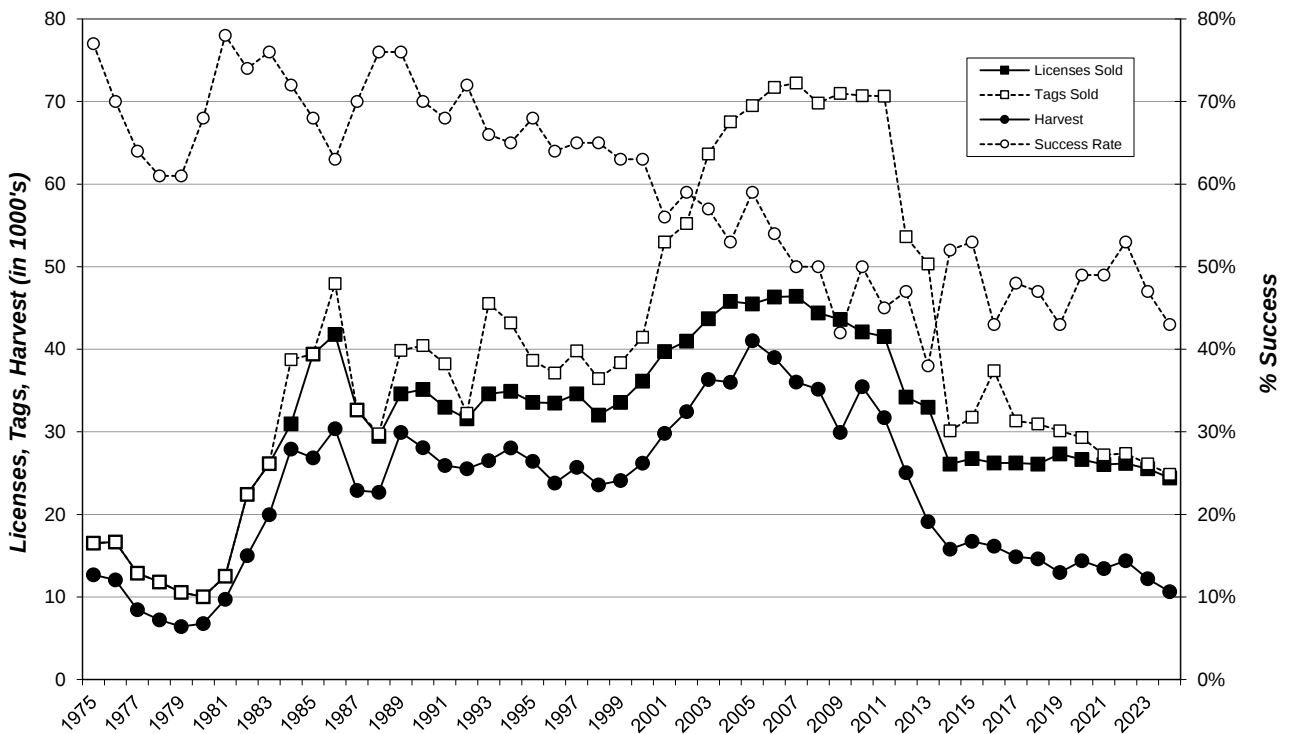
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Unit/Type	Licenses										Harvest Projections									
	Resident					Nonresident					Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total	
	Appl. 1st					Tags	Response	Success	Hunter	Bucks	Does	Bucks	Does	Deer						
	Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	sold	Rate	1st tag	2nd tag	Success	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Harvest	CI (95%)
57A-13	16	300	296	leftovers	0	296	36%	42%	45%	0	10	107	10	0	0	0	0	0	127	+/-22
59A-01	393	100	101	leftovers	0	101	69%	51%	51%	7	0	0	0	42	0	1	0	0	51	+/-7
59A-11	137	200	197	leftovers	0	197	52%	52%	52%	97	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	102	+/-13
59B-01	50	20	20	leftovers	0	20	45%	33%	33%	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	+/-5
59B-11	146	200	195	leftovers	0	195	48%	39%	39%	74	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	+/-14
61A-01	285	150	138	leftovers	0	138	53%	32%	32%	32	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	+/-10
62A-01	394	250	236	leftovers	0	236	52%	35%	35%	69	2	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	83	+/-14
63A-01	178	50	49	leftovers	0	49	59%	59%	59%	12	0	2	0	12	0	2	2	2	29	+/-6
63A-11	310	400	396	leftovers	0	396	48%	50%	50%	164	4	27	2	0	0	0	0	0	198	+/-21
63A-13	3	100	99	leftovers	0	99	35%	37%	37%	0	0	31	6	0	0	0	0	0	37	+/-13
Totals	25,412	24,740	24,332	leftovers	77	24,854	46.3%		43%	6,577	327	3,279	268	170	0	10	2	10,633	+/-1,416	
* Number of 1st drawing applicants with that season as 1st choice.																				

* Number of 1st drawing applicants with that season as 1st choice.

East River Deer Regular Season 1975-2024

(does not include Special Buck or Landowner Own Land)



2024 East River Landowner Own Land Harvest Projections

Last Revised: 10-Apr-25

Last Revised: 10-Apr-25

Unit	Harvest Projections																	Total Deer Harvest	Mean Satisfactn Rating	Average Days Hunted
	Resident Licenses		Nonresident Licenses		Tags sold	Response Rate	Hunter Success	Tag Success	Whitetail				Mule Deer							
									Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does					
	Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn						
ER1-01	Unltd	3,751	250	133	3,884	34%	30%	28%	942	6	113	0	33	3	6	0	1,103	-	-	
ER1-08	Unltd	4,285		114	8,798	32%	46%	30%	1,356	103	1,047	90	26	3	19	6	2,650	-	-	
Totals		8,036	250	247	12,682	32.9%	38%	30%	2,298	109	1,161	90	59	6	25	6	3,754	4.28	4.84	

2024 East River LOL Harvest Distribution

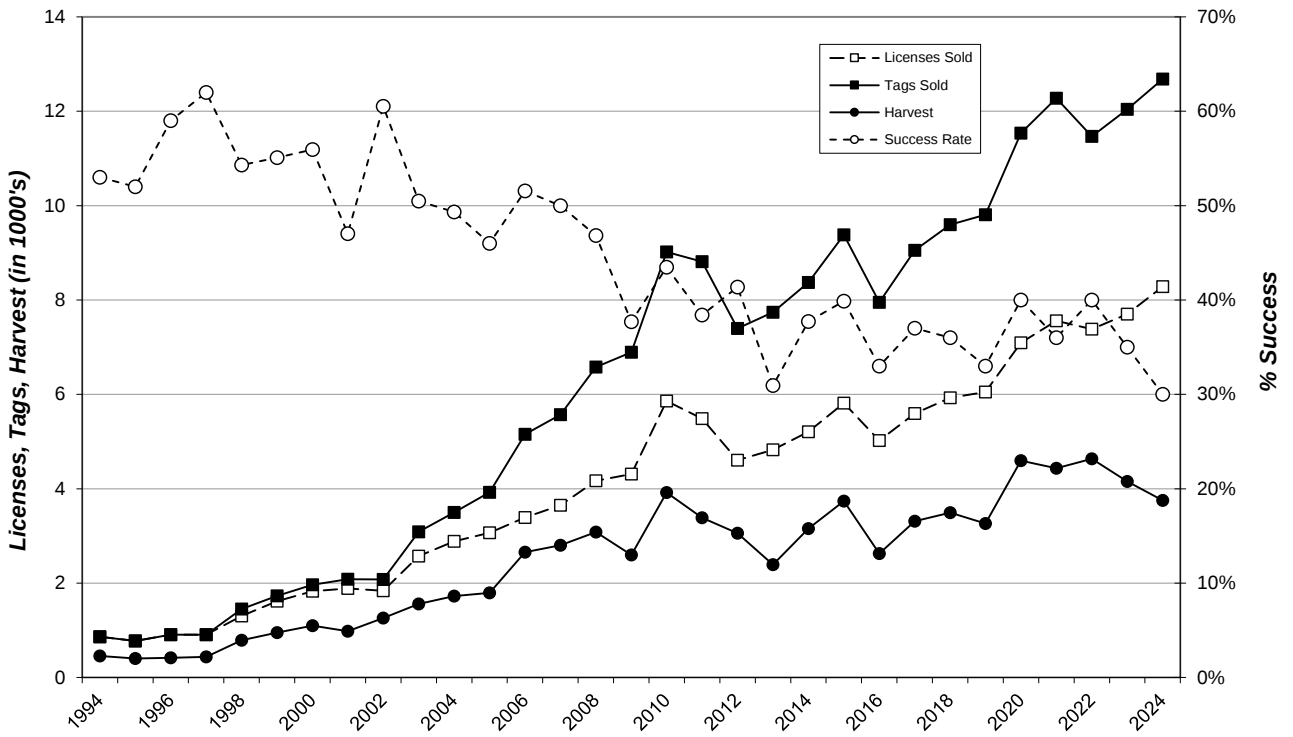
Last Revised:

14-Apr-25

Last Revised: 14-Apr-25	Projected Harvest									
	Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total	
	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does			
	Unit	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Estimate
01A (Minnehaha)	90	10	57	0	3	0	0	0	160	4.3%
03A (Brown)	75	6	32	3	0	0	0	0	116	3.1%
04A (Beadle)	140	10	86	6	0	0	0	0	242	6.5%
05A (Codington)	65	0	35	3	0	0	0	0	104	2.8%
06A (Brookings)	44	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	98	2.6%
07A (Yankton)	12	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	22	0.6%
08A (Davison)	44	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	53	1.4%
10A (Aurora)	62	3	22	0	0	0	0	0	88	2.3%
12A (Bon Homme)	22	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	25	0.7%
13A (Brule)	25	3	19	0	0	0	0	0	47	1.3%
14A (Buffalo)	16	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	22	0.6%
16A (Campbell)	25	0	3	0	22	3	19	0	72	1.9%
17A (Charles Mix)	93	0	16	3	6	0	0	6	125	3.3%
18A (Clark)	62	10	57	6	3	0	0	0	139	3.7%
19A (Clay)	9	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.5%
22A (Day)	72	3	35	6	0	0	0	0	116	3.1%
23A (Deuel)	62	0	22	0	0	3	0	0	88	2.3%
25A (Douglas)	28	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	31	0.8%
26A (Edmunds)	69	3	32	3	0	0	0	0	107	2.8%
28A (Faulk)	53	6	16	6	0	0	0	0	82	2.2%
29A (Grant)	75	6	48	10	0	0	0	0	139	3.7%
32A (Hamlin)	65	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	107	2.8%
33A (Hand)	84	6	80	0	0	0	0	0	170	4.5%
34A (Hanson)	22	10	19	3	0	0	3	0	57	1.5%
36A (Hughes)	19	0	6	0	9	0	0	0	34	0.9%
37A (Hutchinson)	53	3	29	0	0	0	0	0	85	2.3%
38A (Hyde)	22	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	50	1.3%
40A (Jerauld)	69	0	13	0	3	0	0	0	84	2.2%
42A (Kingsbury)	72	3	32	0	0	0	0	0	107	2.8%
43A (Lake)	69	0	41	10	0	0	0	0	120	3.2%
44A (Lincoln)	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0.1%
46A (McCook)	59	3	29	3	3	0	0	0	97	2.6%
47A (McPherson)	65	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	78	2.1%
48A (Marshall)	34	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	47	1.3%
51A (Miner)	90	6	32	0	0	0	0	0	129	3.4%
52A (Moody)	31	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	50	1.3%
54A (Potter)	22	0	22	0	6	0	0	0	50	1.3%
55A (Roberts)	103	10	38	13	0	0	0	0	163	4.4%
56A (Sanborn)	84	3	54	3	0	0	0	0	145	3.9%
57A (Spink)	87	0	41	3	0	0	0	0	132	3.5%
59A (W Sully)	19	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	25	0.7%
59B (E Sully)	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	9	0.2%
61A (Turner)	19	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	25	0.7%
62A (Union)	50	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	56	1.5%
63A (Walworth)	12	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	35	0.9%
TOTALS	2,298	109	1,161	90	59	6	25	6	3,754	

Use these figures for approximations only!

Landowner Own Land East River Deer 1994-2024



2024 East River Special Buck Harvest Projections

Last Revised:

21-Mar-25

Last Revised: 21-Mar-25						Harvest Projections								Total Deer	Mean Satisfactn	Average Days Hunted
						Whitetail				Mule Deer						
						Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does				
Unit/Type	Appl. 1st Choice *	Resident Licenses		Response Rate	Tag Success	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Harvest	Rating	
		Avail.	Sold													
ER-01	1,360	500	491	57%	54%	230	5	4	2	21	0	2	0	263	4.33	5.61

ER-01	1,360	500	491	57%	54%	230	5	4	2	21	0	2	0	263	4.33	5.61
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2024 East River Special Buck Harvest Distribution

Last Revised:

21-Mar-25

Last Revised: 21-Mar-25	Projected Harvest									
	Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total	
	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does			
	Unit	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Estimate
01A (Minnehaha)	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	6.7%
03A (Brown)	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	3.4%
04A (Beadle)	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	3.4%
05A (Codington)	16	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	19	7.4%
06A (Brookings)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
07A (Yankton)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%
08A (Davison)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
10A (Aurora)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
12A (Bon Homme)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%
13A (Brule)	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0.7%
14A (Buffalo)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
16A (Campbell)	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	5	2.0%
17A (Charles Mix)	5	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	9	3.4%
18A (Clark)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
19A (Clay)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
22A (Day)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
23A (Deuel)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
25A (Douglas)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
26A (Edmunds)	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
28A (Faulk)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%
29A (Grant)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
32A (Hamlin)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
33A (Hand)	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4.7%
34A (Hanson)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
36A (Hughes)	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	7	2.7%
37A (Hutchinson)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
38A (Hyde)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
40A (Jerauld)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
42A (Kingsbury)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%
43A (Lake)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
44A (Lincoln)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%
46A (McCook)	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
47A (McPherson)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.0%
48A (Marshall)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
51A (Miner)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
52A (Moody)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%
54A (Potter)	4	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	9	3.4%
55A (Roberts)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.0%
56A (Sanborn)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
57A (Spink)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
59A (W Sully)	4	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	7	2.7%
59B (E Sully)	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	1.3%
61A (Turner)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.3%
62A (Union)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%
63A (Walworth)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%
TOTALS	230	5	4	2	21	0	2	0	263	

Use these figures for approximations only!