

EAST RIVER FIREARM DEER

There were 27,399 licenses issued for the 2025 East River Firearm Deer season (18,819 regular, 499 Special Buck and 8,081 Landowner Own Land Only) for a total of 31,715 tags.

The East River season was open 16 days from November 22 through December 7 in all units. The season was also open from December 13-21 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 45% for regular East River Deer, 30% for Landowner Own Land, and 53% for Special Buck.

Respondents reported hunting an average of 4.17 days per hunter for the regular season, 4.40 days for Landowner Own Land and 5.25 days for Special Buck, resulting in a projected total of 116,684 recreation days for the entire East River season. Regular East River season hunters reported harvesting approximately 87% of their antlerless deer from November 22 – December 7, and 13% from December 13-21.

The East River projected deer harvest was 8,473 for the regular season, 3,677 for Landowner Own Land, and 265 for the Special Buck season. Success rates were 45% for the regular season, 30% for Landowner Own Land, and 53% for Special Buck.

The mean satisfaction score for those responding to the regular East River survey was 4.39 (1 = “very dissatisfied” and 7 = “very satisfied”).

Summary comparison of the 2016-2025 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				
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
2025	27,147	31,346	252	369	8,690	218	3,472	36	12,415	39%	4.28	4.39

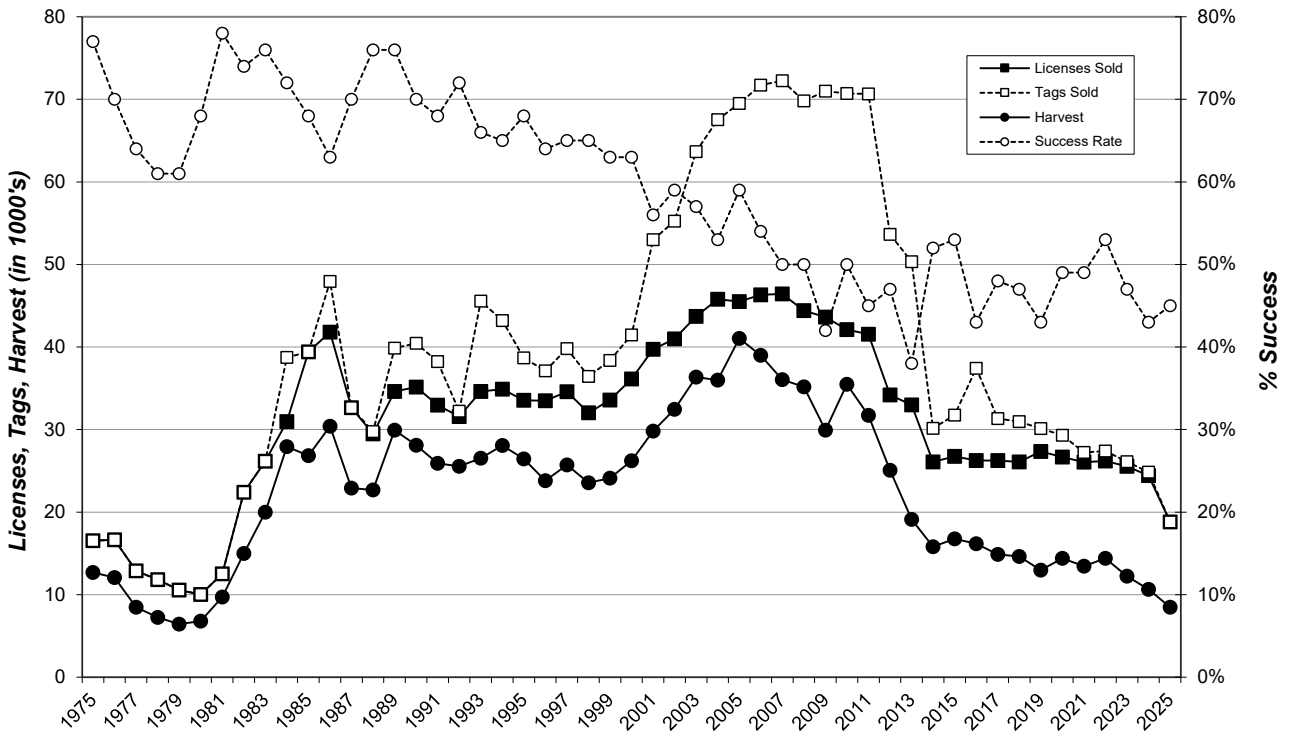
2025 East River Deer Antlerless Harvest by Date			
	Total	Nov 22 - Dec 7	Dec 13 - 21
Reports	2,248	1,947	301
Percent of total		87%	13%
Projected	2,539	2,199	340

2025 East River Deer Harvest Projections

Unit/Type		Licenses						Harvest Projections						Harvest Projections						Total Harvest CI (95%)	
		Resident			Nonresident			Tags sold	Response Rate	Success 1st tag	Hunter Success	Whitetail				Mule Deer					
		Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	Bucks					Does		Bucks		Does					
							Adult					Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn			
01A-01	685	400	399	leftovers	0	399	50%	40%	40%	124	0	34	0	2	0	0	0	160	+/-19		
03A-01	39	600	599	leftovers	0	599	53%	41%	41%	214	2	27	4	0	0	0	0	246	+/-22		
03A-13	1,365	300	300	leftovers	0	300	38%	42%	42%	0	13	110	3	0	0	0	0	126	+/-22		
04A-11	37	450	449	leftovers	0	449	47%	49%	49%	186	4	30	0	0	0	0	0	220	+/-22		
05A-01	801	400	399	leftovers	0	399	49%	48%	48%	156	2	32	2	0	0	0	0	192	+/-20		
05A-13	34	200	199	leftovers	0	199	43%	48%	48%	0	9	81	5	0	0	0	0	95	+/-16		
06A-01	703	400	401	leftovers	0	401	53%	44%	44%	131	2	40	0	0	2	0	0	175	+/-18		
06A-13	27	100	99	leftovers	0	99	45%	49%	49%	0	7	37	4	0	0	0	0	48	+/-11		
07A-02	774	100	100	leftovers	0	100	48%	19%	19%	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	+/-8		
08A-02	50	100	100	leftovers	0	100	51%	33%	33%	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	+/-9		
10A-11	431	200	199	leftovers	0	199	45%	55%	55%	96	2	11	0	0	0	0	0	110	+/-15		
12A-02	17	100	100	leftovers	0	100	41%	32%	32%	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	+/-11		
13A-01	310	50	50	leftovers	0	50	56%	43%	43%	9	0	5	0	7	0	0	0	21	+/-6		
13A-11	500	500	500	leftovers	0	500	46%	38%	38%	135	2	50	4	0	0	0	0	192	+/-23		
13L-01	32	20	20	leftovers	0	20	75%	67%	67%	7	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	13	+/-2		
14A-01	355	50	50	leftovers	0	50	44%	45%	45%	14	0	2	0	5	0	2	0	23	+/-8		
14A-11	14	150	149	leftovers	0	149	40%	34%	34%	38	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	51	+/-14		
16A-01	259	30	30	leftovers	0	30	43%	62%	62%	2	0	0	0	14	0	2	0	18	+/-6		
16A-11	282	350	350	leftovers	0	350	46%	55%	55%	162	0	28	2	0	0	0	0	192	+/-20		
17A-11	3	200	200	leftovers	0	200	52%	33%	33%	63	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	65	+/-12		
18A-01	96	600	600	leftovers	0	600	42%	50%	50%	255	2	39	2	2	0	0	0	301	+/-29		
18A-13	80	200	200	leftovers	0	200	45%	41%	41%	0	4	78	0	0	0	0	0	82	+/-15		
19A-02	1	100	100	leftovers	0	100	55%	22%	22%	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	+/-7		
22A-01	42	600	600	leftovers	1	601	44%	43%	43%	209	9	41	2	0	0	0	0	261	+/-27		
22A-13	126	300	300	leftovers	0	300	46%	36%	36%	0	13	85	9	0	0	0	0	107	+/-18		
23A-01	234	500	499	leftovers	0	499	45%	44%	44%	185	4	25	4	0	0	0	0	218	+/-24		
23A-13	204	100	100	leftovers	0	100	41%	37%	37%	0	2	34	0	0	0	0	0	37	+/-11		
25A-11	452	150	150	leftovers	0	150	39%	19%	19%	18	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	28	+/-12		
26A-01	817	500	500	leftovers	0	500	43%	64%	64%	300	5	12	2	0	0	0	0	319	+/-24		
26A-13	40	200	200	leftovers	0	200	38%	50%	50%	0	5	95	0	0	0	0	0	100	+/-18		
28A-01	271	600	601	leftovers	0	601	42%	55%	55%	297	7	24	0	5	0	0	0	333	+/-28		
28A-13	924	400	397	leftovers	0	397	37%	35%	40%	0	11	150	13	0	0	0	0	175	+/-26		
29A-01	16	400	399	leftovers	0	399	47%	51%	51%	171	6	23	2	0	0	0	0	203	+/-21		
29A-13	586	100	100	leftovers	0	100	38%	53%	53%	0	11	39	3	0	0	0	0	53	+/-13		
32A-01	10	600	598	leftovers	0	598	45%	41%	41%	175	7	58	7	0	0	0	0	246	+/-26		
32A-13	201	100	99	leftovers	1	100	40%	40%	40%	0	5	33	3	0	0	0	0	40	+/-12		
33A-01	3	10	11	leftovers	0	11	73%	25%	25%	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	+/-2		
33A-11	728	300	299	leftovers	0	299	52%	60%	60%	153	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	179	+/-16		
34A-02	19	150	150	leftovers	0	150	49%	40%	40%	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	+/-12		
36A-01	590	150	151	leftovers	0	151	52%	62%	62%	38	0	6	0	44	2	2	2	94	+/-11		
36A-11	11	250	250	leftovers	0	250	51%	50%	50%	109	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	125	+/-15		
37A-02	629	100	99	leftovers	0	99	61%	27%	27%	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	+/-7		
38A-01	25	10	10	leftovers	0	10	40%	75%	75%	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	+/-3		
38A-11	668	300	293	leftovers	0	293	43%	57%	57%	150	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	166	+/-19		
40A-11	17	200	200	leftovers	0	200	53%	43%	43%	69	4	13	0	0	0	0	0	86	+/-13		
42A-01	76	500	500	leftovers	1	501	49%	41%	41%	183	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	206	+/-22		
42A-13	479	200	200	leftovers	0	200	45%	43%	43%	0	4	70	11	0	0	0	0	85	+/-15		
43A-01	318	300	300	leftovers	0	300	53%	46%	46%	114	2	19	4	0	0	0	0	139	+/-16		
43A-13	4	100	100	leftovers	0	100	45%	40%	40%	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	40	+/-11		
44A-02	282	100	101	leftovers	0	101	51%	23%	23%	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	+/-8		
46A-01	227	250	252	leftovers	0	252	48%	40%	40%	85	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	102	+/-16		
47A-01	344	500	499	leftovers	0	499	42%	57%	57%	260	2	12	2	5	0	0	0	282	+/-26		
47A-13	61	400	398	leftovers	0	398	44%	41%	43%	0	18	142	21	0	0	0	0	181	+/-23		
48A-01	263	500	500	leftovers	0	500	50%	45%	45%	177	8	30	8	2	0	0	0	226	+/-22		
48A-13	328	50	50	leftovers	0	50	38%	47%	47%	0	8	13	3	0	0	0	0	24	+/-9		
51A-01	4	400	400	leftovers	0	400	48%	47%	47%	147	2	37	0	0	0	0	0	187	+/-20		
51A-13	812	350	350	leftovers	0	350	46%	33%	33%	0	18	88	9	0	0	0	0	114	+/-19		
52A-01	30	300	298	leftovers	1	299	46%	39%	39%	91	4	22	0	0	0	0	0	117	+/-18		
52A-13	633	100	100	leftovers	0	100	50%	28%	28%	0	0	26	2	0	0	0	0	28	+/-9		
54A-01	22	50	53	leftovers	0	53	57%	43%	43%	16	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	23	+/-6		
54A-11	382	400	400	leftovers	0	400	47%	52%	52%	180	0	26	2	0	0	0	0	207	+/-21		
55A-01	638	500	498	leftovers	1	499	46%	47%	47%	193	2	37	2	0	0	0	0	234	+/-24		
55A-13	42	50	50	leftovers	0	50	50%	48%	48%	0	2	22	0	0	0	0	0	24	+/-7		
56A-11	673	250	250	leftovers	0	250	53%	37%	37%	80	2	11	0	0	0	0	0	94	+/-14		
57A-01	21	700	699	leftovers	0	699	43%	40%	40%	221	0	54	5	0	0	2	0	282	+/-29		
57A-13	633	200	198	leftovers	1	199	40%	44%	44%	0	5	77	5	0	0	0	0	87	+/-17		
59A-01	10	100	100	leftovers	0	100	65%	66%	66%	23	0	0	0	41	0	2	0	66	+/-7		
59A-11	535	75	75	leftovers	0	75	67%	54%	54%	36	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	41	+/-6		
59B-01	32	20	20	leftovers	0	20	35%	43%	43%	6	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	9	+/-6		
59B-11	504	75	75	leftovers	0	75	53%	49%	49%	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	+/-8		
61A-02	30	100	97	leftovers	0	97	54%	27%	27%	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	+/-8		
62A-02	161	100	100	leftovers	0	100	51%	41%	41%	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	+/-9		
63A-01	366	50	53	leftovers	0	53	53%	57%	57%	17	0	0	2	11	0	0	0	30	+/-7		
63A-11	711																				

East River Deer Regular Season 1975-2025

(does not include Special Buck or Landowner Own Land)



2025 East River Landowner Own Land Harvest Projections

Last Revised: 11-Mar-26

Last Revised: 11-Mar-26

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						
ER1-01	Unltd	3,637		128	3,765	32%	31%	31%	966	16	168	3	13	0	0	3	1,168	-	-			
ER1-08	Unltd	4,199	250	117	8,632	31%	45%	29%	1,374	72	935	79	33	0	16	0	2,509	-	-			
Totals		7,836	250	245	12,397	31.5%	38%	30%	2,340	88	1,103	82	45	0	16	3	3,677	4.46	4.40			

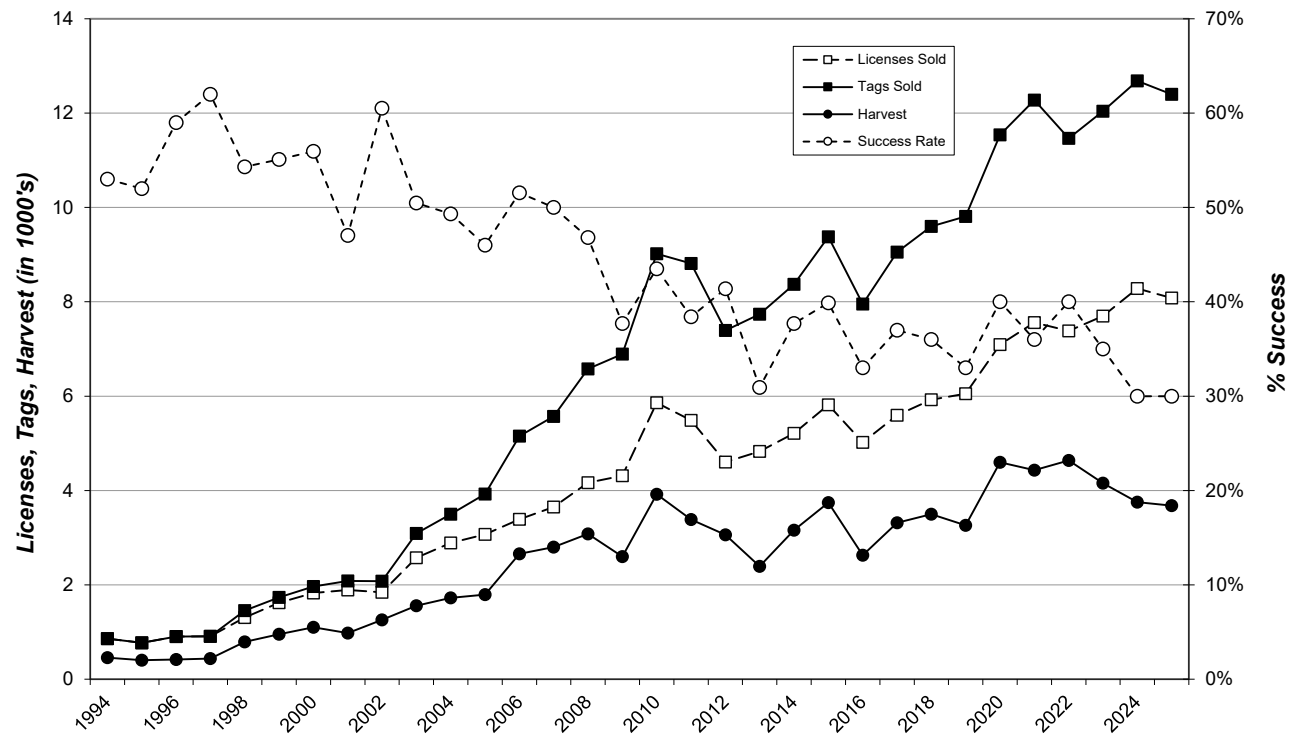
2025 East River LOL Harvest Distribution

Last Revised:
12-Mar-26

Last Revised: 12-Mar-26	Projected Harvest										
	Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total		
	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does				
	Unit	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Estimate	%
01A (Minnehaha)	74	3	55	0	0	0	0	0	133	3.6%	
03A (Brown)	81	0	52	0	0	0	0	0	133	3.6%	
04A (Beadle)	136	7	72	26	0	0	0	0	240	6.5%	
05A (Codington)	78	3	36	3	0	0	0	0	120	3.3%	
06A (Brookings)	74	0	49	3	0	0	0	0	127	3.4%	
07A (Yankton)	23	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	32	0.9%	
08A (Davison)	45	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	62	1.7%	
10A (Aurora)	61	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	88	2.4%	
12A (Bon Homme)	26	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	45	1.2%	
13A (Brule)	42	0	16	3	6	0	3	0	71	1.9%	
14A (Buffalo)	6	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	13	0.4%	
16A (Campbell)	32	0	10	0	3	0	0	0	45	1.2%	
17A (Charles Mix)	110	10	26	3	3	0	0	0	152	4.1%	
18A (Clark)	97	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	143	3.9%	
19A (Clay)	13	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	29	0.8%	
22A (Day)	65	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	94	2.6%	
23A (Deuel)	36	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	62	1.7%	
25A (Douglas)	16	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.5%	
26A (Edmunds)	48	3	20	0	0	0	0	0	71	1.9%	
28A (Faulk)	52	7	33	0	3	0	3	0	97	2.6%	
29A (Grant)	68	3	33	0	0	0	0	0	104	2.8%	
32A (Hamlin)	32	3	42	7	0	0	0	0	85	2.3%	
33A (Hand)	90	0	20	7	6	0	0	0	123	3.3%	
34A (Hanson)	42	3	10	3	0	0	0	0	58	1.6%	
36A (Hughes)	23	0	10	0	6	0	3	0	42	1.1%	
37A (Hutchinson)	36	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	45	1.2%	
38A (Hyde)	36	0	20	0	3	0	3	0	62	1.7%	
40A (Jerauld)	42	0	33	7	0	0	0	0	81	2.2%	
42A (Kingsbury)	78	0	29	0	3	0	0	0	110	3.0%	
43A (Lake)	36	3	29	0	0	0	0	0	68	1.9%	
44A (Lincoln)	19	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	26	0.7%	
46A (McCook)	65	3	16	0	0	0	0	0	84	2.3%	
47A (McPherson)	61	10	39	0	3	0	0	0	114	3.1%	
48A (Marshall)	45	0	16	3	0	0	0	3	68	1.8%	
51A (Miner)	90	3	33	3	0	0	0	0	130	3.5%	
52A (Moody)	58	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	78	2.1%	
54A (Potter)	26	3	16	0	0	0	0	0	45	1.2%	
55A (Roberts)	145	13	52	3	0	0	0	0	214	5.8%	
56A (Sanborn)	52	3	39	3	0	0	3	0	101	2.7%	
57A (Spink)	78	0	42	3	0	0	0	0	123	3.4%	
59A (W Sully)	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	10	0.3%	
59B (E Sully)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.1%	
61A (Turner)	13	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	19	0.5%	
62A (Union)	42	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	45	1.2%	
63A (Walworth)	39	0	20	3	0	0	0	0	62	1.7%	
TOTALS	2,340	88	1,103	82	45	0	16	3	3,677		

Use these figures for approximations only!

Landowner Own Land East River Deer 1994-2025



2025 East River Special Buck Harvest Projections

Last Revised:

04-Mar-26

Last Revised: 04-Mar-26						Harvest Projections								Total Deer Harvest	Mean Satisfactn Rating	Average Days Hunted
						Whitetail				Mule Deer						
						Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does				
Unit/Type	Appl. 1st Choice *	Resident Licenses Avail.	Sold	Response Rate	Tag Success	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn			
ER-01	1,096	500	499	56%	53%	234	2	7	2	18	0	2	0	265	4.63	5.25

ER-01	1,096	500	499	56%	53%	234	2	7	2	18	0	2	0	265	4.63	5.25
--------------	-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	-----	------	------

2025 East River Special Buck Harvest Distribution

Last Revised:

04-Mar-26

Last Revised: 04-Mar-26	Projected Harvest											
	Whitetail					Mule Deer						
	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does		Total			
	Unit	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Estimate	%	
01A (Minnehaha)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
03A (Brown)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.1%		
04A (Beadle)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%		
05A (Codyington)	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	13	4.7%		
06A (Brookings)	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	8.1%		
07A (Yankton)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
08A (Davison)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
10A (Aurora)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
12A (Bon Homme)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
13A (Brule)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
14A (Buffalo)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
16A (Campbell)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
17A (Charles Mix)	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
18A (Clark)	13	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	14	5.4%		
19A (Clay)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
22A (Day)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.7%		
23A (Deuel)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
25A (Douglas)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
26A (Edmunds)	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	5.4%		
28A (Faulk)	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	5.4%		
29A (Grant)	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	3.4%		
32A (Hamlin)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
33A (Hand)	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	3.4%		
34A (Hanson)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
36A (Hughes)	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	3.4%		
37A (Hutchinson)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
38A (Hyde)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
40A (Jerauld)	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
42A (Kingsbury)	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
43A (Lake)	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
44A (Lincoln)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%		
46A (McCook)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
47A (McPherson)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	4.1%		
48A (Marshall)	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	4.7%		
51A (Miner)	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
52A (Moody)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
54A (Potter)	5	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	9	3.4%		
55A (Roberts)	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	4.7%		
56A (Sanborn)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
57A (Spink)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.4%		
59A (W Sully)	5	0	0	0	5	0	2	0	13	4.7%		
59B (E Sully)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
61A (Turner)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
62A (Union)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.7%		
63A (Walworth)	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	5	2.0%		
TOTALS	234	2	7	2	18	0	2	0	265			

Use these figures for approximations only!