

MENTORED YOUTH DEER

There were 7,003 resident single-tag antlerless mentored youth deer licenses issued for 2024. All mentors/hunters that provided a valid email address were surveyed and 3,103 responses (44%) were received.

The Mentored Youth licenses were valid during the Youth Deer season which ran from September 14, 2024, through January 1, 2025. Respondents reported hunting an average of 4.32 days each, which projects to 30,233 recreation days for the season.

Projections for the season indicated that a total of 303 whitetail bucks, 2,825 whitetail does, 18 mule deer bucks, and 253 mule deer does were harvested. The estimated total harvest for the Mentored Youth Deer season was 3,398, and the overall success rate was 49%. The five deer management units with the highest reported harvest were the Black Hills, Minnehaha, Beadle, Roberts, and Hamlin.

The average satisfaction rating for those responding (1 being very dissatisfied and 7 very satisfied) was 5.21.

Summary for the 2015-2024 Mentored Youth Deer hunting seasons

YEAR	Licenses Sold	Harvest						Avg Days Hunted	Average Satisfctn
		Bucks		Does		Total	Success		
		WT	Mule	WT	Mule				
2015	3,646	261	25	1,556	243	2,086	57%	3.96	5.89
2016	3,646	287	30	1,495	301	2,114	58%	3.56	5.85
2017	4,069	230	31	1,567	320	2,147	53%	3.78	5.83
2018	5,357	324	51	2,335	439	2,824	53%	3.61	5.89
2019	5,715	348	45	2,123	417	2,932	51%	3.52	5.79
2020	6,387	371	21	2,772	472	3,636	57%	3.77	5.77
2021	6,207	301	5	2,446	226	2,977	48%	3.92	5.69
2022	6,723	320	5	2,525	301	3,150	47%	3.88	5.59
2023	6,985	328	2	2,630	225	3,185	46%	4.08	5.24
2024	7,003	303	18	2,825	253	3,398	49%	4.32	5.21

2024 Mentored Youth Deer Harvest Projections

Last Revised:

26-Mar-25

Last Revised:							Harvest Projections							Average	Avg
26-Mar-25	License	Licenses	Licenses Sold		Response	Tag	Whitetail			Mule Deer			Total	Satisfaction	Days
Unit	Holders	Available	Resident	Nonresident	Rate	Success	Bucks	Does	Doe Fawns	Bucks	Does	Doe Fawns	Harvest	Score **	Hunted
MHD-03	831	Unlimited	755	76	37%	65%	10	204	54	18	219	33	538	--	--
MHD-13	6,172	Unlimited	5,917	255	45%	46%	292	2218	350	0	0	0	2,860	--	--
Totals	7,003		6,672	331	44.3%	49%	303	2,422	403	18	219	33	3,398	5.21	4.32
** Refers to a satisfaction scale of 1=very dissatisfied to 7=very satisfied.															

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2024 Mentored Youth Deer Harvest Distribution by Management Unit

Last Revised:
26-Mar-25

Unit	Projected Harvest							
	Whitetail			Mule Deer			Total	
	Bucks	Does	Fawn	Bucks	Does	Fawn		
	Fawn	Adult		Fawn	Adult			
01A (Minnehaha)	22	122	25	0	0	0	169	5.0%
02A (NE Penn/SE Meade)	0	9	0	3	13	0	24	0.7%
02C (SE Pennington)	0	29	0	0	0	0	29	0.9%
03A (Brown)	4	60	13	0	0	0	78	2.3%
04A (Beadle)	4	78	2	0	0	0	85	2.5%
05A (Codington)	11	49	16	0	0	0	76	2.2%
06A (Brookings)	4	62	7	0	0	0	73	2.2%
07A (Yankton)	4	11	4	0	0	0	20	0.6%
08A (Davison)	7	18	4	0	0	0	29	0.9%
10A (Aurora)	2	22	7	0	0	0	31	0.9%
11A (N Bennett)	2	13	0	0	0	0	16	0.5%
11B (S Bennett)	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0.2%
12A (Bon Homme)	0	22	2	0	0	0	24	0.7%
13A (Brule)	4	31	7	0	0	0	42	1.2%
13L (Brule GPA's/Corps)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
14A (Buffalo)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
15A (Butte)	2	20	9	3	23	3	59	1.7%
15B (SW Butte/Lawrence)	4	33	16	3	10	3	69	2.0%
16A (Campbell)	2	4	9	0	0	0	16	0.5%
17A (Charles Mix)	2	24	7	0	0	0	33	1.0%
18A (Clark)	0	65	7	0	0	0	71	2.1%
19A (Clay)	4	13	0	0	0	0	18	0.5%
20A (Corson)	0	18	4	0	0	0	22	0.7%
21A (E Custer/S Penn)	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0.3%
21B (C Custer/C Penn)	2	4	0	0	0	0	7	0.2%
22A (Day)	18	51	11	0	0	0	80	2.4%
23A (Deuel)	2	36	0	0	0	0	38	1.1%
24A (Dewey)	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0.1%
24B (Little Moreau)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
25A (Douglas)	0	11	2	0	0	0	13	0.4%
26A (Edmunds)	11	49	11	0	0	0	71	2.1%
27A (NW FRiver/SW Cust)	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0.1%
27B (Fall River)	4	20	2	0	0	0	27	0.8%
27L (Hill Ranch Area)	0	9	2	0	0	0	11	0.3%
28A (Faulk)	7	36	7	0	0	0	49	1.4%
29A (Grant)	20	44	0	0	0	0	64	1.9%
30A,B (Gregory)	2	58	4	0	0	0	65	1.9%
31A (Haakon)	0	24	0	0	33	5	63	1.8%
32A (Hamlin)	9	116	16	0	0	0	140	4.1%
33A (Hand)	4	31	4	0	0	0	40	1.2%
34A (Hanson)	4	18	2	0	0	0	24	0.7%
35A (W Harding)	0	9	0	0	33	3	45	1.3%
35C (E Harding)	0	11	0	3	10	5	29	0.9%
35L (Custer Nat Forest)	0	0	2	0	10	0	12	0.4%
36A (Hughes)	4	11	4	0	0	0	20	0.6%
37A (Hutchinson)	9	7	7	0	0	0	22	0.7%
38A (Hyde)	0	22	0	0	0	0	22	0.7%
39A (N Jackson)	0	13	4	0	0	0	18	0.5%
39B (S Jackson)	2	7	2	0	0	0	11	0.3%
40A (Jerauld)	2	22	2	0	0	0	27	0.8%
41A (Jones)	0	20	4	0	0	0	24	0.7%
42A (Kingsbury)	7	65	4	0	0	0	76	2.2%
43A (Lake)	2	44	4	0	0	0	51	1.5%
44A (Lincoln)	4	29	9	0	0	0	42	1.2%
45A (W Lyman)	0	18	2	0	0	0	20	0.6%
45B (E Lyman)	0	4	2	0	0	0	7	0.2%
45C (NE Lyman/SE Stanley)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
45D (Ft Pr Nat GrsInd)	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0.3%
46A (McCook)	4	49	9	0	0	0	62	1.8%
47A (McPherson)	2	16	7	0	0	0	24	0.7%
48A (Marshall)	2	31	0	0	0	0	33	1.0%
49A (W Meade)	0	42	11	0	18	3	74	2.2%
49B (NE Meade)	0	2	2	5	13	5	27	0.8%
50A,B (Mellette)	2	13	2	0	0	0	18	0.5%
51A (Miner)	4	29	11	0	0	0	45	1.3%
52A (Moody)	7	27	9	0	0	0	42	1.2%
53A (N Perkins)	2	11	4	0	23	8	48	1.4%
53C (S Perkins)	0	16	0	3	15	0	33	1.0%
54A (Potter)	2	29	2	0	0	0	33	1.0%
55A (Roberts)	15	60	9	0	0	0	84	2.5%
56A (Sanborn)	0	24	0	0	0	0	24	0.7%
57A (Spink)	9	36	2	0	0	0	47	1.4%
58A (Stanley)	2	18	0	0	0	0	20	0.6%
59A (W Sully)	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0.1%
59B (E Sully)	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	0.3%
60A (Tripp)	2	13	4	0	0	0	20	0.6%
61A (Turner)	2	24	2	0	0	0	29	0.9%
62A (Union)	7	27	7	0	0	0	40	1.2%
63A (Walworth)	7	7	2	0	0	0	16	0.5%
64A (Ziebach)	0	0	2	0	18	0	20	0.6%
65A (Oglala Lakota)	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.1%
67A (Todd)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
BH (Black Hills)	33	405	65	0	0	0	503	14.8%
TOTALS	303	2,422	403	18	219	33	3,398	

Use these figures for approximations only!

Mentored Youth Deer 2008-2024

