

WEST RIVER FIREARM DEER

There were 24,180 licenses issued for the 2024 West River Firearm Deer season (19,388 regular, 1,997 Special Buck, and 2,795 Landowner Own Land Only) for a total of 33,342 tags.

The West River season was open 16 days from November 16 – December 1 in most units. Unit 30A in Gregory County was open from November 9-12 and Nov. 25 – December 1. The season was also open from December 14-22 for all unfilled antlerless deer tags.

All hunters who provided a valid email address were surveyed using Survey123 Software for the regular West River season, the West River Special Buck season, and Landowner Own Land Only licenses. Final response rates were 48% for regular West River Deer, 28% for Landowner Own Land, and 57% for Special Buck.

Respondents reported hunting an average of 3.54 days in the regular West River season, 4.28 days for Landowner, and 3.68 days in the Special Buck. These averages project to a total of 85,492 recreation days for all West River firearm deer seasons.

The West River projected deer harvest was 12,506 for the regular season, 1,728 for Landowner Own Land, and 1,437 for the Special Buck licenses. Success rates were 46% for the regular season, 41% for landowner, and 72% for Special Buck.

The mean satisfaction score for those responding to the regular West River season was 4.63 (1 being very dissatisfied and 7 very satisfied).

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

YEAR	Licenses Sold				Harvest					Tag Success	Avg Days	Avg Satis
	Resident		Nonres		Bucks		Does					
	Lics	Tags	Lics	Tags	WT	Mule	WT	Mule	Total			
2015	20,417	23,405	2,394	2,547	9,091	3,673	2,521	246	15,528	60%	3.12	5.27
2016	21,974	28,565	2,510	3,086	8,789	3,885	3,805	354	16,384	53%	3.33	5.13
2017	21,310	26,057	2,322	2,679	7,977	4,384	3,224	399	15,984	56%	3.28	5.05
2018	21,389	26,184	2,337	2,691	7,731	4,200	3,270	427	15,628	54%	3.38	5.10
2019	20,864	28,342	2,028	2,592	7,717	3,800	3,732	423	15,672	51%	3.09	5.18
2020	21,733	29,434	2,380	2,872	9,147	4,033	4,621	454	18,255	56%	3.46	5.30
2021	23,028	33,731	2,745	3,679	8,514	3,846	5,366	556	18,282	49%	3.50	5.12
2022	23,671	34,621	2,796	3,738	7,864	3,893	5,317	568	17,642	46%	3.51	4.69
2023	21,413	29,884	2,585	3,528	7,589	3,473	3,661	468	15,190	46%	3.60	4.55
2024	21,525	30,001	2,562	3,206	7,583	3,662	3,917	509	15,670	47%	3.64	4.63

2024 West River Deer Antlerless Harvest by Date

	Total	Nov 16 - Dec 1	Dec 14 - 22
Reports	1,954	1,624	330
Percent of total		83%	17%
Projected	4,236	3,521	715

2024 West River Deer Harvest Projections

Last Revised:

10-Apr-25

Unit/Type		Licenses										Harvest Projections									
		Resident					Nonresident					Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total	
		Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Tags sold	Response Rate	Success 1st tag	2nd tag	Success Hunter	Bucks Adult	Fawn	Does Adult	Fawn	Bucks Adult	Fawn	Does Adult	Fawn	Harvest
02A-01	630	400	404	113	32	32	436	49%	66%		66%	99	2	6	0	173	0	8	0	288	+/-20
02A-18	42	200	199	19	16	16	430	48%	69%	32%	69%	125	15	69	8	0	0	0	0	217	+/-30
02C-01	450	100	104	104	8	8	112	69%	68%		68%	7	0	0	0	68	0	0	0	76	+/-7
02C-11	25	50	50	5	4	4	54	65%	46%		46%	22	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	25	+/-5
11A-01	175	125	125	17	10	10	135	59%	65%		65%	44	0	7	0	30	0	7	0	88	+/-9
11A-11	9	50	50	2	4	4	54	45%	58%		58%	29	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	31	+/-8
11B-01	116	50	51	21	4	4	55	64%	43%		43%	14	0	0	0	8	0	2	0	24	+/-5
11B-11	28	75	75	9	6	6	81	46%	59%		59%	42	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	48	+/-9
15A-01	650	200	204	144	16	16	220	53%	69%		69%	46	0	0	0	98	2	6	0	151	+/-13
15A-18	421	600	600	78	48	48	1,296	44%	70%	32%	70%	393	29	196	41	0	0	0	0	659	+/-56
15A-19P	12	400	391	18	32	35	852	36%	52%	31%	52%	0	24	278	54	0	0	0	0	357	+/-53
15B-01	221	150	150	32	12	11	161	56%	64%		64%	52	0	5	0	43	0	4	0	104	+/-11
15B-18	276	400	399	45	32	32	862	49%	67%	33%	67%	263	8	152	6	0	0	0	0	429	+/-42
15B-19P	23	200	200	7	16	16	432	42%	58%	42%	58%	0	29	160	25	0	0	0	0	214	+/-33
20A-01	392	150	151	86	12	12	163	54%	67%		67%	36	0	2	0	62	0	7	2	109	+/-11
20A-03	3	50	50	0	4	4	54	48%	54%		54%	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	4	29	+/-7
20A-18	121	400	402	52	32	30	864	43%	51%	17%	51%	171	5	90	25	0	0	0	0	291	+/-44
20A-19	6	100	97	2	8	9	212	40%	28%		29%	0	5	32	7	0	0	0	0	43	+/-19
21A-01	517	100	102	82	8	8	110	53%	78%		78%	23	0	2	0	57	0	4	0	85	+/-8
21A-11	236	200	199	32	16	16	215	44%	61%		61%	115	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	131	+/-16
21A-13P	1	50	50	0	4	4	54	39%	62%		62%	0	0	28	5	0	0	0	0	33	+/-9
21B-01	93	50	50	20	4	4	54	48%	69%		69%	15	0	2	0	19	0	2	0	37	+/-7
21B-11	60	50	50	2	4	4	54	57%	65%		65%	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	+/-6
24A-01	286	100	100	44	8	8	108	47%	68%		68%	13	0	2	0	56	0	2	0	73	+/-10
24A-11	62	250	249	26	20	20	269	47%	47%		47%	115	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	126	+/-17
24A-13	0	100	98	3	8	10	108	42%	49%		51%	0	4	44	7	0	0	0	0	55	+/-12
24B-11	47	10	10	11	1	1	11	73%	100%		100%	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	+/-0
24B-13	2	10	10	1	1	1	11	73%	75%		75%	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	8	+/-2
27A-01	372	125	124	85	10	10	134	69%	59%		59%	26	0	1	0	51	0	0	0	79	+/-8
27A-11	39	50	50	7	4	4	54	30%	69%		69%	27	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	37	+/-10
27A-13P	4	25	25	0	2	1	26	58%	27%		27%	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	7	+/-4
27B-01	427	200	199	98	16	16	215	54%	69%		69%	46	0	0	0	97	0	6	0	149	+/-12
27B-11	62	125	125	23	10	10	135	48%	57%		57%	73	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	77	+/-12
27B-13	10	50	50	1	4	4	54	50%	26%		26%	0	0	12	2	0	0	0	0	14	+/-6
27B-13P	2	50	49	0	4	4	53	45%	50%		50%	0	2	22	2	0	0	0	0	26	+/-8
27L-01	33	5	6	18	1	1	7	100%	71%		71%	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	+/-0
27L-11	39	10	10	17	1	1	11	64%	86%		86%	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9	+/-2
30A-01	138	25	26	21	2	2	28	50%	43%		43%	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	12	+/-5
30A-18	461	600	598	78	48	46	1,288	45%	35%	7%	35%	150	14	98	7	0	0	0	0	268	+/-45
30A-19	3	200	192	3	16	22	428	41%	19%	8%	19%	0	12	41	2	0	0	0	0	55	+/-23
30A-19P	1	100	94	1	8	15	218	32%	27%	10%	29%	0	0	41	3	0	0	0	0	44	+/-23
30B-01	81	25	26	16	2	2	28	36%	30%		30%	6	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	8	+/-6
30B-18	449	600	602	73	48	47	1,298	48%	44%	9%	44%	220	4	114	4	0	0	0	0	343	+/-46
30B-19	9	200	188	1	16	28	432	44%	28%	16%	30%	0	11	77	15	0	0	0	0	103	+/-28
30B-19P	3	100	79	0	8	30	218	51%	46%	36%	46%	0	4	85	11	0	0	0	0	99	+/-17
31A-01	743	600	602	130	48	47	649	56%	66%		66%	155	0	11	0	252	4	7	2	431	+/-21
31A-08	84	50	50	12	4	4	108	46%	84%	60%	84%	13	0	17	0	24	4	13	6	78	+/-14
31A-11	15	100	100	12	8	8	108	52%	54%		54%	48	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	58	+/-10
31A-19	9	100	100	4	8	8	216	50%	44%	28%	44%	0	10	58	10	0	0	0	0	78	+/-20
35A-01	659	300	299	229	24	26	325	61%	65%		65%	46	0	0	0	149	0	13	3	212	+/-13
35A-11	11	100	99	16	8	9	108	52%	59%		59%	58	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	64	+/-10
35A-18	20	50	50	6	5	4	108	61%	61%	21%	61%	31	2	10	2	0	0	0	0	44	+/-11
35A-19P	5	75	75	1	6	6	162	40%	63%	33%	66%	0	2	59	22	0	0	0	0	84	+/-22
35C-01	486	200	202	136	16	16	218	52%	77%		77%	39	0	6	2	120	0	2	0	168	+/-12
35C-03P	2	50	49	0	4	4	53	40%	38%		38%	0	0	8	0	0	0	10	3	20	+/-9
35C-11	32	100	100	8	8	8	108	50%	43%		43%	44	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	46	+/-10
35C-18	27	50	50	4	4	4	108	54%	59%	28%	59%	32	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	47	+/-13
35C-19P	0	75	75	3	6	6	162	38%	54%	32%	57%	0	2	66	10	0	0	0	0	78	+/-22
35L-01	705	100	100	315	8	9	109	66%	72%		72%	15	0	0	0	61	0	2	0	78	+/-7
39A-01	384	175	179	54	14	13	192	52%	70%		70%	46	0	2	0	77	0	8	2	134	+/-12
39A-11	48	100	99	19	8	8	107	52%	54%		54%	55	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	57	+/-10
39A-13	1	50	50	0	4	4	54	50%	37%		37%	0	0	18	2	0	0	0	0	20	+/-7
39B-01	247	275	275	44	22	21	296	50%	65%		65%	92	2	4	0	88	0	6	0	192	+/-16
39B-11	3	50	50	3	4	4	54	56%	43%		43%	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	+/-6
39B-13	1	50	50	1	4	4	54	57%	64%		65%	0	1	33	1	0	0	0	0	36	+/-5
41A-01	282	200	201	40	16	16	217	51%	63%		63%	93	0	4	2	37	0	0	0	136	+/-14
41A-11	16	300	300	24	24	24	324	35%	46%		46%	133	3	18	3	0	0	0	0	156	+/-23
45A-01	240	100	102	29	8	8	110	56%	54%		54%	27									

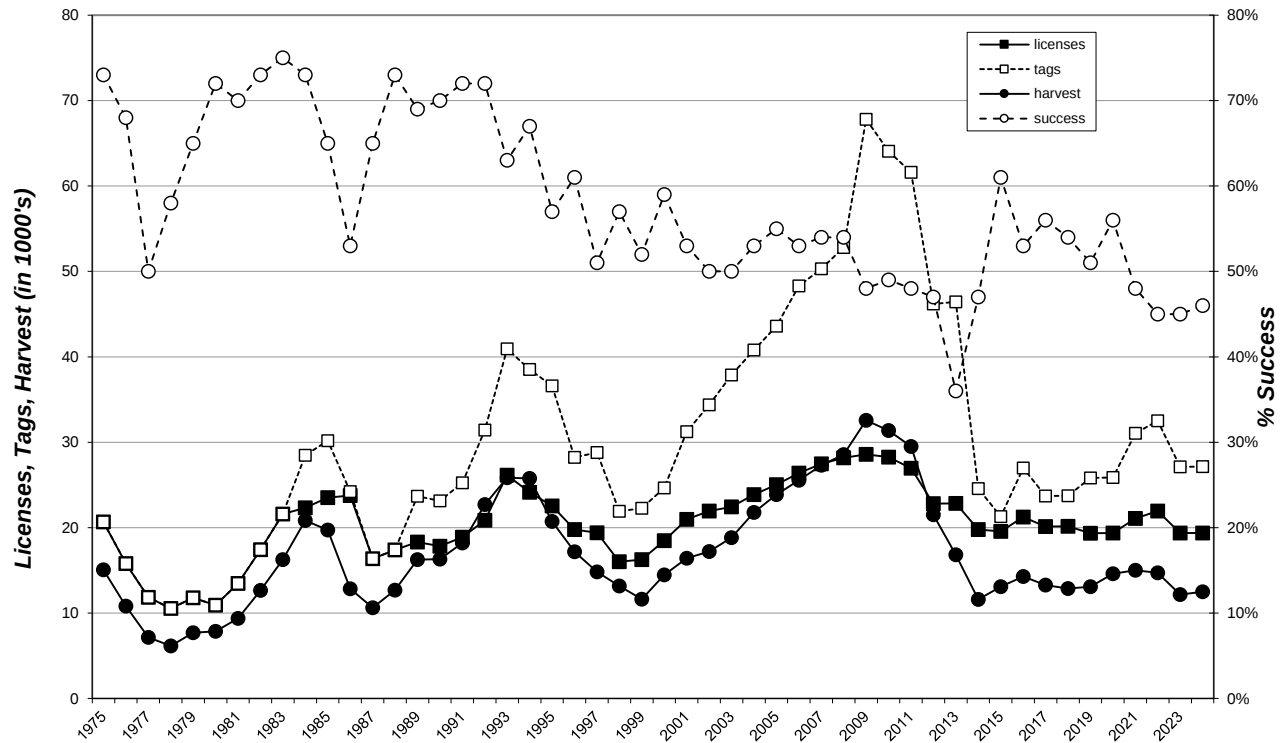
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Last Revised: 10-Apr-25	Licenses										Harvest Projections													
	Resident					Nonresident					Whitetail								Mule Deer				Total	
	Unit/Type	Appl. 1st Choice *		Avail.	Sold	Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Tags sold	Response	Success		Hunter	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does		Deer Harvest	CI (95%)	
		1st tag	2nd tag								Adult	Fawn		Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn					
53A-01	933	400	405	297	32	32	437	54%	64%	64%	64%	64%	83	0	2	0	184	0	9	0	278	+/-18		
53A-09P	9	75	75	1	6	6	162	49%	62%	41%	62%	0	0	23	2	0	0	46	12	83	+/-18			
53A-18	128	250	249	70	20	21	540	54%	63%	29%	63%	159	6	72	11	0	0	0	0	248	+/-30			
53A-19P	2	100	100	3	8	8	216	42%	53%	37%	53%	0	7	73	18	0	0	0	0	98	+/-24			
53C-01	649	500	500	135	40	40	540	48%	73%		73%	161	0	4	2	206	2	15	2	392	+/-21			
53C-09P	5	75	75	0	6	5	160	41%	65%	48%	64%	0	0	33	7	0	0	44	2	86	+/-21			
53C-18	63	250	250	36	20	19	538	50%	67%	28%	67%	155	8	78	16	0	0	0	0	257	+/-32			
53C-19P	1	100	77	2	8	31	216	47%	60%	38%	63%	0	15	97	11	0	0	0	0	124	+/-20			
58A-01	506	150	150	82	12	12	162	57%	75%		75%	33	0	2	0	85	0	2	0	121	+/-9			
58A-13	5	50	50	2	4	4	54	43%	30%		30%	0	5	9	2	0	0	0	0	16	+/-8			
58A-18	117	150	150	12	12	12	324	56%	53%	18%	53%	73	5	28	7	0	0	0	0	114	+/-21			
58D-01	5	5	5	1	1	1	6	83%	60%		60%	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	+/-1			
58D-13	0	3	3	0	1	1	4	0%	0%		0%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-			
60A-01	422	100	100	49	8	8	108	54%	60%		60%	41	0	4	2	19	0	0	0	65	+/-9			
60A-13	7	250	217	8	20	54	271	38%	29%		34%	0	2	79	9	0	0	0	0	90	+/-18			
60A-18	450	1,000	998	107	80	81	2,158	43%	47%	13%	47%	368	32	239	7	0	0	0	0	646	+/-67			
64A-01	308	250	250	68	20	20	270	49%	76%		76%	65	4	10	2	119	2	2	0	205	+/-14			
64A-11	2	100	97	10	8	8	105	55%	47%		47%	48	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	50	+/-9			
64A-19P	1	50	47	1	4	4	102	39%	44%	22%	45%	0	2	26	2	0	0	0	0	31	+/-16			
65A-01	42	75	75	12	6	6	81	44%	67%		67%	25	0	2	0	27	0	0	0	54	+/-9			
67A-01	87	100	99	17	8	8	107	44%	39%		39%	21	2	5	0	14	0	0	0	42	+/-11			
67A-11	14	100	97	3	8	10	107	36%	24%		24%	21	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	24	+/-11			
67A-13	2	100	93	2	8	16	109	35%	31%		29%	0	2	22	2	0	0	0	0	27	+/-12			
Totals	17,718	17,998	17,822	3,963	1,441	1,566	27,139	48.3%			57%	5,495	307	3,174	403	2,774	18	294	39	12,506	+/-1,678			
* Number of 1st drawing applicants with that season as 1st choice.																								

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

West River Deer Regular Season 1975-2024

(does not include Special Buck or Landowner Own Land)



2024 West River Landowner Own Land Harvest Projections

Last Revised: 10-Apr-25

									Harvest Projections								Total Deer Harvest	Mean Satisfactn Rating	Average Days Hunted				
									Resident Licenses		Nonresident Licenses		Whitetail							Mule Deer			
									Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	Bucks	Does	Bucks	Does				Bucks	Does	Bucks	Does
Unit/Type	Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	Tags sold	Response Rate	Hunter Success	Tag Success	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Harvest	Rating	Hunted				
WR1-01	Unitd	1,333	Unitd	51	1,384	29%	45%	45%	392	0	14	4	210	0	7	0	628	-	-				
WR1-08	Unitd	1,369	Unitd	42	2,822	27%	55%	39%	406	15	296	15	197	8	156	8	1,100	-	-				
Totals		2,702		93	4,206	28.0%	50%	41%	798	15	310	19	408	8	163	8	1,728	4.72	4.28				

2024 West River LOL Harvest Distribution

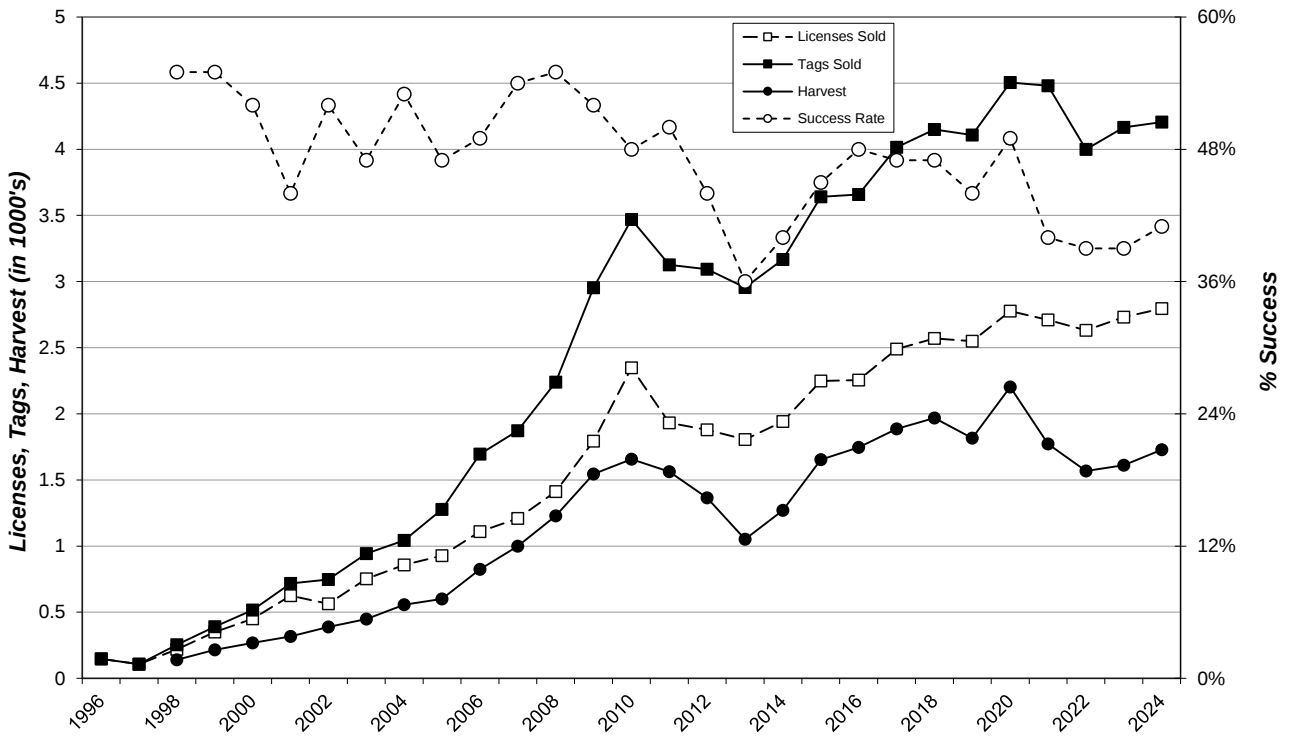
Last Revised:

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
02A (NE Penn/SE Meade)	15	0	19	0	11	4	11	0	60	3.5%
02C (SE Pennington)	7	0	4	0	7	0	0	0	18	1.1%
11A (N Bennett)	15	0	0	0	4	0	8	0	26	1.5%
11B (S Bennett)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
15A (Butte)	44	0	30	0	18	0	4	0	97	5.6%
15B (SW Butte/Lawrence)	37	0	4	0	7	0	4	0	52	3.0%
20A (Corson)	29	0	8	0	22	4	15	0	78	4.5%
21A (E Custer/S Penn)	44	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	51	3.0%
21B (C Custer/C Penn)	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	7	0.4%
24A (Dewey)	7	0	4	7	18	0	11	0	48	2.8%
27A (NW FRiver/SW Cust)	4	0	0	0	15	0	8	0	26	1.5%
27B (Fall River)	44	0	4	0	22	0	4	0	74	4.3%
30A,B (Gregory)	107	4	68	4	4	0	0	0	186	10.8%
31A (Haakon)	37	4	11	0	62	0	30	0	145	8.4%
35A (W Harding)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.2%
35C (E Harding)	0	0	8	0	4	0	4	0	15	0.9%
39A (N Jackson)	4	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	11	0.7%
39B (S Jackson)	7	0	8	0	11	0	4	0	30	1.7%
41A (Jones)	26	4	8	0	15	0	0	0	52	3.0%
45A (W Lyman)	26	4	19	4	15	0	0	0	67	3.9%
45B (E Lyman)	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	0.9%
45C (NE Lyman/SE Stanley)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.2%
45D (Ft Pr Nat Grslnd)	7	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	15	0.9%
49A (W Meade)	33	0	11	0	18	0	11	8	82	4.7%
49B (NE Meade)	29	0	4	0	26	0	8	0	66	3.8%
50A,B (Mellette)	22	0	26	0	18	0	0	0	67	3.9%
53A (N Perkins)	33	0	4	0	18	0	4	0	59	3.4%
53C (S Perkins)	4	0	8	0	22	0	4	0	37	2.1%
58A (Stanley)	48	0	8	0	33	0	23	0	111	6.4%
60A (Tripp)	129	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	155	9.0%
64A (Ziebach)	18	0	8	0	15	0	4	0	44	2.6%
65A (Oglala Lakota)	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	11	0.6%
67A (Todd)	7	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	15	0.9%
TOTALS	798	15	310	19	408	8	163	8	1,728	

Use these figures for approximations only!

Landowner Own Land West River Deer 1996-2024



2024 West River Special Buck Harvest Projections

Last Revised: 21-Mar-25

Unit/Type	Licenses							Harvest Projections								Total Deer	Mean Satisfactn Rating	Average Days Hunted		
	Resident			Nonresident				Response Rate	Tag Success	Whitetail				Mule Deer						
	Appl. 1st			Appl. 1st						Bucks		Does		Bucks					Does	
	Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Adult			Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult				Fawn	
	WR-01	966	500	500	1,020	500	499			59%	78%	315	0	0	0				453	2
WR-11	70	500	501	364	500	497	56%	66%	651	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	662	-	-	
Totals	1,036	1,000	1,001	1,384	1,000	996	57%	72%	966	0	11	0	453	2	5	0	1,437	5.38	3.68	

2024 West River Special Buck Harvest Distribution

Last Revised: 24-Mar-25	Projected Harvest									
	Whitetail				Mule Deer				Total	
	Bucks		Does		Bucks		Does			
	Unit	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn	Estimate
02A (NE Penn/SE Meade)	39	0	0	0	24	0	2	0	64	4.5%
02C (SE Pennington)	25	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	45	3.1%
11A (N Bennett)	18	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	23	1.6%
11B (S Bennett)	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	10	0.7%
15A (Butte)	53	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	62	4.3%
15B (SW Butte/Lawrence)	39	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	42	2.9%
20A (Corson)	37	0	2	0	27	0	0	0	66	4.6%
21A (E Custer/S Penn)	19	0	2	0	32	0	0	0	54	3.7%
21B (C Custer/C Penn)	14	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	18	1.2%
24A (Dewey)	34	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	54	3.8%
27A (NW FRiver/SW Cust)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.4%
27B (Fall River)	27	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	37	2.6%
30A,B (Gregory)	136	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	140	9.7%
31A (Haakon)	41	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	88	6.2%
35A (W Harding)	35	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	66	4.6%
35C (E Harding)	18	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	31	2.2%
39A (N Jackson)	12	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	24	1.7%
39B (S Jackson)	30	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	44	3.0%
41A (Jones)	55	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	74	5.1%
45A (W Lyman)	41	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	53	3.7%
45B (E Lyman)	25	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	32	2.2%
45C (NE Lyman/SE Stanley)	5	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	11	0.7%
45D (Ft Pr Nat Grslnd)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0.5%
49A (W Meade)	27	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	32	2.2%
49B (NE Meade)	14	0	0	0	7	0	2	0	23	1.6%
50A,B (Mellette)	42	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	58	4.0%
53A (N Perkins)	42	0	2	0	15	0	0	0	60	4.1%
53C (S Perkins)	28	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	40	2.8%
58A (Stanley)	25	0	0	0	44	2	2	0	72	5.0%
60A (Tripp)	37	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	44	3.1%
64A (Ziebach)	23	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	49	3.4%
65A (Oglala Lakota)	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	7	0.5%
67A (Todd)	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.2%
TOTALS	966	0	11	0	453	2	5	0	1,437	

Use these figures for approximations only!