

# 2025 DEER APPLICATIONS

West River | East River | Apprentice | Youth | Black Hills  
Custer State Park | Refuge | Muzzleloader | Resident Archery



## Page 4 WEST RIVER DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident and Nonresident  
*Application Deadline:* June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
*Season Dates:* November 15 - 30  
(Except Gregory County, see the unit description.)  
December 13-21 (Antlerless tags only)

## Page 8 BLACK HILLS DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident and Nonresident  
*Application Deadline:* June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
*Season Dates:* November 1 - 30

## Page 9 CUSTER STATE PARK DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident Only  
*Application Deadline:* June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
*Season Dates:* November 1 - 30

## Page 10 NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident and Nonresident  
*Application Deadline:* June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
*Season Dates:* See unit descriptions

## Page 11 MUZZLELOADER DEER

*Eligibility:* Any Deer - Resident Only  
Antlerless Deer - Resident and Nonresident  
*Application Deadline:* June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
Antlerless Deer - No Deadline, opens September 11  
*Season Dates:* December 1, 2025 - January 1, 2026

## Page 12 EAST RIVER DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident Only  
(Nonresidents may apply for leftover tags after 4th drawing is complete)  
*Application Deadline:* Residents - June 17, 8 a.m. CDT  
Nonresidents - Opens Sept. 11  
*Season Dates:* November 22-December 7  
December 13-21 (Antlerless tags only)

## Page 14 RESIDENT APPRENTICE DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident Only  
*Application Deadline:* No Deadline  
*Season Dates:* Sept. 13, 2025 - January 1, 2026

## Page 15 YOUTH DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident and Nonresident  
*Application Deadline:* No Deadline  
*Season Dates:* Sept. 13, 2025 - January 1, 2026

## Page 16 RESIDENT ARCHERY DEER

*Eligibility:* Resident Only  
*Application Deadline:* No Deadline  
*Season Dates:* Sept. 1, 2025 - January 1, 2026

**NOTE:** All applications must be submitted [online](https://gfp.sd.gov).

### REGULATIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF DEER CARCASSES:

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) has been detected in 23 counties including hunting units associated with the Black Hills, West River, East River, and Refuge deer hunting seasons. To help reduce the spread of CWD, carcass disposal regulations are in effect for all deer hunting seasons and units. **Before applying for licenses, applicants are encouraged to view and understand the CWD regulations.** See the CWD section of this application and visit [gfp.sd.gov/cwd-regulations](https://gfp.sd.gov/cwd-regulations) for more information.

**DEER APPLICATION:** All deer seasons available to the public are included in this application with exception of Landowner Own Land deer licenses Special Buck, Mentored Deer, and Nonresident Archery Deer, which are in separate applications. The Nonresident Archery Deer (Public and Private Land) and Special Buck first draw took place in April.

### HUNTER RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN HUNTING

**ACCESS:** Prior to applying for a license, a hunter is strongly encouraged to ensure they have access to hunting areas and understand potential game availability for those hunting areas and seasons. In addition to obtaining a license, a hunter must obtain permission if they wish to access private land. Access is not guaranteed on private land and hunters are also required to determine if the managing entity of public land expressly prohibits hunting. The Game, Fish and Parks Department is not responsible for ensuring hunting access for hunters simply because licenses are available. Hunters can call Game, Fish and Parks offices to learn more about hunting opportunities before applying for a license.

### APPLY ONLINE: [gfp.sd.gov](https://gfp.sd.gov)

Visit [gfp.sd.gov](https://gfp.sd.gov), click "Licenses," and then "Purchase License." From there, the system walks you through step by step. If you do not already have an account, you will be required to create one. You will begin by selecting a season to apply for and your first-choice hunting unit. Please note that you are required to provide a credit or debit card number to finish the transaction. Upon completion and submission of your application, you are then placed directly into the drawing for the unit you selected. Preference points are automatically included if you had any from previous years.

### DRAWING STATISTICS AVAILABLE:

Applicants may access last year's drawing results online at [gfp.sd.gov](https://gfp.sd.gov). The 2025 draw information will be available once the drawing is complete.

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

## Residency

To apply for a resident license, a person must:

- Have a domicile within South Dakota for at least 90 consecutive days immediately preceding the date of application for, purchasing, or attempting to purchase any hunting, fishing, or trapping license/permit. (A domicile is a person's established, fixed, and permanent home to which the person, whenever absent, has the present intention of returning), and
- Make no claim of residency in any other state or foreign country for any purpose, and
- Claim no resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in any other state or foreign country, and
- Prior to any application for any license, transfer to SD the person's driver's license and motor vehicle registrations.

*EXCEPTION: The following persons are eligible for resident licenses:*

- Any person who previously had a domicile in SD who is absent due to business of the United States or SD, or is serving in the armed forces of the US, or the spouse of an active-duty military person;
- Any person who previously had a domicile in SD who is absent due to regular attendance at a post-high school institution as a fulltime student or in a medical or dental residency program;
- Any person in the active military of the US or that person's spouse who is continuously stationed in SD;
- Any person who is a patient in any war veterans' hospital within SD;
- Any person who is an employee of the veterans' administration or any veterans' hospital in SD;
- Any person residing on restricted military reservations in SD;
- Any person attending regularly a post-high school institution in SD as a full-time student for 30 days or more immediately preceding the application;
- Any foreign exchange student over 16 years of age attending a public or private high school who has resided in the state for 30 days or more preceding the application;
- Any foreign exchange student who is between the ages of 12 and 16 who has completed the GFP course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms and has been issued a certificate of competency upon completion of instruction and who has resided in SD for 30 days or more preceding application for a license;
- Any person who is a minor dependent of a resident of SD

## Termination of Residency

A person (other than a person who fits into one of the previous EXCEPTIONS) is deemed to have terminated their South Dakota resident hunting, fishing, and trapping status if the person does any of the following:

- Applies for, purchases, or accepts a resident hunting, fishing, or trapping license issued by another state or foreign country;
- Registers to vote in another state or foreign country;
- Accepts a driver's license issued by another state or foreign country; or
- Moves to any other state or foreign country and makes it the person's domicile or makes any claim of residency for any purpose in the other state or foreign country;
- Resides in any other state, territory or country for an aggregate of 180 of more days in a calendar year.

However, a person who has lawfully acquired a resident hunting, fishing, or trapping license and who leaves the state after acquiring the license to take up residency elsewhere may continue to exercise all the privileges granted by the license until the license expires if the person's respective privileges are not revoked or suspended.

## Social Security Number

The last four digits of your Social Security Number are required. The Social Security Number information is required from all U.S. residents before this

application will be processed [SDCL 25-7A-56.2]. This information will be kept confidential. The information is required to be in compliance with state law on collection of delinquent child support payments.

*South Dakota law prohibits the issuance or renewal of any hunting or fishing license if an individual owes \$1,000 or more in past-due child support unless the individual enters into a repayment agreement with the Dept. of Social Services for payment of the delinquent child support [SDCL 25-7A-56; 25-7A-1(28)]. There is a requirement to enter into a repayment agreement with the Dept. of Social Services even if the individual is presently making child support payments, or if child support is being withheld from wages or income. To enter into the required repayment agreement, individuals must contact the Dept. of Social Services - Office of Child Support Enforcement, 700 Governor's Drive - Kneip Building, Pierre SD 57501, or call 605.773.6456.*

## Submitting Applications

Applications must be submitted online. If you do not have internet access, you can apply by calling 605.223.7660 or visiting any GFP Wildlife Division Office.

## Successful Applicants

Successful applicants for limited licenses are selected at random by computer lottery. Online applicants' credit/debit cards will be charged at the time of the drawing. If the license is not paid for by October 1, 2025, it will be removed from your profile and placed in the return draw. Any preference used to obtain the license will not be reinstated.

## Unsuccessful Applicants

Unsuccessful applicants who applied using a credit/debit card will be charged only if they chose to purchase a preference point.

## Preference Points

Seasons with a limited number of licenses have a preference point system for applicants who are unsuccessful on their first choice in the first drawing (\$5 for residents and \$10 for nonresidents). One preference point may be purchased each year the applicant is unsuccessful. Purchased preference points are automatically credited to an applicant for the following year. Preference points cannot be transferred to another person. Preference point use is mandatory for first choice in the first draw. Applicants can choose to use their preference points for second choices in subsequent draws. If a person chooses to use their preference points, and they are successful in drawing that license, they will lose all accumulated preference points for that season. If a person chooses not to use their preference points and are successful in drawing a license, they will not lose their preference points for that season. If you have any questions about your preference points, please contact the GFP Licensing Office at 605.223.7660.

Preference points for the combined deer drawings are free to youth age 15 or younger during the calendar year when the preference point is acquired. Applicants for a combined deer drawing that is or was age 15 or younger in the calendar year of the drawing (and has not previously been successful in a first-choice drawing) will receive a bonus preference point for the season applied for prior to the respective drawing taking place.

## Resident Landowner Preference

*(Applies only to West River, East River and Black Hills deer seasons)*

- One-half of the resident licenses for the seasons listed above are set aside for the first choice in the first drawing for residents who qualify for landowner preference.
- To be eligible for landowner preference, a landowner or tenant must operate at least 160 acres of private land within the unit applied for as first choice.
- "Operate" means: to lease or hold fee title to farm or ranch real property and be directly involved in the management decisions made for agricultural purposes on the farm or ranch.
- "Agricultural purposes" includes the producing, raising, growing,

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

or harvesting of food or fiber upon agricultural land, including dairy products, livestock, crops, timber, and grasslands.

- Land leased solely for hunting, fishing, or trapping does not qualify for landowner preference.
- A landowner or tenant, but not both, may claim landowner preference for the same qualifying property.
- Immediate family members are eligible and include the applicant's spouse and the applicant's children residing with the applicant.
- Employment on a farm or ranch alone does not qualify an individual for landowner preference.
- Shareholders of a corporation, members of a limited liability company holding a membership interest in the company, partners in a partnership, and beneficiaries of a trust entitled to the current income and assets held in trust; all organized and in good standing under the laws of South Dakota are eligible for landowner preference if:
  1. The entity holds title to 160 acres or more of private land located within the hunting unit applied for;
  2. The shareholder, member, partner, or trust beneficiary applying for landowner preference is a resident; and
  3. The shareholder, member, partner, or trust beneficiary has responsibility for making the day-to-day management decisions for agricultural purposes on the farm or ranch.
- Nonresident landowners do not qualify for this preference.

## Age Eligibility

- Residents and nonresidents must be 12 years old by Dec. 31, 2025 to hunt.
- Residents under age 16 must successfully complete a HuntSAFE course.
- Nonresidents under age 16 must include the certificate number from their hunter safety card, or a current or previous hunting license issued to them from any state.
- Residents and nonresidents who have not completed the HuntSAFE course at the time of application must leave their HuntSAFE number blank within their profile, but they can still apply. If successful in the draw, their license will be held until the GFP License Office is notified of the HuntSAFE card number once the course has been successfully completed.
- Information on the "Mentored Hunt" program is found in a separate application form. Youth who obtain a license in the combined deer drawing are NOT eligible for a Mentor Deer license.

## Fees

Payment for applications submitted must be made with a valid credit/debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover). Your credit/debit card will not be charged the license fee unless you are successful in the drawing, or unsuccessful and selected to purchase a preference point. Nonpayment in the form of a cancelled credit/debit card will result in your license being withheld and the blocking of any future license purchases until the unpaid fee, along with any penalties, is paid in full.

## Group Applications

- Applications with matching first and second choices, submitted in the same group, will be treated as a group application. All applicants will either be successful or unsuccessful in the drawings.
- Applications with preference points should be aware when applying with applicants with fewer preference points, the lowest preference point balance is then represented within the entire group.
- No more than six applications may be submitted in the same group. Custer Deer max group size is two.
- Residents and nonresidents may apply together in the same group. Either

all in the group will be successful or all will be unsuccessful. This is valid only in seasons and units where both resident and nonresident licenses are available for a specific drawing. It should be noted that in most instances, residents who apply with nonresidents will have a diminished chance of drawing a first-choice license.

## Application Rules

- Applicants applying for differently priced licenses as first and second choice will be charged the respective fee, if successful.
- Applicants wishing to receive a preference point for seasons in which they are unsuccessful in their first choice, must select to purchase a preference point during the application process.
- Licenses may not be transferred to another person.

Resident hunters may apply for two seasons in the combined deer drawing from the six deer seasons (firearm seasons) in the first draw. These seasons include the following: East River/Special Buck, West River/Special Buck, Black Hills, Muzzleloader, Refuge and Custer State Park. Successful Special Buck license holders are limited to one additional application in the first draw of the combined deer draw if that application was not valid for the same season as their Special Buck license.

Nonresident hunters may apply for two seasons in the combined deer drawing and are eligible for eight percent of the license allocation for West River, Black Hills, and Refuge hunting seasons during the first drawing. Successful Special Buck license holders are limited to one additional application in the first draw of the combined deer draw if that application was not valid for the same season as their Special Buck license.

Other details include:

- In the second draw, a hunter may not apply for a license if they possess two licenses for any of the East River/Special Buck, West River/Special Buck, Black Hills, Muzzleloader, Refuge and Custer State Park deer hunting units in the first draw. A person with one license for these seasons may submit one application for a season they currently do not possess a license.
- In the third draw, a resident hunter (even if they possess two licenses) may submit one application for each season they do not possess a license.
- In the third and fourth drawings, a nonresident who does not possess a license may submit two applications and a nonresident who possesses one license may submit one application for a season if the nonresident does not possess a license for that season.
- In the fourth draw, resident hunters may submit up to five applications (even if they already possess two licenses). Only those nonresidents without a license may apply for a license remaining in pools originally designated (8%) for nonresidents (West River, Black Hills, and Refuge). Applicants who already have a Special Buck license cannot apply for additional Special Buck licenses (hunters are limited to one Special Buck license, per year). If an applicant possesses a West River Deer license, they may not apply for a West River Special Buck license in the fourth draw. However, a person who already possesses a West River Special Buck license may apply for a West River Deer license in this drawing.
- After the fourth draw, all remaining resident and nonresident licenses are pooled and sold first-come, first-served. There is no limit on the number of licenses that a person can acquire. However, applicants who already have a Special Buck license cannot apply for another Special Buck license. If an applicant possesses a West River Deer license, they may not apply for a West River Special Buck license.



## APPLICATION INFORMATION

**A person 18 years of age or older is required to purchase a Habitat Stamp (\$10 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents) when applying for or purchasing any hunting, fishing, or trapping license.** A person is not required to purchase more than one Habitat Stamp within a license year.

The license fee (except Apprentice, Youth, or Mentored Deer) includes a \$6 surcharge established by the South Dakota Legislature. Surcharge monies are divided between programs for wildlife damage management and public hunting land access, programs that benefit both landowners and hunters.

**TRIBAL LANDS.** State licenses are valid on private, deeded lands within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation. Persons applying to hunt on Tribal lands should contact the appropriate tribal office concerning tribal lands.

**NATIONAL FOREST ROAD TRAVEL.** National Forests and Grasslands in South Dakota have Travel Plans in effect. If you are planning a trip for hunting or recreation, please contact the local Forest Service office for your hunting unit to find out which roads, trails, and areas are open for highway and off-road motorized travel, and if seasonal restrictions apply. New roads, trails, and areas have been developed and some roads, trails, and areas you may have used in the past may be closed to public use. Recreation fees may apply. Contact the U.S. Forest Service for more information.

## WEST RIVER DEER (WRD)

**Season Dates:** November 15–30, 2025. See unit descriptions for exceptions to season dates for Gregory County (WRD-30A).

**Antlerless only season:** Only those tags specifically designated as “antlerless” are valid from December 13–21. **“Any” deer tags do not convert for this antlerless only season.**

**License Eligibility:** Residents and nonresidents are eligible for all units, except individuals who received a West River Special Buck license (Unit WSD-WR1-01 or WSD-WR1-11); these individuals are not eligible to apply until the fourth drawing for residents and the fifth drawing (leftovers, first-come, first-served) for nonresidents.

**Individual License Quota:** See Application Rules on page 3 for information.

**Open Areas:** Private land licenses (P) are valid on private land, not leased by GFP for public hunting (Walk-In Areas, CREP, and CHAP areas).

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

**First Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT June 17. Results available online by July 2. One application may be submitted per applicant.

**Second Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT July 17. Results available online by July 25.

**Third Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 8. Results available online by Aug. 15. Those who do not have a license may submit one application.

**Fourth Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 28. Results available online by Sept. 11. In the fourth draw, residents may submit up to five applications across any remaining seasons.

**Leftover Licenses** - After the fourth deadline drawings, licenses remaining will be pooled and issued first-come, first-served starting at 2 p.m. CDT Sept. 11 to both residents and nonresidents. Licenses are available to individuals whether or not they already possess a license. An individual may possess an unlimited number of West River deer licenses for any unit or combination of units.

### SEASON-UNIT-TYPE CHOICES

**WRD-02A-** PENNINGTON and MEADE counties within a line beginning at I-90 at New Underwood, then north on New Underwood Road to the Belle Fourche River, then east on the Belle Fourche River to the Cheyenne River, then east on the Cheyenne River to the Pennington-Haakon County line, then south on the county line to I-90, then west on I-90 to New Underwood, the point of beginning.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
400 resident licenses (\$45); 32 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
200 resident licenses (\$60); 16 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**WRD-02C-** PENNINGTON CO. south of I-90 and east of the Cheyenne River.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer  
100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail  
25 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-11A-** BENNETT CO. north of US 18.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer  
125 resident licenses (\$45); 10 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail Deer  
50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-11B-** BENNETT CO. south of US 18, excluding Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer  
25 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail Deer  
50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-15A-** BUTTE CO. except that portion included in 15B.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
600 resident licenses (\$60); 48 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
500 resident licenses (\$36); 40 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-15B-** BUTTE CO. south of US 212 and west of SD 79; and LAWRENCE CO. north of I-90.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
150 resident licenses (\$45); 12 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
400 resident licenses (\$60); 32 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
200 resident licenses (\$36); 16 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-20A-** CORSON CO.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**03:** Valid for one Any Antlerless Deer  
50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail  
350 resident licenses (\$45); 28 nonresident licenses (\$375)

## WEST RIVER DEER (WRD)

**WRD-21A-** CUSTER CO. east of SD 79, and PENNINGTON CO. south of I-90 between SD 79 on the west and the Cheyenne River on the east.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer

100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-21B-** Portions of CUSTER and PENNINGTON counties within a line beginning at the junction of US 385 and Custer County Road 101, then east on Custer County Road 101 to the section line between section 24 and 19, township 6 south, range 7 east, then north on this section line to its junction with sections 13 and 18, township 6 south, range 7 east, then east on the section line between section 18 and 19, township 6 south, range 7 east to its junction with SD 79, then north on SD 79 to the city limits of Rapid City, then west along the city limits of Rapid City to its junction with US 16, then southwest on US 16 to its junction with the Black Hills National Forest boundary, then south along the BHNF boundary to its junction with the northeast corner of Custer State Park (CSP), then south along the eastern boundaries of CSP and Wind Cave National Park (WCNP) to the southeast corner of WCNP, then west along the southern boundary of WCNP to its junction with US 385, then south on US 385 the point of beginning.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-24A-** DEWEY CO, excluding Little Moreau Recreation Area and Game Production Area.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

250 resident licenses (\$45); 20 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

100 resident licenses (\$24); 8 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-24B-** DEWEY CO. limited to only the Little Moreau Recreation Area and Game Production Area. This unit is all public land. Landowner Preference does not apply.

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident license (\$375)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

10 resident licenses (\$24); 1 nonresident license (\$100)

**WRD-27A-** Portions of CUSTER and FALL RIVER counties (excluding Unit 27L) within a line beginning at the junction of the SD-WY state line and US 18, then east on US 18 to its junction with the Cheyenne River, then east along the Cheyenne River to its junction with US 18 and 385, then north on US 18 and 385 to its junction with SD 79 and continuing along SD 79 to its junction with the section line between section 19 and 18, township 6 south, range 7 east, then west on this section line to its junction with sections 13 and 24, township 6 south, range 7 east, then south on the section line between sections 19 and 24, township 6 south, range 7 east to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 101, then west on Custer Co. Rd 101 to its junction with US 385, then south on US 385 to its junction with Fall River Co. Rd 18 (Argyle Rd), then northwest on Fall River Co. Rd 18 and Custer Co. Rd 333 to its junction with SD 89, then south on SD 89 to its junction

with Fall River Co. Rd 12, then west on Fall River Co. Rd 12 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 317, then west on Custer Co. Rd 317 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 715, then west on Custer Co. Rd 715 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 769, then west on Custer Co. Rd 769 through Dewey to its junction with the SD-WY state line, then south along the SD-WY state line to its junction with US 18, the point of beginning.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer

100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

25 resident licenses (\$24); 2 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-27B-** FALL RIVER CO. not included in 27A and 27L.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer

200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-27L-** FALL RIVER CO. limited to the Hill Ranch Game Production Area; the Forest Service Lands included in and connected to the Hill Ranch GPA boundaries on the south and west sides; and the State managed Bureau of Reclamation Lands adjacent and connected to the Hill Ranch GPA /Forest Service complex north of the Cheyenne River and on the west side of Angostura Reservoir. This unit is all public land. Landowner preference does not apply.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer

5 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-30A-** GREGORY CO. Season Dates: Nov. 8–11 and Nov. 24–30.

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

450 resident licenses (\$45); 36 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

100 resident licenses (\$24); 8 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-30B-** GREGORY CO. Season Dates: Nov. 15–30.

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

450 resident licenses (\$45); 36 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

100 resident licenses (\$24); 8 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-31A-** HAAKON CO.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

600 resident licenses (\$45); 48 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**03P:** Valid for one Any Antlerless Deer, valid on private land only

100 resident licenses (\$24); 8 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**08:** Valid for one Any Deer and one Any Antlerless Deer

75 resident licenses (\$60); 6 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail

100 resident licenses (\$60); 8 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail

150 resident licenses (\$36); 12 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-35A-** HARDING CO. west of US 85 excluding those portions of the Custer National Forest within Unit 35L.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

275 resident licenses (\$45); 22 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)

## WEST RIVER DEER (WRD)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
50 resident licenses (\$60); 4 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
75 resident licenses (\$36); 6 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-35C-** HARDING CO. east of US 85 excluding those portions of the Custer National Forest within Unit 35L.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**03P:** Valid for one Any Antlerless Deer, valid on private land only  
50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
50 resident licenses (\$60); 4 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
75 resident licenses (\$36); 6 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-35L-** HARDING CO. restricted to Custer National Forest Service, except for the West Short Pines and the South Dakota portion of the Long Pines. This unit is all public land. Landowner preference does not apply.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

25 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-39A-** JACKSON CO. north of the White River.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

175 resident licenses (\$45); 14 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13P:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-39B-** JACKSON CO. south of the White River.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

275 resident licenses (\$45); 22 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$24); 4 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-41A-** JONES CO., except for that area in Unit WRD-45D (Ft. Pierre National Grasslands area).

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

200 resident licenses (\$45); 16 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-45A-** LYMAN CO. west of SD 47 and south of southern boundary of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation. This unit also excludes that portion of the county within Unit 45D (Ft. Pierre National Grasslands area).

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

100 resident licenses (\$45); 8 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

350 resident licenses (\$45); 28 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-45B-** LYMAN CO. east of SD 47 and south of the southern boundary of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

175 resident licenses (\$45); 14 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-45C-** LYMAN and STANLEY counties. Lower Brule Indian Reservation, excluding tribal lands and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lands.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

30 resident licenses (\$45); 3 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

20 resident licenses (\$24); 2 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**WRD-45D-** LYMAN, STANLEY, and JONES counties all public land and private land within a line beginning at the northwest corner of the Lower Brule Indian Reservation's exterior boundary, then west 18 miles, then south 20 miles, then east 19 miles, then north 1-1/2 miles to the southwest corner of the reservation boundary, then north along the reservation's western boundary to the northwest corner of the reservation, then point of beginning.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

30 resident licenses (\$45); 3 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-49A-** MEADE County east of I-90, south of US 212, and west of a line beginning at the junction of US 212 and Meade Co. Rd 23 (Old 212 Rd), then south on Meade Co. Rd 23 (Old 212 Rd) to its junction with Meade Co. Rd 28 (Sulfur Cut Off Rd), then east on Meade Co. Rd 23-28, then south on Meade Co. Rd 23 (Fairpoint Rd) to its junction with SD 34, then south on Meade Co. Rd 21 (New Underwood Rd) to its junction with the Pennington County line and PENNINGTON County west of Pennington County 160th Avenue and north of I-90.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

500 resident licenses (\$45); 40 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

150 resident licenses (\$24); 12 nonresident licenses (\$100)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail

250 resident licenses (\$60); 20 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**WRD-49B-** MEADE CO. south of US Hwy 212, north of the Belle Fourche and Cheyenne Rivers and east of the line described for Unit 49A above.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

600 resident licenses (\$45); 48 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

100 resident licenses (\$45); 12 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-50A-** MELLETTE CO.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

150 resident licenses (\$45); 12 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail

400 resident licenses (\$45); 32 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-53A-** PERKINS CO. north of SD 20.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

400 resident licenses (\$45); 32 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**09P:** Valid for two Any Antlerless Deer, valid on private land only

100 resident licenses (\$36); 8 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail

250 resident licenses (\$60); 20 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only

100 resident licenses (\$36); 8 nonresident licenses (\$150)

# WEST RIVER DEER (WRD)

**WRD-53C-** PERKINS CO. south of SD 20 and MEADE CO. north of US 212.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
500 resident licenses (\$45); 40 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 09P:** Valid for two Any Antlerless Deer, valid on private land only  
100 resident licenses (\$36); 8 nonresident licenses (\$150)
- 18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
250 resident licenses (\$60); 20 nonresident licenses (\$425)
- 19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
100 resident licenses (\$36); 8 nonresident licenses (\$150)

**WRD-58A-** STANLEY CO., except those areas in 45C and 45D.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
150 resident licenses (\$45); 12 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 18:** Valid for one Any Whitetail and one Antlerless Whitetail  
150 resident licenses (\$60); 12 nonresident licenses (\$425)

**WRD-58D-** STANLEY CO. **Limited to persons who use a wheelchair for mobility.** Licenses are valid for all of Stanley County as described in Unit 58A above. Successful applicants will be allowed to take part in a special hunt Nov. 22-23 in the state park campground area below Oahe Dam as instructed.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
5 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident license (\$375)
- 13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail  
3 resident licenses (\$24); 1 nonresident license (\$100)

**WRD-60A-** TRIPP CO.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
50 resident licenses (\$45); 4 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail  
600 resident licenses (\$45); 48 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-64A-** ZIEBACH CO.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
250 resident licenses (\$45); 20 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail  
75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 19P:** Valid for two Antlerless Whitetail, valid on private land only  
50 resident licenses (\$36); 4 nonresident licenses (\$150)

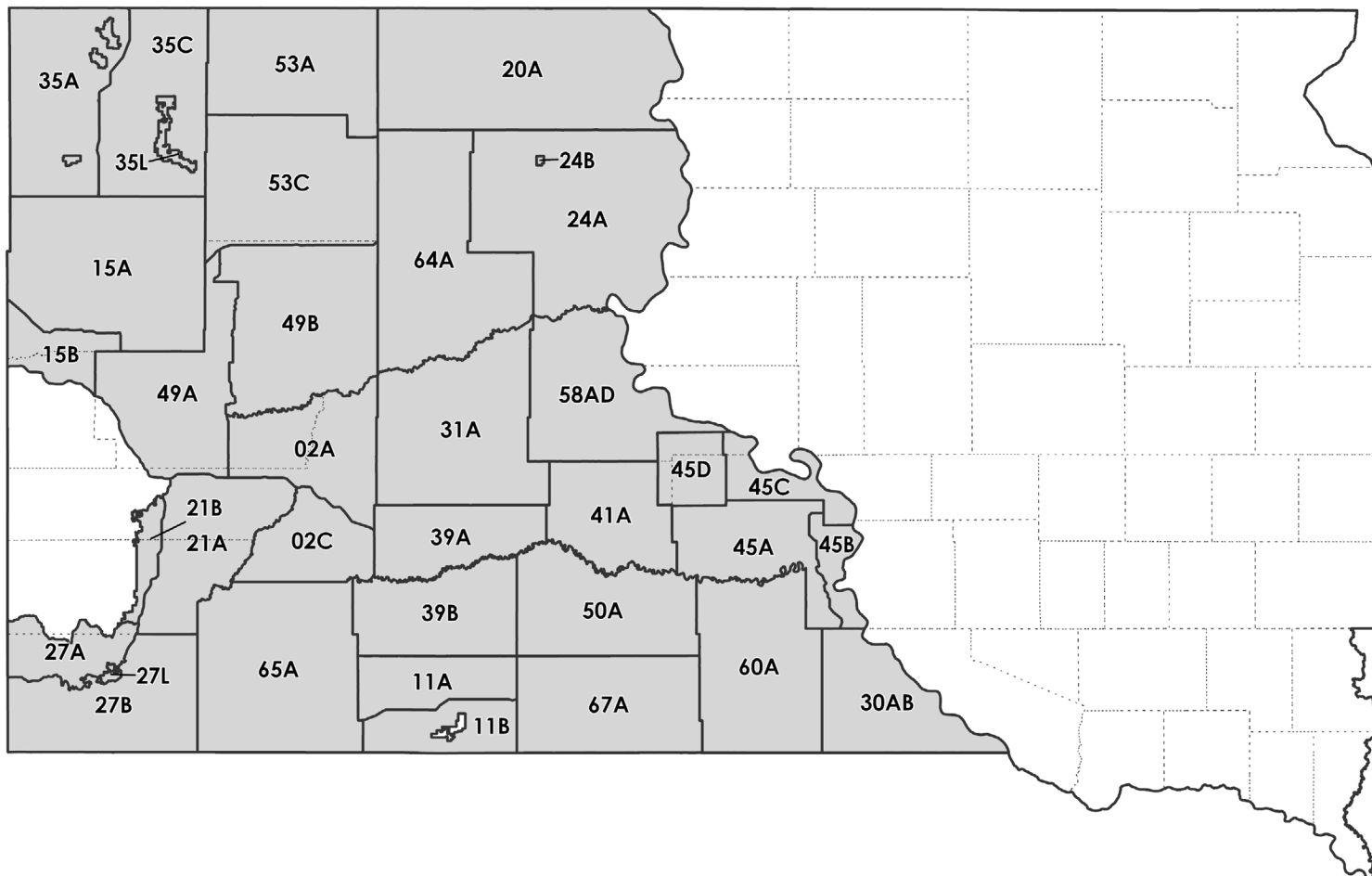
**WRD-65A-** OGLALA LAKOTA CO.

- 02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer  
75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**WRD-67A-** TODD CO.

- 01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)
- 11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail  
75 resident licenses (\$45); 6 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, through GFP's online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](http://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).





# BLACK HILLS FIREARMS DEER (BHD)

**Season Dates:** November 1-30, 2025.

**License Eligibility:** Residents and nonresidents are eligible.

**Individual License Quota:** See Application Rules on page 3 for information.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

**First Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT June 17. Results available online by July 2. One application may be submitted per applicant.

**Second Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT July 17. Results available online by July 25.

**Third Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 8. Results available online by Aug. 15. Those who do not have a license may submit one application.

**Fourth Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 28. Results available online by Sept. 11. In the fourth draw, residents may submit up to five applications across any remaining seasons.

**Leftover Licenses** - After the fourth deadline drawings, licenses remaining will be pooled and issued first-come, first-served to both residents and nonresidents starting 2 p.m. CDT Sept. 11. Licenses are available to individuals whether or not they already have a license. An individual may have an unlimited number of Black Hills Firearms deer licenses for any unit or combination of units.

## SEASON\UNIT\TYPE CHOICES

**BHD-BH1**- Black Hills Unit: Portions of CUSTER, FALL RIVER, LAWRENCE, MEADE, and PENNINGTON counties enclosed by a line beginning at the SD-WY state line and I-90; then east and south along Interstate 90 to its junction with U.S. Highway 16 at Rapid City, then southwest on US 16 to its junction with the eastern boundary of the Black Hills National Forest, then south along the eastern boundaries of the BH National Forest, Custer State Park and Wind Cave National Park to the southeast corner of Wind Cave National Park, then west along the southern boundary of Wind Cave National Park to its junction with US 385, then southwest on US 385 to its junction with Fall River Co. Rd 18 (Argyle Rd), then northwest on Fall River Co. Rd 18 and Custer Co. Rd 333 to its junction with SD 89 at Argyle, then south on SD 89 to its junction with Fall River Co. Rd 317 (Minnekahta-Dewey Rd), then west on Fall River Co. Rd 317 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 319, then west on Custer Co. Rd 319 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 715, then west on Custer Co. Rd 715 to its junction with Custer Co. Rd 769, then west on Custer Co. Rd 769 through Dewey to its junction with the SD-WY state line, then north along the SD-WY state line to its junction with I-90, the point of beginning. **CLOSED TO HUNTING:** Custer State Park, Wind Cave National Park, Mount Rushmore National Memorial, and Jewel Cave National Monument.

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer

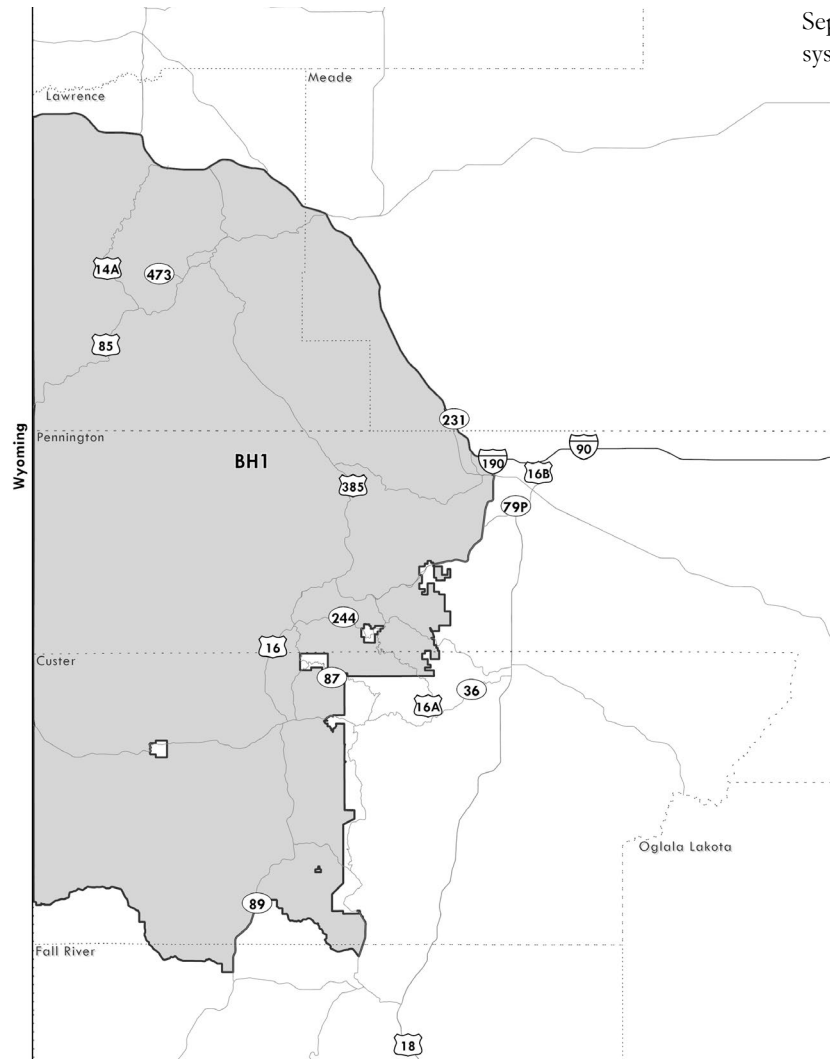
200 resident (\$45); 16 nonresident (\$375)

**12:** Valid for one Buck Whitetail

2,750 resident (\$45); 220 nonresident (\$375)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, 2025, through GFP's online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](https://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).

## BLACK HILLS ANY DEER





# CUSTER STATE PARK DEER (CUD)

## Season Dates:

November 1 - 30, 2025, Any Whitetail licenses

**License Eligibility:** South Dakota residents who have not received a CSP Any Deer or Any Whitetail license in the preceding nine years (2016-2024) are eligible to apply for Any Deer or Any Whitetail license. Applicants who receive an “Any” type license from their first choice may reapply in 10 years for an “Any” license again. Residents may apply for the antlerless whitetail deer season license every year.

**Applications Per Group:** 2 maximum.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Apply online through 8 a.m. CDT on June 17. Applicants may submit only one application per person for this season. Results available online by July 2.

## SEASON-UNIT-TYPE CHOICES

**CUD-CU1-** Custer State Park.

**11:** Any Whitetail  
25 licenses (\$156)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, through GFP’s online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](https://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).

# CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal disease of the central nervous system found in both captive and free-ranging deer and elk. The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) has been conducting surveillance for CWD since 1997 to determine disease presence across the state.

Carcass transportation and disposal regulations apply for any harvested deer or elk that will be transported from the county of harvest or from another state back into South Dakota and include the following:

- » Hunters are recommended to leave as much of the unusable carcass as possible at the location of the harvest in a discrete location. Make arrangements with landowner on property where permission has been granted.
- » Regulations do not prohibit a hunter from transporting a deer or elk carcass from the harvest location to anywhere in the state.
- » If any portion of the carcass is transported from the county of harvest, regulations require the hunter to dispose of all carcass remains with a waste management provider, if an allowable trash item, or with a permitted landfill.
- » If you are not moving a deer or elk carcass from the county of harvest, the regulations do not apply unless the carcass is delivered to a game processor or taxidermist. Returning carcass remains to public lands and using road ditches to dispose of carcass remains is illegal. Make sure permission is granted if disposing on private land.

- » Deer or elk carcasses from another state brought back into South Dakota must be disposed of with a waste management provider or landfill that accepts carcass parts.
- » Game processors and taxidermists, regardless of the location of harvest, are required to dispose of all carcass remains with a waste management provider, if an allowable trash item, or with a permitted landfill.

Hunters who would like to get their deer tested for CWD can voluntarily submit a sample for testing. As a voluntary submission, hunters will be responsible for the cost of shipping and any professional sample collection costs unless the hunter delivers a sample to a GFP Office or sample collection area. GFP will pay for the testing cost of the sample at South Dakota State University Animal Disease and Research Diagnostics Lab (SDSU ADRDL).

Results will be sent to both the hunter and GFP. These results will supplement GFP’s surveillance effort across the state. The process for collecting samples from a harvested elk or deer (same process) and how to properly submit to SDSU ADRDL can be found at [gfp.sd.gov/chronic-wasting-disease](https://gfp.sd.gov/chronic-wasting-disease).



*CWD has been detected in the counties shaded in gray.*

# NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE DEER (RFD)

**License Eligibility:** Residents and nonresidents are eligible.

**Individual License Quota:** See Application Rules on page 3 for information.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

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**First Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT June 17. Results available online by July 2. One application may be submitted per applicant.

**Second Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT July 17. Results available online by July 25.

**Third Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 6. Results available online by Aug. 15. Those who do not have a license may submit one application.

**Fourth Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 28. Results available online by Sept. 11. In the fourth draw, residents may submit up to five applications across any remaining seasons.

**Leftover Licenses** - After the fourth deadline drawings, licenses remaining will be pooled and issued first-come, first-served to both residents and nonresidents starting 2 p.m. CDT Sept 11. Licenses are available to individuals whether or not they already have a license. An individual may have an unlimited number of Refuge deer licenses for any unit or combination of units.

## SEASON-UNIT-TYPE CHOICES

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### SAND LAKE REFUGE

**RFD-SL1-** Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, muzzleloader only, Nov. 8-12, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
20 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**RFD-SL2-** Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Nov. 13-17, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
20 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**RFD-SL4-** Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, muzzleloader only, Nov. 24-30, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
20 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**RFD-SL5-** Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Dec. 1-7, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
20 resident licenses (\$45); 2 nonresident licenses (\$375)

### LACREEK REFUGE

**RFD-LC1-** Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, muzzleloader only, Oct. 15-21, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**RFD-LC2-** Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, muzzleloader only, Nov. 26-Dec. 2, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

### WAUBAY REFUGE

**RFD-WA1-** Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Refuge, muzzleloader only, Nov. 15-23, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**RFD-WA3-** Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and Waubay State Game Refuge, muzzleloader only Nov. 29-Dec. 7, 2025.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer  
10 resident licenses (\$45); 1 nonresident licenses (\$375)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, through GFP's online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](https://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).

# MUZZLELOADER DEER (MZD)

**Season Dates:** December 1, 2025 - January 1, 2026

**License Eligibility:** Residents are eligible for a limited pool of Any Deer licenses. Nonresidents may apply for only the unlimited pool of Antlerless Deer licenses.

**Individual License Quota:** Resident applicants may have up to two Muzzleloader Deer licenses, of which only one can be an “antlerless whitetail” license. Nonresidents may have one “antlerless whitetail” license. See Application Rules on page 3 for information.

**Special Requirements:** Hunters must wear fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink. Muzzleloader rifles must shoot a .44 caliber or larger bullet.

Muzzleloader pistols must shoot a .50 caliber or larger bullet. Telescopic sights prohibited.

**Closures:** Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Waubay State Game Refuge, Farm Island State Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island Nature Area.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

**First Deadline** - Resident Type 01 licenses only. Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT June 17. One application may be submitted per person for this drawing. Results available online by July 2.

**Leftover Licenses** - Starting September 11, resident and nonresident licenses for Type 13 licenses (antlerless whitetail) will be open for application. Resident applicants may have a maximum of two licenses for this season, of which only one can be an “antlerless whitetail deer” license. Nonresident applicants can only have one muzzleloader license and must be an antlerless whitetail license. Eligible applicants may apply for and purchase available licenses through the end of the season.

## SEASON-UNIT-TYPE CHOICES

**MZD-ST1**- Statewide.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

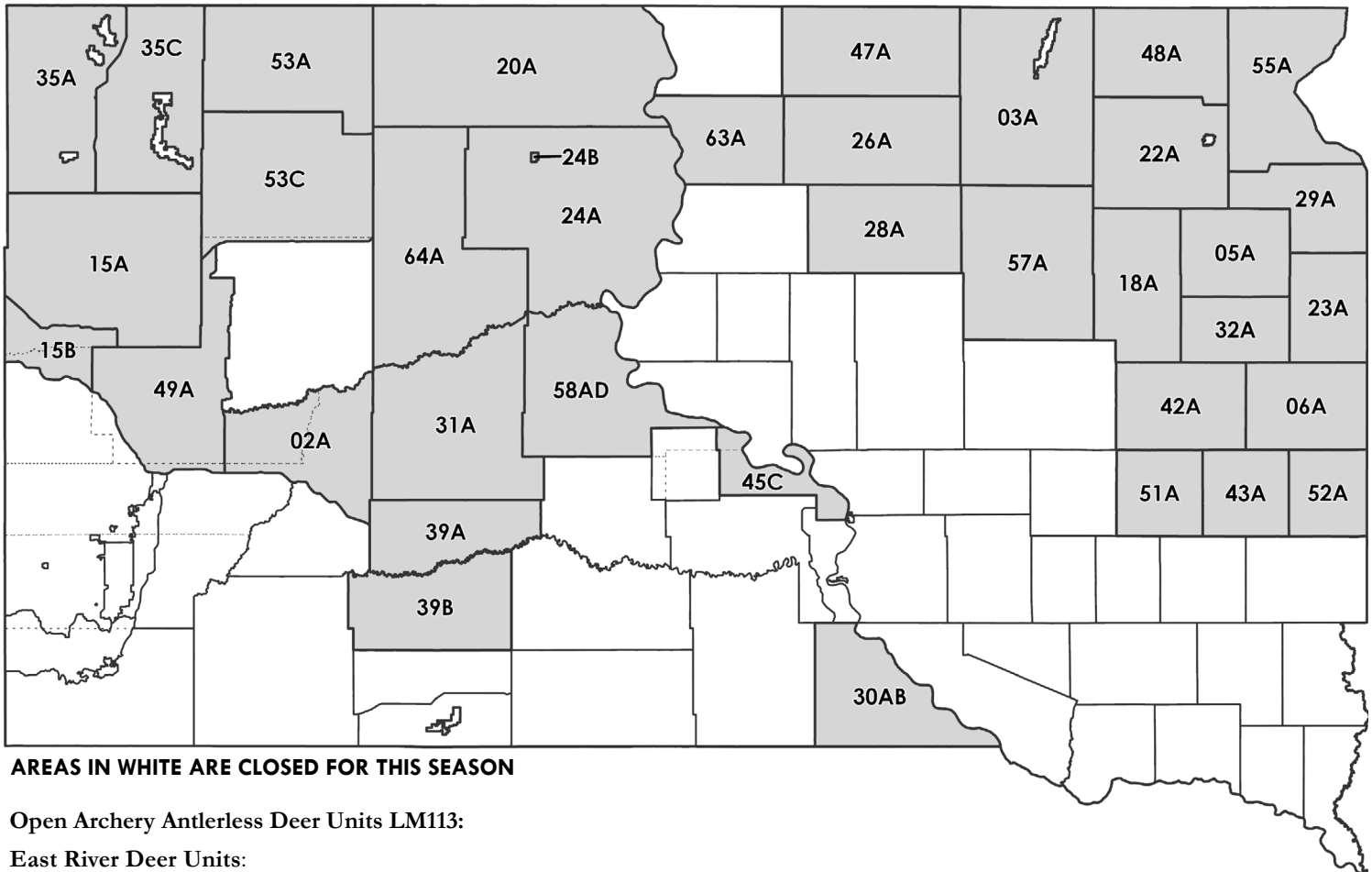
Maximum of one license of this unit/type per individual;  
1,000 resident licenses (\$45); 0 nonresident licenses

**MZD-LM1**- Please refer to unit LM1 map below, the WR Deer Season information on pages 4-7, or the ER Deer Season information on pages 12-13 of this application for unit descriptions.

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

Maximum of ONE license of this unit/type per individual;  
Unlimited resident licenses (\$24)  
Unlimited nonresident licenses (\$100)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, through GFP's online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](http://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).



**AREAS IN WHITE ARE CLOSED FOR THIS SEASON**

**Open Archery Antlerless Deer Units LM113:**

**East River Deer Units:**

03A, 05A, 06A, 18A, 22A, 23A, 26A, 28A, 29A, 32A, 42A, 43A, 47A, 48A, 51A, 52A, 55A, 57A, 63A

**West River Deer Units:**

02A, 15A, 15B, 20A, 24A, 24B, 30A, 30B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 39A, 39B, 45C, 49A, 53A, 53C, 58A, 58D, 64A

Please refer to the WR Deer Season information on pages 4-7, the ER Deer Season information on pages 12-14.

# EAST RIVER DEER (ERD)

**Season Dates:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 7, 2025

**Antlerless only season:** only those tags specifically designated as “antlerless” are valid from Dec. 13-21. **“Any” deer tags do not convert for this antlerless only season.**

**License Eligibility:** Residents are eligible for all units, except individuals who received an East River Special Buck license (Unit ESD-ER1-01 or ESD-ER1-11); these individuals are not eligible to apply until the fourth drawing. Nonresidents are eligible to apply for remaining licenses beginning after the fourth draw (i.e. leftovers, first-come, first-served.)

**Individual License Quota:** See Application Rules on page 3 for information.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

**First Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT June 17. Results available online by July 2. One application may be submitted per applicant.

**Second Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT July 17. Results available online by July 25.

**Third Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 6. Results available online by Aug. 15. Those who do not have a license may submit one application.

**Fourth Deadline** - Apply online by 8 a.m. CDT Aug. 28. Results available online by Sept. 11. In the fourth draw, residents may submit up to five applications across any remaining seasons.

**Leftover Licenses** - After the fourth deadline drawings, licenses remaining will be pooled and issued first-come, first-served starting at 2 p.m. CDT Sept. 11 to both residents and nonresidents. Licenses are available to individuals whether or not they already possess a license. An individual may possess an unlimited number of East River deer licenses for any unit or combination of units.

**Nonresidents Note:** All license numbers listed below are “Resident Only.” No licenses are available to nonresidents until after the fourth drawing period, which are leftovers, first-come, first-served. Nonresidents can start applying for leftover licenses on at 2 p.m. CDT September 11. Nonresident license fees are:

- 1-Tag Any Deer; or Any Whitetail license = \$375
- 1-Tag Antlerless Whitetail license = \$100
- 2-Tag Antlerless Whitetail + Antlerless Whitetail = \$150
- 2-Tag Any Whitetail + Antlerless Whitetail = \$425

## SEASON-UNIT-TYPE CHOICES

**ERD-01A- MINNEHAHA CO.** Note: A portion of this unit is restricted to hunting with shotgun (using slugs) and muzzleloader only. The area is east of I-29, south of I-90 and west of Minnehaha Co. Road 109.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 400 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-03A- BROWN CO.,** excluding Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 600 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 300 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-04A- BEADLE CO.**

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 450 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-05A- CODINGTON CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 400 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-06A- BROOKINGS CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 400 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-07A- YANKTON CO.,** includes ERD-07B

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-08A- DAVISON CO.**

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-10A- AURORA CO.**

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-12A- BON HOMME CO.,** includes ERD-12B

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-13A- BRULE CO.** except those areas in 13L

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 50 licenses (\$45)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 500 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-13L- BRULE CO.** limited to portions of the Brule Bottom Game Production Area and Corp of Engineer area lands north of 240th Street including the Pease Game Production Area in southwest Buffalo County; and the Boyer Game Production Area and Corp of Engineer area lands west of 342nd Avenue, south of 255th Street and Canyon Road, and south of a line extending from 256th Street west to the Missouri River. This unit is all public land. Landowner preference does not apply.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 20 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-14A- BUFFALO CO.** excluding the Pease Game Production Area within Unit 13L

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 50 licenses (\$45)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 150 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-16A- CAMPBELL CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 30 licenses (\$45)

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 350 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-17A- CHARLES MIX CO.,** excluding Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge.

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-18A- CLARK CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 600 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-19A- CLAY CO.**

**02:** Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-22A- DAY CO.,** excluding Waubay National Wildlife Refuge.

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 600 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 300 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-23A- DEUEL CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-25A- DOUGLAS CO.**

**11:** Valid for one Any Whitetail; 150 licenses (\$45)

**ERD-26A- EDMUNDS CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-28A- FAULK CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 600 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 400 licenses (\$24)

**ERD-29A- GRANT CO.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer; 400 licenses (\$45)

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)



# EAST RIVER DEER (ERD)

## ERD-32A- HAMLIN CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 600 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-33A- HAND CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 10 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 300 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-34A- HANSON CO.

- 02: Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 150 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-36A- HUGHES CO., excluding Farm Island Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island, and the land from the entrance to Farm Island west through the city of Pierre.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 150 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 250 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-37A- HUTCHINSON CO.

- 02: Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-38A- HYDE CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 10 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 300 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-40A- JERAULD CO.

- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-42A- KINGSBURY CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-43A- LAKE CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 300 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-44A- LINCOLN CO., excluding Newton Hills State Park.

- 02: Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-46A- MCCOOK CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 250 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-47A- MCPHERSON CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 400 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-48A- MARSHALL CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 50 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-51A- MINER CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 400 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 350 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-52A- MOODY CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 300 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-54A- POTTER CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 50 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 400 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-55A- ROBERTS CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 500 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 50 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-56A- SANBORN CO.

- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 250 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-57A- SPINK CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 700 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 200 licenses (\$24)

## ERD-59A- SULLY CO. west of US 83.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 75 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-59B- SULLY CO. east of US 83.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 20 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 75 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-61A- TURNER CO.

- 02: Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

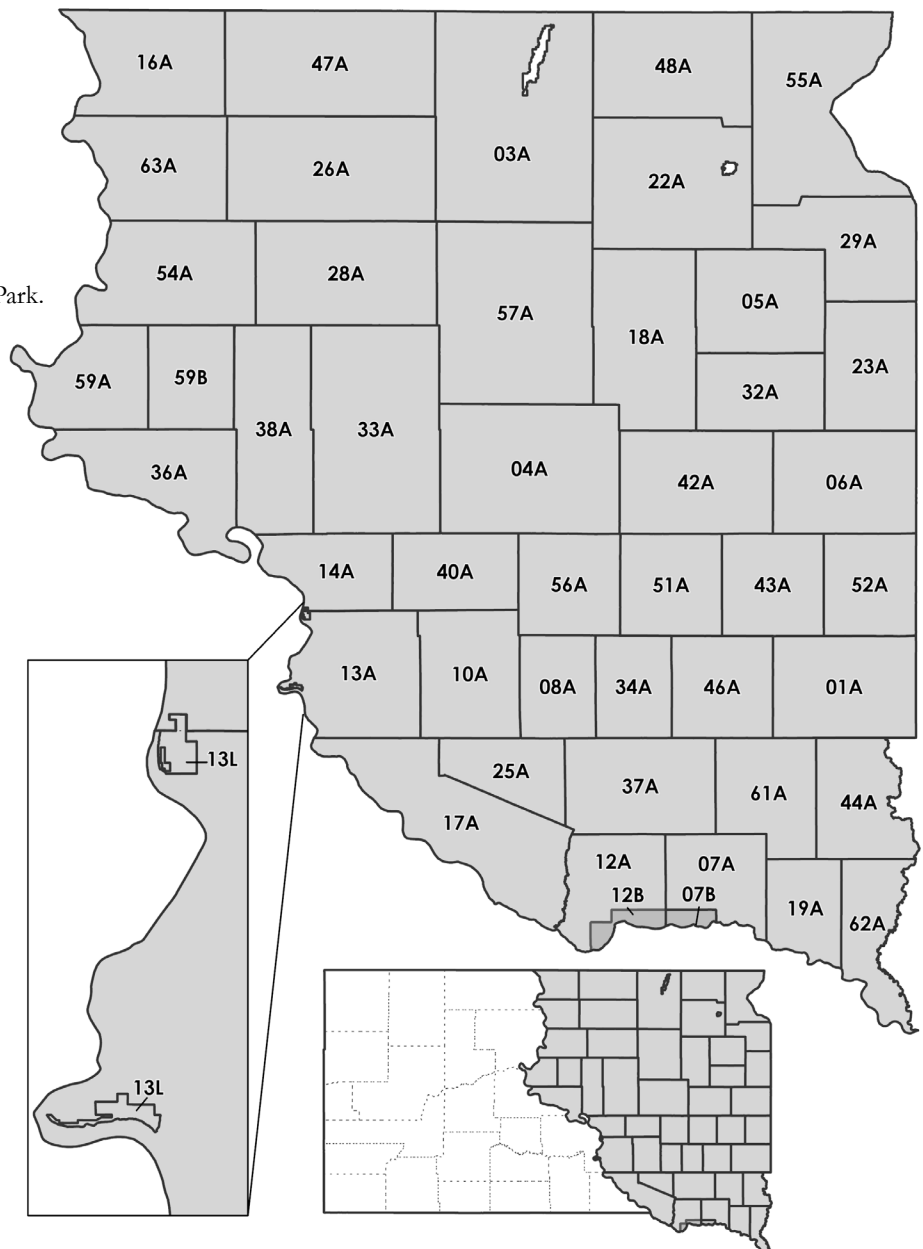
## ERD-62A- UNION CO.

- 02: Valid for one Any Buck Deer; 100 licenses (\$45)

## ERD-63A- WALWORTH CO.

- 01: Valid for one Any Deer; 50 licenses (\$45)
- 11: Valid for one Any Whitetail; 400 licenses (\$45)
- 13: Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail; 100 licenses (\$24)

**Preference Points:** Preference points can be purchased from September 15 - December 15, through GFP's online licensing system at [license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com](http://license.gooutdoorsouthdakota.com).



# RESIDENT APPRENTICE DEER (APD)

**Season Dates:** Sept. 13, 2025 - Jan. 1, 2026

**License Eligibility:** Residents who are 18 years old or older on June 30, and who have not held a deer hunting license in the last ten years (2015-2024) may purchase this license.

**Individual License Quota:** Applicants may have ONE Apprentice deer license, either for Unit APD-03 or APD-13.

**Special Requirements:** Big game hunters using a firearm must wear the required fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applicants may apply for a license at any time; however, please note the age and previous deer hunting license eligibility requirements. Applicants who delay applying for a license should be aware that ample time must be allowed for processing and mailing, which can take up to 10 business days. Licenses are unlimited for this season, so no drawing is required.

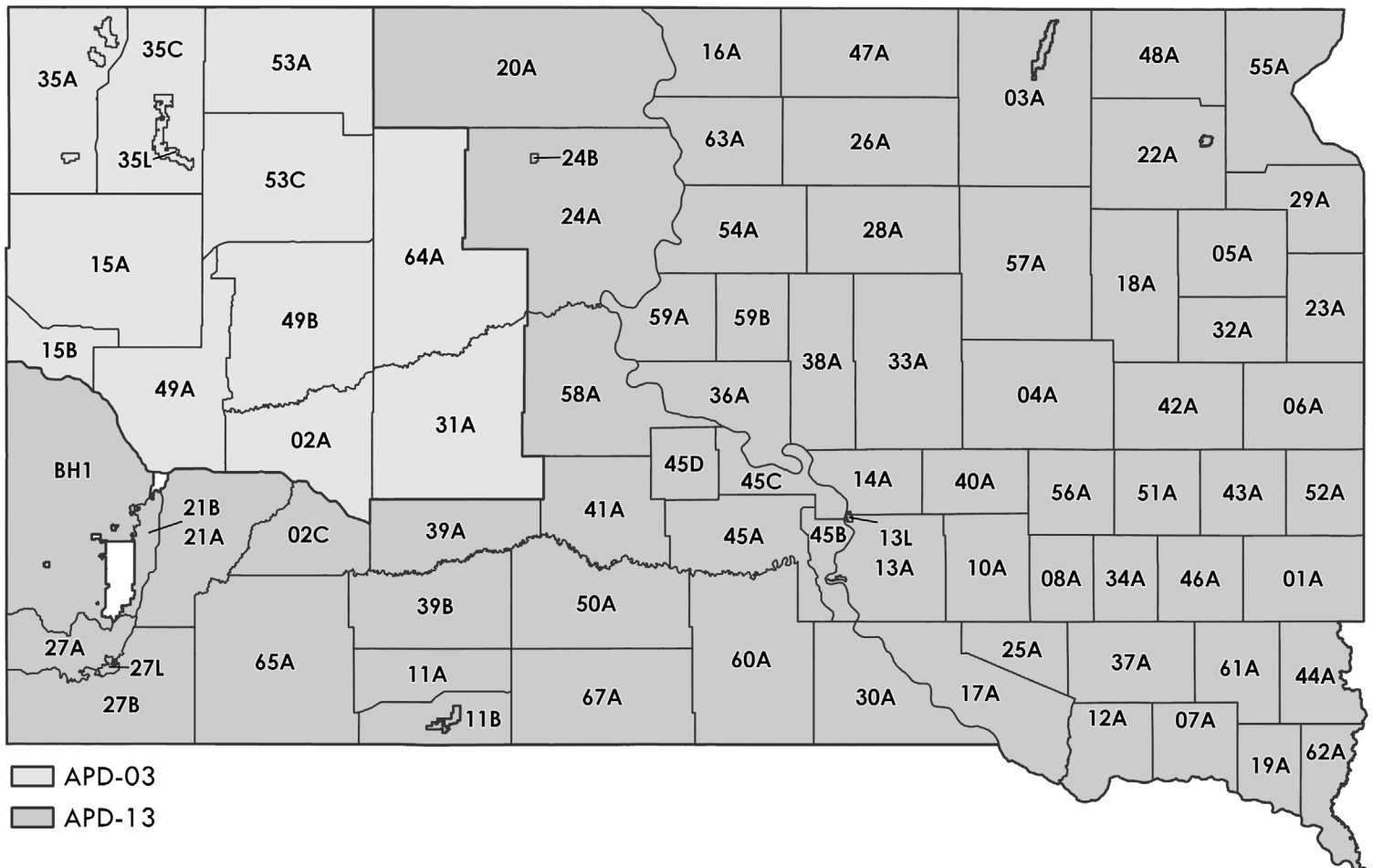
## SEASON/UNIT/TYPE CHOICES

**APD-03-** License is valid in West River Deer hunting units: 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C, and 64A (see map for open area), except all national parks and monuments.

**03:** License valid for one Any Antlerless Deer.  
Unlimited resident (\$5)

**APD-13-** License is valid for that portion of the state not included in Unit APD-03, excluding Farm Island State Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island State Nature Area, and Custer State Park. Also, hunters must contact National Wildlife Refuges prior to hunting to obtain permission.

**13:** License valid for one Antlerless Whitetail.  
Unlimited resident (\$5)



# YOUTH DEER (YOD)

**Season Dates:** Sept. 13, 2025 - Jan. 1, 2026

**License Eligibility:** Residents and nonresidents who have not reached the age of 18 years old or older on June 30.

**Note:** Successful applicants for the Youth Deer license are not eligible for the Mentored Deer license.

**Individual License Quota:** Applicants may have ONE Youth Deer license, either for Unit YOD-03 or YOD-13.

**Special Requirements:** Big game hunters using a firearm must wear the required fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applicants may apply for a license at any time; however, please note the age eligibility requirements. Applicants who delay applying for a license should be aware that ample time must be allowed for processing and mailing, which can take up to 10 business days. Licenses are unlimited for this season, so no drawing is required.

## SEASON/UNIT/TYPE CHOICES

**YOD-03-** License is valid in West River Deer hunting units: 02A, 15A, 15B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 35L, 49A, 49B, 53A, 53C, and 64A (see map for open area), except all national parks and monuments.

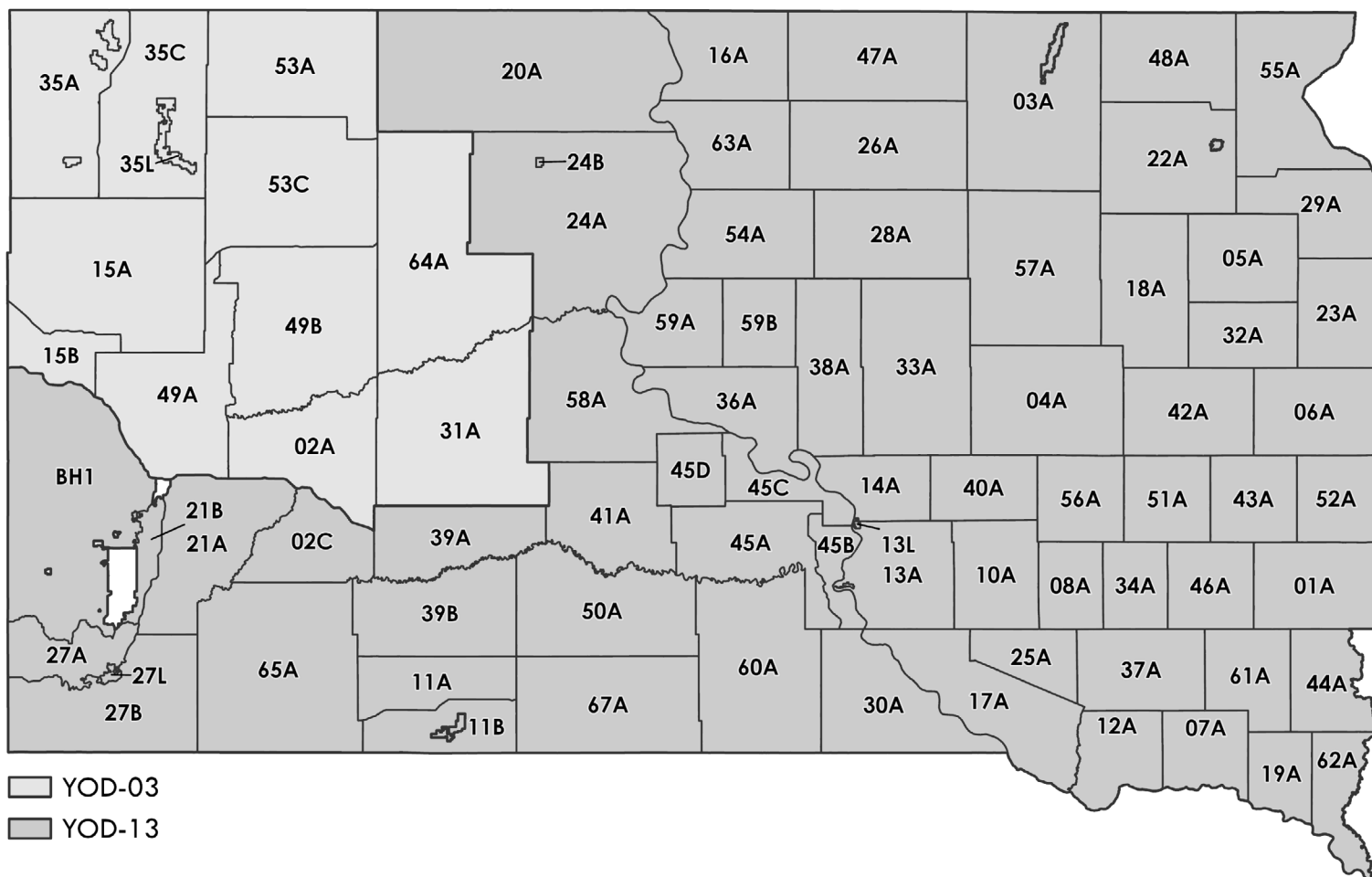
**03:** License valid for one Any Antlerless Deer.

Unlimited resident (\$5); Unlimited nonresident (\$10)

**YOD-13-** License is valid for that portion of the state not included in Unit YOD-03, excluding Farm Island State Recreation Area, LaFramboise Island State Nature Area, and Custer State Park. Also, hunters must contact National Wildlife Refuges prior to hunting to obtain permission.

**13:** License valid for one Antlerless Whitetail.

Unlimited resident (\$5); Unlimited nonresident (\$10)



# RESIDENT ARCHERY DEER (ARD)

**Season Dates:** Sept. 1, 2025 - Jan. 1, 2026, except:

- Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown Co. during the refuge firearms deer season.
- Portions of Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in Bennett Co. during firearms deer seasons.
- The Waubay Lake Game Bird Refuge and Waubay National Wildlife Refuge in Day Co. during the refuge firearms deer seasons.
- Most state parks, recreation areas, nature areas, and lakeside use areas are open Oct. 1, 2025 - Jan. 1, 2026; archery licenses are valid in Farm Island Recreation Area and LaFramboise Island Nature Area in Hughes County from Oct. 1, 2025 - Jan. 1, 2026.
- Custer State Park is closed to archery deer hunting.

**License Eligibility:** Only residents may apply.

**Individual License Quota:** Hunters may possess no more than three archery deer licenses with the following restrictions:

- No more than one statewide “any deer” license (ST1-01); if you have this statewide “any deer” license, you are ineligible for both the ER1-01 and WR1-01 license
- No more than one East River “any deer” license (ER1-01) and/ or one West River “any deer” license (WR1-01)
- No more than one Antlerless LM1 license (LM1-13)

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applicants may apply for a license at any time; however, please note the age eligibility requirements. Applicants who delay applying for a license should be aware that ample time must be allowed for processing and mailing, which can take up to 10 business days. Licenses are unlimited for this season, so no drawing is required. The deadline to apply for the archery deer limited access permits is 8 a.m. CDT July 1.

## SEASON/UNIT/TYPE CHOICES

### RESIDENT LICENSES

**ARD-ST1- STATEWIDE.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

Maximum of one license of this unit/type per individual

Unlimited resident (\$45)

**ARD-ER1- All Counties East of the Missouri River.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

Unlimited resident (\$45)

**ARD-WR1- All Counties West of the Missouri River.**

**01:** Valid for one Any Deer

Unlimited resident (\$45)

**ARD-LM1- Please refer to unit LM113 map on next page.**

**13:** Valid for one Antlerless Whitetail

Maximum of one license of this unit/type per individual

Unlimited resident (\$24)

## ACCESS PERMITS

In addition to a regular license, a FREE limited issue Access Permit is required to hunt certain areas during this season.

**Limited Issue Access Permits:** Required for the following hunting units and state parks: WRD-27L, WRD-35L, Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve, and Good Earth State Park. Nonresidents should review the 2025 Nonresident Archery Deer and Nonresident Archery Antelope Application materials for more details.

- There is a limited number of these Access Permits.

- Unit WRD-27L (limited to the Hill Ranch Game Production Area; the Forest Service Lands included in and connected to the Hill Ranch GPA boundaries on the south and west sides; and the State managed Bureau of Reclamation Lands adjacent and connected to the Hill Ranch GPA /Forest Service complex north of the Cheyenne River and on the west side of Angostura Reservoir in Fall River County).
  - » Residents: 20 any deer access permits
- Unit WRD-35L (Custer National Forest area in Harding County, except for the West Short Pines and the South Dakota portion of the Long Pines).
  - » Residents: 400 any deer access permits
- Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve
  - » Residents: 10 any deer access permits
- Good Earth State Park
  - » Residents: 5 any deer access permits

- To obtain limited access permits for the above-described hunting units and state parks, you must first purchase the license type that is valid for these areas. Apply for the Access Permits online.

- Only residents may apply for the Limited Access Permits in Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve, and Good Earth State Park.

- Both residents and nonresidents may apply for the Limited Access Permits for Unit WRD-27L and WRD 35L.

- Preference points can only be obtained by applying and being unsuccessful in the drawing.

- The deadline to apply is 8 a.m. CDT July 1. For more information, visit [gfp.sd.gov/pages/access-permit](http://gfp.sd.gov/pages/access-permit).

## Municipal Archery Deer Hunts

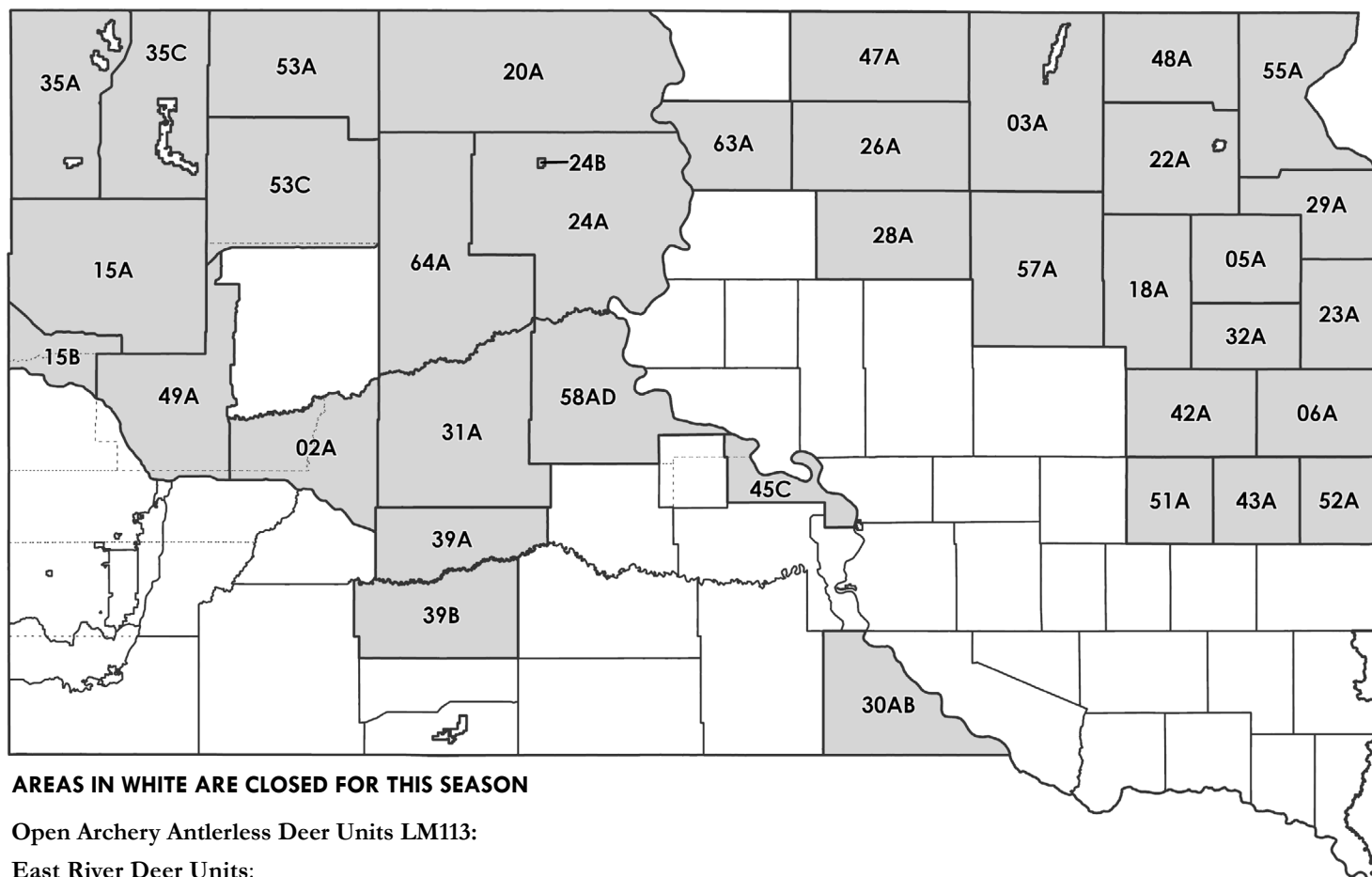
Several municipalities have worked with GFP to develop urban deer management plans to help alleviate issues like vehicle/deer collisions and property damage. Archery deer hunting within city limits can help address issues caused by urban deer populations and provide additional hunting opportunities. Specifically, the municipal governments of Custer, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls have implemented archery deer hunting as a management tool. In addition to the one “antlerless whitetail deer” archery license, applicants can apply for “any antlerless deer” archery licenses for these municipal government archery seasons. Season structure and specific regulations are determined by the appropriate municipality within the requirements and restrictions of the South Dakota archery season. For more information on this opportunity and to apply, visit [gfp.sd.gov/pages/municipal-deer](http://gfp.sd.gov/pages/municipal-deer).



# RESIDENT ARCHERY DEER (ARD)

*Please refer to the West River Deer Season information and the East River Deer Season information on the deer application for unit descriptions.*

## OPEN ARCHERY ANTLERLESS DEER UNITS (LM113 Licenses Only)



### Open Archery Antlerless Deer Units LM113:

#### East River Deer Units:

03A, 05A, 06A, 18A, 22A, 23A, 26A, 28A, 29A, 32A, 42A, 43A, 47A, 48A, 51A, 52A, 55A, 57A, 63A

#### West River Deer Units:

02A, 15A, 15B, 20A, 24A, 24B, 30A, 30B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 39A, 39B, 45C, 49A, 53A, 53C, 58A, 58D, 64A

*Note: Sand Lake and Waubesa Refuges are open, except during the respective Refuge Deer firearm seasons.*

## CONSIDER A DONATION

### SECOND CENTURY HABITAT FUND

The Second Century Habitat Fund is a nonprofit organization that serves as a resource to landowners and conservation organizations to improve habitat through a working lands program that puts more perennial grass on the landscape which will contribute greatly to duck and pheasant nest success and provide other wildlife benefits. The Fund recognizes the importance of conserving the land, enhancing wildlife populations, and getting the next generation involved in outdoor recreation, while increasing support for habitat. To learn more about the Second Century Habitat Fund or to make a donation visit [sdhabitatfund.org](http://sdhabitatfund.org).

### SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER

GFP is cooperating with Sportsmen Against Hunger (SAH) to assist in paying fees for commercial processing of antlerless deer that are donated to the SAH program for needy families. Some things to remember include:

- Processing certificates will be available at participating processors for hunters to use in paying for most or all the processing costs of donated antlerless deer.
- Processing certificates cannot be used for buck deer, antelope, or any other big game but this game can still be donated at hunter processing expense.
- A list of participating processors will be available from the SAH website at [feedtheneedsd.com](http://feedtheneedsd.com) or by calling 800.456.2758.

You can support this program by making financial contributions when you submit your license application.



### TURN IN POACHERS - (TIPS)

South Dakota's Turn In Poachers (TIPs) is a private, non-profit organization run by Wildlife Protection Incorporated. The program is funded through donations from the big game license application check-off, private individual/group donations and through court ordered restitution. Rewards are paid in cash once an arrest is made and informants can protect their identity and remain anonymous. Informants are eligible for rewards of up to \$300 for big game cases and up to \$100 for fish and small game cases. Higher rewards may be paid in extreme cases.

Since the program began, there have been over 13,000 investigations initiated that have resulted over 5,000 arrests. Poachers have paid over \$979,000 in criminal fines and an additional \$933,000 in liquidated civil damages have been assessed to these violators as well. TIPs has paid out more than \$200,000 in cash rewards to individuals that have supplied information that has been critical in achieving these results.



## CONTACT US

### GFP LICENSING OFFICE

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Fort Pierre, SD 57532

605.223.7660 | TTY: 605.223.7684

Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

[gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov)