

2026 LANDOWNER DEER



Draw	Application Opens	Application Closes	Results Available
Nonresident Landowner East River Deer			
First	09/03/2026	09/24/2026, 8:00 AM CDT	09/28/2026
Leftovers	09/30/2026	12/06/2026	
Over the Counter	Purchases Open	Purchases Close	
Landowner Black Hills Deer (LBD)	09/03/2026	11/30/2026	
Landowner West River Deer (LWD)	09/03/2026	12/20/2026	
Resident Landowner East River Deer (LED)	09/03/2026	12/20/2026	

LANDOWNER FREE ANTLERLESS WHITETAIL DEER

ELIGIBILITY

Residents

includes member(s) of the resident's immediate family

- own and operate or lease and operate a minimum of 160 acres, for agricultural purposes.

Nonresidents

includes member(s) of the nonresident's immediate family

- own and operate, for agricultural purposes, a minimum of 640 contiguous acres west of the Missouri River, OR
- own and operate, for agricultural purposes, a minimum of 160 contiguous acres east of the Missouri River.

Any single farm or ranch is entitled to a maximum of two (2) licenses, allowing for the harvest of one antlerless whitetail deer. Qualifying individuals may obtain both licenses, or they may be split between two qualifying individuals on the same farm or ranch.

Definitions

An **immediate family member** means the resident/nonresident's spouse or a child who resides with the resident/nonresident.

Legal entities, including shareholders of a corporation, members of an LLC 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, organized and in good standing under the laws of this state are eligible if:

- The shareholder, member, partner, or trust beneficiary is responsible for making the day-to-day management decisions for "agricultural purposes" on the farm or ranch.

Operate means an individual holding fee title to farm or ranch real property who is directly involved in the management decisions made for agricultural purposes on the farm or ranch.

Agricultural purposes means the producing, raising, growing, 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 is not considered agricultural purposes.

LICENSE AVAILABILITY

The license may be used only in units designated as open, during valid hunting dates, and on land owned or leased by the applicant for the selected season.

West River Deer and East River Deer

Available to qualifying applicants in select hunting units as described below.

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

West River Deer: 02A, 15A, 15B, 20A, 21A, 24A, 24B, 27A, 27B, 30A, 30B, 31A, 35A, 35C, 39A, 39B, 45C, 49A, 53A, 53C, 58A, 58D, 64A

In addition, licenses are valid to qualifying individuals for the Archery Deer, Muzzleloader Deer, Youth Deer, and Apprentice Deer hunting seasons.

Archery Deer, Muzzleloader Deer, Youth Deer

Must meet eligibility requirements for season applied for. The Landowner Free Antlerless Whitetail Deer license is available for all open units as described above for the West River and East River deer seasons. Season dates will be based on the selected season.

Apprentice Deer

Must meet eligibility requirements for this season. The Landowner Free Antlerless Whitetail Deer license is available for all open unit specific to this season. Season dates will be based on the selected season.

There is no fee for qualified individuals, but you must **apply to obtain one**. Licenses may be obtained by application through the end of the specific season and will be valid for the length of the season.

LANDOWNER OWN LAND DEER: BLACK HILLS, EAST RIVER, WEST RIVER

FEE SCHEDULE

License Types	Resident	Nonresident
01 - one any deer	\$25.50	\$190.50
08 - one any deer and one any antlerless deer	\$33.00	\$215.50

ELIGIBILITY

Residents

includes member(s) of the resident's immediate family

- own or lease a minimum of 160 acres, for agricultural purposes.

Nonresidents

includes member(s) of the nonresident's immediate family

- own, for agricultural purposes, a minimum of 640 contiguous acres west of the Missouri River, and is an owner-operator of the land, OR
- own, for agricultural purposes, a minimum of 160 contiguous acres east of the Missouri River, and is an owner-operator of the land.

This license entitles the resident or nonresident to hunt on land owned or leased by the resident or nonresident within any open firearms unit for that specific season.

A qualifying applicant or a qualifying immediate family member may not purchase the landowner own land deer license if they hold a big game license that permits the harvest of a buck during that same hunting season.

Definitions

An **immediate family member** means the resident/nonresident's spouse or a child who resides with the resident/nonresident.

Legal entities, including shareholders of a corporation, members of an LLC 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, organized and in good standing under the laws of this state are eligible if:

- The shareholder, member, partner, or trust beneficiary is responsible for making the day-to-day management decisions for "agricultural purposes" on the farm or ranch.

Owner/Operator means an individual holding fee title to farm or ranch real property who is directly involved in the management decisions made for agricultural purposes on the farm or ranch.

Agricultural purposes means the producing, raising, growing, 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 is not considered agricultural purposes.

LICENSE AVAILABILITY

Unit	Type	Resident		Nonresident	
LBD-BH1	01	Unlimited	—		
LBD-BH1	08	Unlimited	—		
LED-ER1	01	Unlimited	—	250	—
LED-ER1	08	Unlimited	—	250	—
LWD-WR1	01	Unlimited	—	Unlimited	—
LWD-WR1	08	Unlimited	—	Unlimited	—

LICENSE CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR - NO CHANGE —

*There are a TOTAL of 250 nonresident landowner own land tags available between both tag types - 01 and 08. Landowners must choose between these upon application.

SEASON DATES

Black Hills: November 1-30, 2026

East River: November 21-December 6, 2026

West River*: November 14-29, 2026

Gregory County is also open November 7-10, 2026

Antlerless only season: Valid in West River and East River seasons. Only those tags specifically designated as "antlerless" are valid from December 12-20, 2026. Any Deer do not convert for this antlerless only season.

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/hunt-fish-license/> to view application information, residency and age requirements, landowner preference, preference points, and license fee explanations.

[Unit Descriptions and Map](#)

[Interactive Hunting Unit Map](#)

CONTACT US

GFP LICENSING OFFICE
20641 SD Hwy 1806
Fort Pierre, SD 57532
605.223.7660 | TTY: 605.223.7684
Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
gfp.sd.gov

NOTE: All applications must be submitted [online](#).