

STATEWIDE MOUNTAIN LION SUMMARY 2010

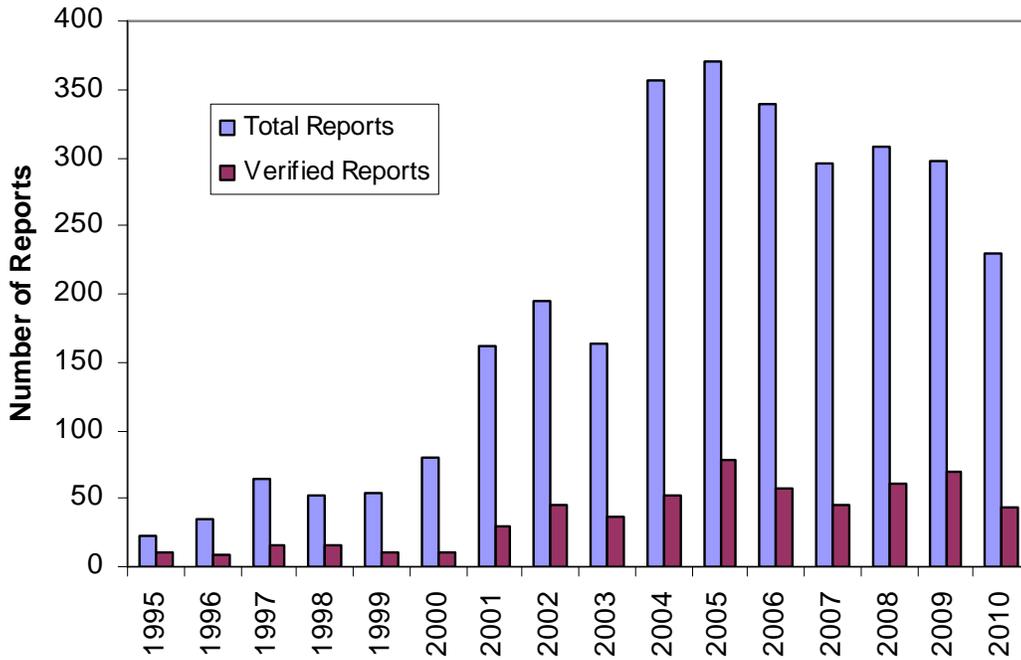
Mountain Lion Reports

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks documents and investigates all reports of mountain lions from the public. Mountain lion reports were documented from January 1 to December 31, 2010. Reports are classified as either verified (evidence of a lion), unverified (no evidence to classify as verified or unfounded) or unfounded (evidence that the report is not a lion). A total of 229 reports were documented in 2010, compared to 298 reports in 2009. The total number of reports declined in 2010 by 23% from 2009 (Graph 1). The number of verified reports decreased in 2010 by 37%, from 70 to 44 (Graph 1). Reports were taken across the state but were most prevalent in the Black Hills Region. Reports were fairly evenly distributed across the 12 month period in 2010 (Graph 2). As part of the Department's continuing effort to educate the public about mountain lions, brochures were made available to individuals reporting a lion. In 2010 78% of individual reporting a lion were given a brochure. The following figures, tables, and graphs summarize the information collected from mountain lion reports:

Figure 1. Locations of lion reports in South Dakota in 2010. Locations were not recorded for all reports, some reports may not be shown on the map.



Graph 1. Total and verified mountain lion sightings/reports 1995 – 2010.



Graph 2. Total reports by month January 1 – December 31, 2010.

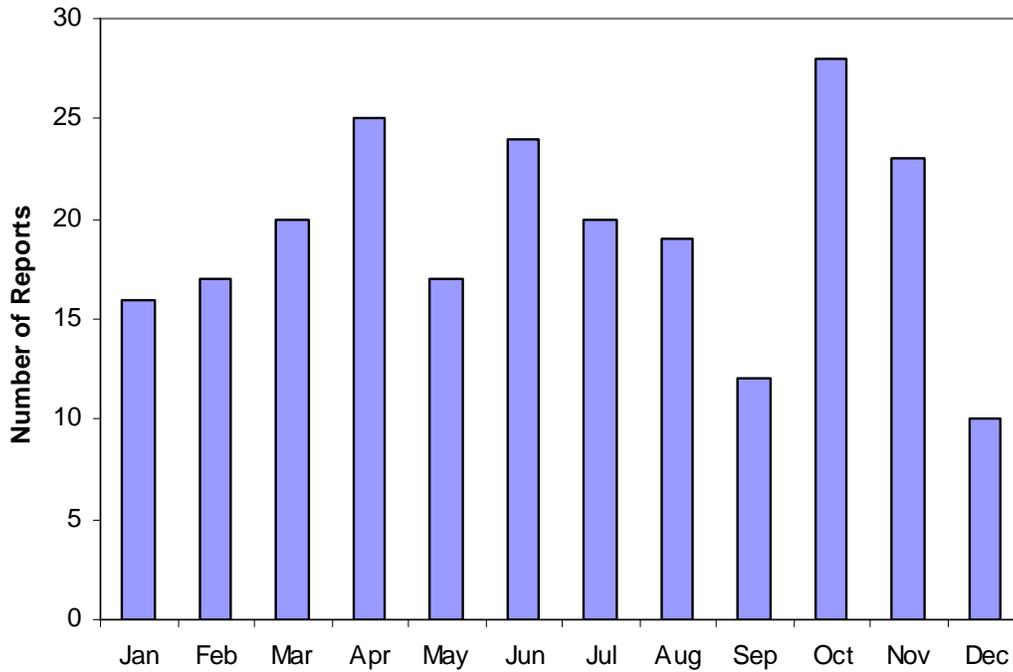


Table 1. Location of Observations:

City Limits	37*
Rural Subdivision	71
Rural Agriculture	46
Unpopulated	11

Table 2. Reported Cougar Behavior:

Not Seen	70*
Sedentary	8
Walking	29
Running	10
Chasing/Stalk	13
Aggressive/Defensive	3
Evasive	5

Table 3. Sighting/Event Verification:

Verified (Evidence that it was a lion)	44
Unverified (No evidence one way or the other)	149
Unfounded (Evidence that it was not a lion)	36

Table 4. Type of Event Reported:

	Total Reports	Verified Reports
Attack Livestock	17	6
Attack Pet	9	4
Close Encounter	8	4
Threatening Encounter	2	1
Sign	35	1
Sound	1	0
Visual Observation	139	19
Wildlife Kill	17	9

Table 5. Number of Reports by County:

County	Total Reports	Verified Reports
Aurora	1	0
Brookings	3	1
Brown	3	0
Brule	1	0
Butte	2	0
Charles Mix	2	0
Clark	1	0
Clay	1	0
Codington	1	0
Custer	23	11

Davison	1	0
Day	3	0
Douglas	1	0
Edmunds	3	0
Fall River	9	4
Grant	6	0
Gregory	1	0
Hamlin	2	0
Hand	1	0
Hughes	2	0
Jerauld	1	0
Kingsbury	1	0
Lake	2	0
Lawrence	29	14
Lincoln	1	0
Lyman	1	0
Marshall	1	0
McCook	1	0
McPherson	1	0
Meade	15	1
Miner	2	0
Minnehaha	8	0
Moody	3	1
Pennington	87	13
Perkins	2	0
Roberts	2	0
Tripp	2	0
Turner	1	0
Yankton	3	0

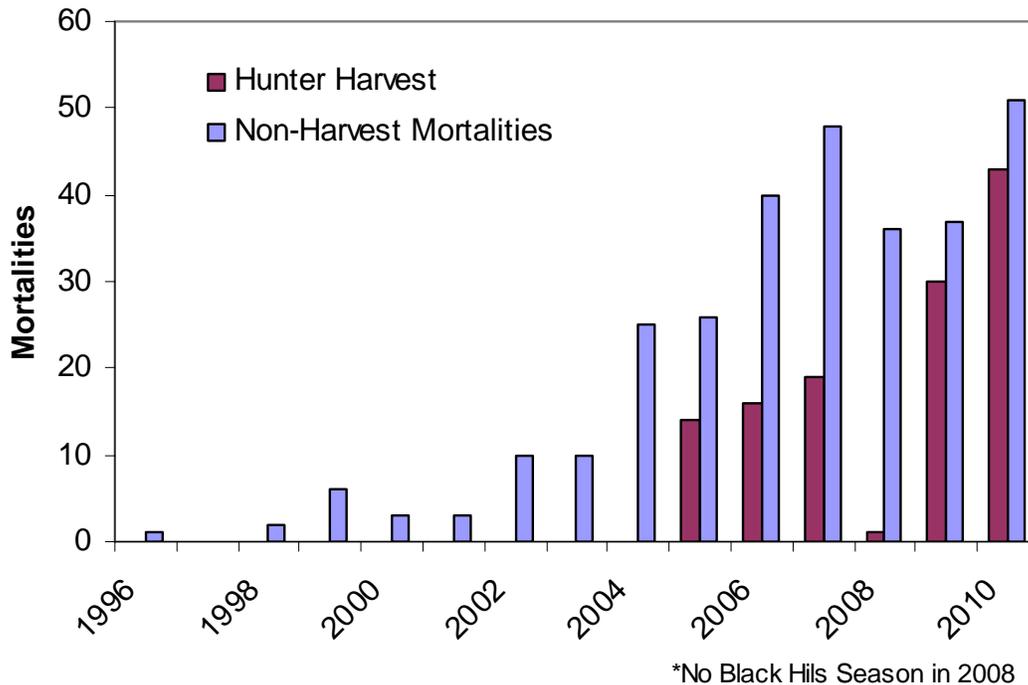
* Not all fields are required and totals may not add up to the total number of reports

Mountain Lion Mortality

Table 6. 2010 Mountain Lion Mortality Summary.

Classification of Mortality	Total	% of Total
Removal	18	19.1%
Public Removal	5	5.3%
Vehicle	15	16.0%
Hunter Harvest	43	45.7%
Interaction	3	3.2%
Sick/Emaciation	2	2.1%
Incidental Trapping	3	3.2%
Unknown	5	5.3%
Total	94	

Graph 3. Mountain Lion Mortalities by Year.



Mountain Lion Hunting Season

Season Design:

- Regular season dates were Jan 1, 2010 – Mar 31, 2010.
- Landowner season was year round outside of Black Hills Fire Protection District. Landowners who purchased a mountain lion tag were allowed to hunt outside the regular mountain lion season, restricted to their own land, and limited to one lion per calendar year.
- Quota of 40 total lions or 25 female lions
- Unlimited licenses with only one license per hunter.
 - Fee \$15, valid statewide
 - 2380 licenses sold
- NO dogs, trapping or baiting.
- NO harvest of spotted lions or lions traveling together.
- Mandatory check of lions harvested within 24 hours @ Rapid City Regional Office

Figure 2. Mountain Lion Harvest Locations:

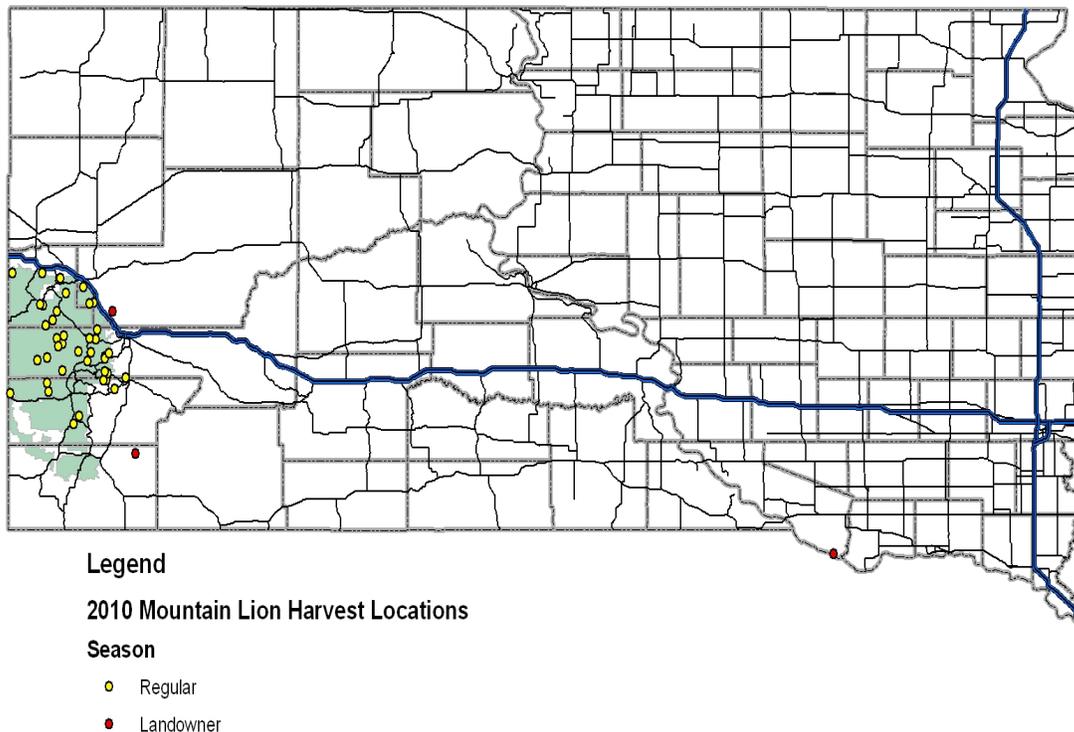


Table 7. Mountain Lion Harvest Summary

<u>ID Number</u>	<u>Date of Harvest</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Estimated Age</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Location of Harvest</u>
SD-01-10	1/1/2010	F	5-6	60	2 NW of Piedmont
SD-02-10	1/1/2010	F	5-6	70	4 SE of Cheyenne Crossing
SD-03-10	1/1/2010	F	4-5	91	3 SW of Hayward
SD-04-10	1/1/2010	F	2	84	3 N of Johnson Siding
SD-05-10	1/2/2010	M	6 mo	40	3 SW of Mystic
SD-06-10	1/2/2010	M	1.5	66	3 SE of Cheyenne Crossing
SD-07-10	1/2/2010	F	1	52	3 SW of Deerfield Lake
SD-08-10	1/3/2010	M	3-4	139	3 S of Rochford
SD-09-10	1/3/2010	F	9 mo	57	3 S of Brownsville
SD-10-10	1/6/2010	F	5	93	1 NW Hayward
SD-11-10	1/8/2010	F	5 mo	28	3 NE Pringle
SD-12-10	1/8/2010	M	1.5	107	6 SW Hill City
SD-13-10	1/9/2010	F	4	100	1 W Stratobowl
SD-14-10	1/10/2010	M	5	145	3 NE of Deadwood
SD-15-10	1/11/2010	F	5-6	101	5 S of Silver City
SD-16-10	1/15/2010	F	1-2	68	4 NW of Rochford
SD-17-10	1/17/2010	F	6 mo	31	1 W Stratobowl
SD-18-10	1/18/2010	F	5-6	87	2 N of Sheridan Lake
SD-19-10	1/22/2010	F	4	74	1 N of Mystic
SD-20-10	1/24/2010	M	2-3	120	2 NW of Hermosa
SD-21-10	1/25/2010	F	2-3	98	1 N Stratobowl
SD-22-10	1/29/2010	M	3	128	4 NE of Jewel Cave
SD-23-10	1/29/2010	M	6 mo	49	4 S of Deerfield Lake
SD-24-10	1/30/2010	M	2-3	113	4 SW of Mystic
SD-25-10	1/31/2010	F	5-6	96	1 W of Galena
SD-26-10	2/2/2010	F	3	86	1 S of Pringle
SD-27-10	2/3/2010	M	6	140	9 SW of Spearfish
SD-28-10	2/5/2010	M	3	134	6 NE of Jewel Cave
SD-29-10	2/5/2010	F	8-10	97	2 E Harney
SD-30-10	2/6/2010	F	5-6	92	3 SE of Spearfish
SD-31-10	2/7/2010	M	2	105	1 S of Johnson Siding

SD-32-10	2/8/2010	M	4	137	3 N of Elk Mountain
SD-33-10	2/8/2010	F	5	89	1 SW of Sheridan Lake
SD-34-10	2/9/2010	F	5-6	68	4 S of Harney
SD-35-10	2/9/2010	M	2-3	146	4 W Hermosa
SD-36-10	2/10/2010	F	4-5	72	1 E of Wonderland Cave
SD-37-10	2/10/2010	M	2-3	130	2 W of Johnson Siding
SD-38-10	2/10/2010	F	3-4	91	1 E of Harney
SD-39-10	2/10/2010	M	8-9	104	4 N of Rochford
SD-40-10	2/10/2010	F	4	96	2 S of Sturgis
LO-01-10	10/27/2010	M	2	127	2 E Piedmont
LO-02-10	11/19/2010	F	1-1.5	68	3 NE Oral
LO-03-10	12/17/2010	M	2-3	129	S of Wagner