



2025

BIG GAME RECOMMENDATIONS

- Pronghorn Antelope, Deer and Elk Seasons
- Bag Limits and Unit Areas



Justin Haag/Nebraskaland Magazine/NGPC

OutdoorNebraska.gov

BIG GAME RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Big Game Recommendations is to summarize the staff recommendations for antelope, deer and elk permit quotas, bag limits and unit boundaries. Inputs such as harvest data, biological data and stakeholder desires that are primarily used in those decisions are included, where applicable. For the sake of space and useability, it is not a comprehensive document, and other details may be referenced but not included.

Recommendations for big game seasons are developed under the following objective:

Provide quality hunting and viewing opportunities within the limits of the big game resource while maintaining populations at a level that most landowners will accept in terms of damage.

This Big Game Recommendations is not a rulebook, the rules guiding our seasons are set in Statutes, Regulations and Orders. Commission Order C03 Antelope, Deer and Elk is the set of orders that contains the unit descriptions, permit quotas and bag limits that these staff recommendations are focused on.

Decision making process: The Management Section of the NGPC's Wildlife Division is charged with developing staff recommendations for big game each year. Many sources of input are considered during this long process. The sources of input and the process in which staff recommendations are developed are outlined below.

Sources of Input: Each of the following are sources of input that are considered in this process. These are listed in no particular order and may be prioritized situationally.

1. Harvest Data
 - a. This data is facilitated by our mandatory harvest reporting requirement.
 - b. Other hunter survey data.
2. Biological Data
 - a. Herd composition data (age and sex ratios)
 - b. Population trends, estimates or models
 - c. Survival data (when available)
 - d. Disease data (when applicable)
 - e. Other data as needed.
3. Agency Staff
 - a. Staff from all divisions are welcome to provide input, typically coordinated by Management Section District Managers.
4. Stakeholders: Stakeholder input is considered at each step of the process below.
 - a. Hunters
 - b. Landowners
 - c. General public
5. Public Meetings
 - a. Winter big game meetings (December or January)
 - b. Landowner meetings (as scheduled or necessary)
 - c. Commission meetings
6. Other pertinent information.

Staff Recommendation Development Process: Sources of Input are considered at each step below and recommendations may be adjusted at any point in this process. The process flows down the outline.

1. Management Section District Managers (DM) work with local staff to compile and complete staff recommendations for each permit within their district.
 - a. DM's often work closely with District Biologists and Program Managers in this step.
 - b. DM's consolidate district recommendations to present to Management Council
2. Management Council Meeting
 - a. Staff recommendations are discussed over the course of a several day meeting, typically in late January or early February. However, many subjects are discussed at other meetings throughout the year.
 - b. Management Council is made up of:
 - i. Wildlife Division Administration
 - ii. Program Managers
 - iii. Management Section District Managers
 1. One Management Section Biologist from each District
 - iv. One Partners Section District Manager
 - v. Law Enforcement Representative(s)
 - vi. Permits Section Representative
 - vii. Additional staff as needed.
 - c. Staff Recommendations that result from Management Council are advanced to the next step.
3. Wildlife Administration and Big Game Program Manager (BGPM) Review
 - a. Staff Recommendations that were advanced from Management Council are reviewed for advancement to NGPC Administration
4. NGPC Administration Review
 - a. Wildlife Administration and BGPM meet with NGPC Administration to discuss staff recommendations for approval to advance to the Commission.
5. Commission Review
 - a. Commissioners are briefed on staff recommendations.
6. Commission Approval
 - a. Commission Order C03 Antelope, Deer and Elk with staff recommendations included is made public in accordance with The Administrative Procedures Act ahead of the April Commission meeting.
 - b. The Recommendations Book is given to each Commissioner and is publicly available.
 - c. Public input on recommended changes is sought through this process.
 - d. Staff recommendations to C03 are considered and voted on by the Commission.
 - e. Orders are effective 15 days after posting on the agency website following passage by the Commission.

PRONGHORN

INTRODUCTION

Permit demand remains high and all general FAMZ permits took a minimum of 2-5 points to draw. All applicants in the landowner drawing drew permits, there were leftover permits in each unit following the drawing. Of the available landowner permits only 53% of the October Firearm and 25% of the Late Doe/Fawn permits sold.

Total pronghorn harvest was 782 in 2024, with 578 bucks and 204 does and fawns taken. Populations had been stable and increasing from 2010-20 and allowed hunters to harvest between 700-900 bucks annually. Pronghorn populations have declined significantly over the last 4 years, due to increased harvest, drought and a major EHD event in 2021.

Compared to 2020 harvest (highest in recent history) levels, buck harvest has declined 36% and doe harvest has been reduced 47%. Success rates have declined over the past 4 years as populations have declined.

Of the 2,536 permits issued in 2024, 49% of the buyers were archers, 47% were rifle hunters and 5% were muzzleloaders. Harvest by weapon type was 66% firearm, 18% archery, 10% muzzleloader and 6% crossbow.

Archery permits are unlimited for residents and permit sales continue to be high but are 14% below their peak in 2020. The nonresident limit of 250 successfully limited and mitigated the spike in NR archery harvest and pressure, which had increased until the quota was limited in 2021. The relatively low success rate of archers at 15-25% minimizes impact on herds. Archery season is primarily considered a recreational hunt, however archery accounts for 40-50% of our pronghorn hunters and about 25% of pronghorn buck harvest statewide, so the impact of pressure and harvest is not insignificant.

Management goals are to:

1. Stabilize or increase populations in all units.
2. Provide adequate doe permits in all units (except Eastern Sandhills and Dismal) to handle depredation complaints.

Recommendations for 2025 include:

- Box Butte West – Remove 10 Gen ES and 10 Gen D/F
- Dismal – Close Late D/F Season, remove 10 Gen D/F
- Garden – Remove 10 Gen D/F
- Prairie Muzzleloader – Remove 3 ES permits according to protocol (25% of FA)
- North Sioux Late – Extend east boundary to Dawes-Sheridan County line.
- Corresponding Landowner permit changes with each change above.

Summary: Remove 10 Gen ES permits and 30 Gen D/F permits.

Overall, 2025 Recommendations result in 22 fewer ES permits and 52 fewer D/F permits available statewide.

PRONGHORN SEASON MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Historically, Nebraska's pronghorn populations have had large fluctuations in response to population declines caused by winter storms, drought or other factors. Large permit reductions or season closures have been common, as staff has responded to significant changes in populations.

It is the intent of NGPC staff to incorporate specific harvest goals and management strategies that use biological data for making harvest recommendations. The specific goals and strategies may be adjusted in the future as we increase our understanding of our pronghorn herds.

Harvest Goals:

1. Maintain a minimum harvest success of 65% for Either Sex Firearm Permits.
2. Yearling buck (age 1.5) harvest should be less than 20% of total buck harvest.

Management strategies:

1. Consider a **permit increase** when harvest success is greater than 75% and harvest goals have been met and after evaluation of other population indicators.
2. Consider **issuing "either sex"** or doe/fawn permits and/or authorizing a depredation season when population objectives and/or cultural tolerance levels have been met or exceeded and after evaluation of all other population indicators.
3. Consider a **permit decrease** when harvest success is less than 65%, harvest goals are not met, and after evaluation of other population indicators.
4. Consider **closing the unit** to hunting when harvest success is less than 50% and/or buck/doe ratio is greater than 1:8, and/or the yearling buck harvest exceeds 50% of total buck harvest and after evaluation of other population indicators.
5. Consider **opening the unit** for pronghorn harvest after evaluation of population indicators.

RECOMMENDED PRONGHORN SEASONS AND HARVEST

Season Dates: Archery: August 20 through December 31, 2025
 Muzzleloader: September 20 through October 4, 2025
 October Firearm: October 11 through October 26, 2025
 Late Doe/Fawn: November 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026

<u>2025 Season Recommendations</u>				<u>2024 Season Results</u>									
<u>Permit Type</u>	<u>Gen¹</u>	<u>LO¹</u>	<u>Type²</u>	<u>Auth</u>		<u>Sold</u>		<u>Type²</u>	<u>Harvest</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	
				<u>Gen</u>	<u>LO¹</u>	<u>Gen</u>	<u>LO¹</u>		<u>B</u>	<u>D/F</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Age 1.5</u>	
Banner North	50	37	ES	50	37	50	37	ES	40	6	53%	13%	
Banner South	60	45	ES	60	45	60	32	ES	39	10	53%	13%	
Box Butte East	20	15	ES	20	15	20	14	ES	17	1	53%	6%	
Box Butte West	40	30	ES	50	37	50	35	ES	39	4	51%	5%	
Cherry	60	45	ES	60	45	60	39	ES	42	5	47%	21%	
Cheyenne	30	22	ES	30	22	30	22	ES	21	4	48%	10%	
Dismal	30	22	ES	30	22	30	22	ES	25	3	54%	0%	
Eastern Sandhills	20	15	ES	20	15	20	11	ES	9	0	29%	11%	
Garden	40	30	ES	40	30	40	31	ES	32	2	48%	3%	
North Sioux	100	75	ES	100	75	100	47	ES	83	14	66%	16%	
All Oct Firearm	450	336		460	343	460	290		347	49	53%	11%	
Banner North Late	30	22	D/F	30	22	30	11	D/F	0	10	24%	-	
Banner South Late	60	45	D/F	60	45	60	5	D/F	0	13	20%	-	
Box Butte East Late	30	22	D/F	30	22	30	7	D/F	1	9	27%	-	
Box Butte West Late	40	30	D/F	50	37	50	11	D/F	0	23	38%	-	
Cherry Late	30	22	D/F	30	22	30	6	D/F	0	9	25%	-	
Cheyenne Late	30	22	D/F	30	22	30	16	D/F	0	14	30%	-	
Dismal Late	-	-	-	10	7	10	4	D/F	0	5	36%	-	
Garden Late	30	22	D/F	40	30	40	15	D/F	0	20	36%	-	
North Sioux Late	80	60	D/F	80	60	80	3	D/F	0	20	24%	-	
Total Late D/F	330	245		360	267	360	78		1	123	28%		
North Sioux MZ	25	18	ES	25	18	25	0	ES	14	2	64%	21%	
Prairie MZ	87	65	ES	90	67	90	3	ES	58	3	66%	16%	
MZ Total	112	83		115	85	115	3		72	5	65%	17%	
Firearm and MZ Total	892	664		935	695	935	371		420	177			
	1556			1630		1306							
Multi-Species	3			3		3		ES	1	0	-	-	
Archery (SW, LO, Y)	UNL/ 250 NR	UNL	ES	UNL/250NR		998/250NR 1248 Total		ES	157	27	15%	22%	
TOTALS	-	-		-		2554			578	204	31%	15%	

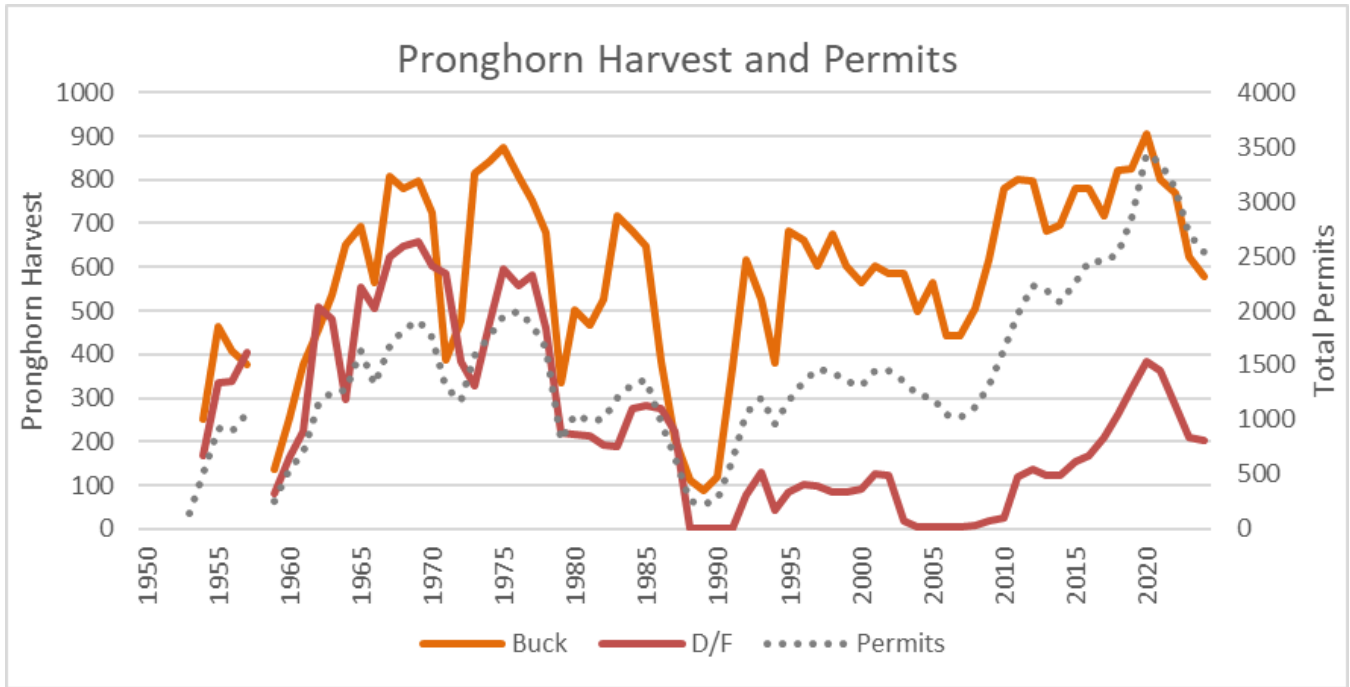
¹Gen – Non-Landowner, LO – Landowner, All LO permits have a bonus D/F tag

²Permit Type: ES --- Either Sex D/F --- Doe Fawn

HISTORIC PRONGHORN HARVEST

20-Year Pronghorn Permits and Harvest History

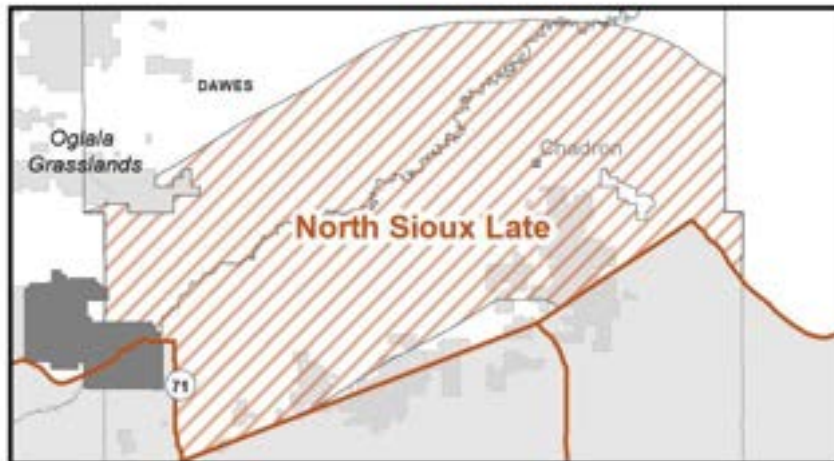
YEAR	PERMITS ISSUED					HARVEST		
	Oct. Firearm	Late D/F	MZ	Resident Archery	NR Archery	Bucks	D/F	% Bucks Age 1
2005	657	0	171	339		565	5	26%
2006	456	0	116	418	61	444	5	18%
2007	419	0	106	432	69	444	4	15%
2008	417	0	113	510	80	505	7	10%
2009	492	0	120	614	83	615	20	12%
2010	638	40	141	698	133	779	26	10%
2011	695	139	153	778	194	799	118	6%
2012	726	205	152	896	244	798	137	15%
2013	748	203	145	800	286	683	122	12%
2014	695	187	138	816	237	696	121	15%
2015	692	206	164	922	275	779	155	10%
2016	716	252	158	987	329	781	168	8%
2017	733	332	161	957	300	718	210	13%
2018	755	406	160	900	264	823	263	10%
2019	791	570	161	962	356	825	321	10%
2020	897	649	176	1167	543	904	383	9%
2021	918	880	181	1130	250	799	362	12%
2022	962	705	165	1028	250	771	283	14%
2023	783	555	147	961	250	625	209	16%
2024	750	438	118	998	250	578	208	15%



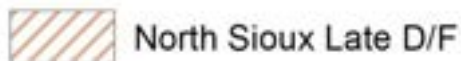
2025 PRONGHORN MANAGEMENT UNITS



North Sioux Late D/F Detail



North Sioux Late Doe/Fawn permits are not valid on the Oglala National Grasslands (USFS), Fort Robinson State Park, Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area, and Bordeaux Creek Wildlife Management Area.



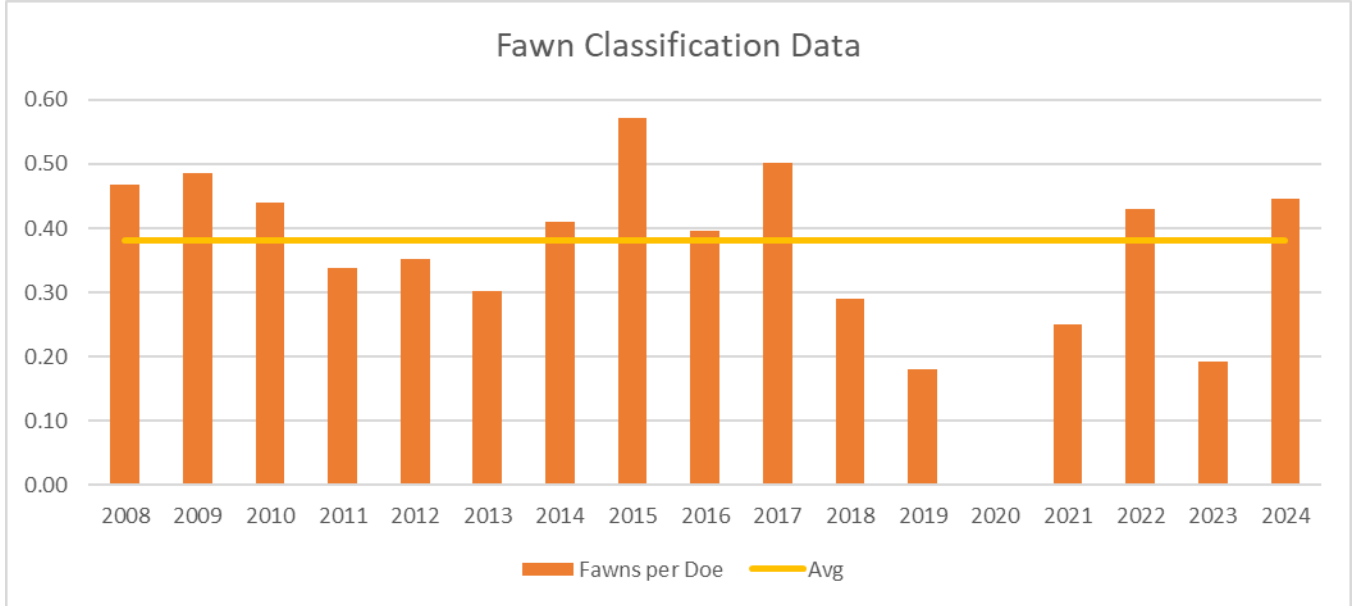
2025 PRONGHORN MUZZLELOADER



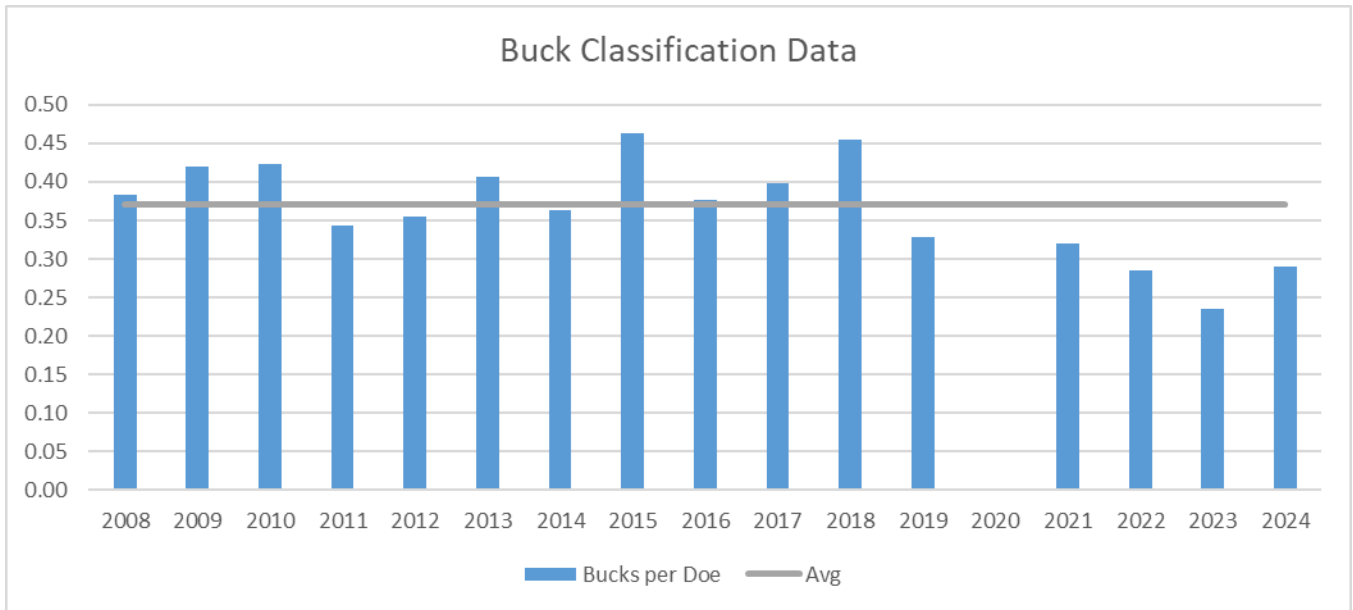
PRONGHORN SURVEY RESULTS

The aerial survey was replaced with a ground classification survey the last 2 years to collect buck and fawn ratios. The future status of the aerial population survey is unknown at this point.

The pronghorn fawn ratio has been below average 4 of the last 6 survey years. Fawn production was higher than our survey average in 2024. Fawn production is highly variable and low production would indicate that D/F harvest can have a much greater population impact when production levels are low.



The buck ratio has been trending down and has been below the long-term average since 2018. This would indicate that we're harvesting proportionally more bucks than in years past or that there are fewer bucks available on the landscape. Annual buck survival of 0.53 from the UNL research project corroborates this. Buck ratios remained below the historic average in 2024.



BANNER NORTH MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Banner North: 50 Either Sex and 37 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Banner North Late: 30 Doe/Fawn only and 22 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn only. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 52% in 2024 compared to 47% last year. Success on late season doe/fawn was 22%, compared to 14% last year.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) continue to alleviate depredation complaints through late season doe/fawn permits, and 2) Increase hunter success and buck quality.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	50	32	3	35	70%	-	16%	91%
LO Oct Firearm	37	8	3	11	27%	3%	0%	73%
Total Oct Firearm	87	40	6	46	52%	-	13%	87%
Gen Late D/F	30	0	8	8	27%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	11	0	2	2	9%	9%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	41	0	10	10	22%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	9	3	12	-	-	33%	75%
Muzzleloader	-	4	1	5	-	-	0%	80%
Auction/Lottery	-	0	0	0			-	-
Total Harvest	-	53	20	73	-	-	15%	73%

BANNER NORTH MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	118	37	155	11%	76%	24%	16%	6%	78%
2021	102	27	130	12%	79%	21%	15%	11%	75%
2022	100	16	116	14%	86%	14%	7%	6%	87%
2023	52	13	65	15%	80%	20%	6%	10%	85%
2024	53	20	73	15%	73%	27%	17%	8%	75%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 90 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	Gen 50 1D/F LO 25 2D/F	0	Not completed		
2021	Gen 90 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	Gen 70 1D/F LO 35 2D/F (9)	0	758	17	15
2022	Gen 90 ES LO 67 ES, 1D/F (3)	Gen 50 1D/F LO 37 2D/F (23)	2	Not completed		
2023	Gen 70 ES LO 52 ES, 1D/F (21)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (10)	1	-	23	16
2024	Gen 50 ES LO 37 ES, 1D/F (0)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (11)	0	-	47	24
2025*	Gen 50 ES LO 37 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F				

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 50 bucks and 15 does and fawns.

BANNER SOUTH MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Banner South: 60 Either Sex and 45 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Banner South Late: 60 Doe/Fawn Only and 45 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn Only. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for the firearm season was 51% compared to 53% last year. Late season success was 20%, compared to 31% last year.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) alleviate depredation complaints through late season doe/fawn permits, and 2) increase buck quality and success.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	60	34	7	41	68%	-	9%	83%
LO Oct Firearm	32	5	3	8	19%	6%	40%	63%
Total Oct Firearm	92	39	10	49	51%	-	13%	80%
Gen Late D/F	60	0	13	13	22%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	5	-	0	0	0%	0%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	65	0	13	13	20%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	13	1	14	-	-	8%	93%
Muzzleloader	-	6	0	6	-	-	0%	100%
Total Harvest	-	58	24	82	-	-	10%	71%

BANNER SOUTH MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	129	74	203	7%	64%	36%	35%	4%	61%
2021	146	72	218	14%	67%	33%	27%	9%	64%
2022	137	43	180	13%	76%	24%	21%	18%	61%
2023	86	36	122	10%	70%	30%	19%	13%	68%
2024	58	24	82	10%	71%	29%	22%	10%	67%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 80 ES LO 40 ES, 1D/F	Gen 90 1D/F LO 45 2D/F (32)	6	Not Completed		
2021	Gen 90 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	BS Gen 150 1D/F BS LO 75 1D/F (71) BSE Gen 20 1D/F BSE LO 10 2D/F (10)	0	704	10	29
2022	Gen 90 ES LO 67 ES, 1D/F (36)	BS Gen 150 1D/F BS LO 75 2D/F (69) BSE Gen 20 1D/F BSE LO 15 2D/F (15)	2	Not Completed		
2023	Gen 90 ES LO 67 ES, 1D/F (41)	BS Gen 80 1D/F BS LO 60 2D/F (47)	0	-	8	20
2024	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F (13)	BS Gen 60 1D/F BS LO 45 2D/F (40)	0	-	23	18
2025*	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	BS Gen 60 1D/F BS LO 45 2D/F				

* Recommended permits

** Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 60 Bucks and 25 Does and Fawns

BOX BUTTE EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Box Butte East: 20 Either Sex and 15 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Box Butte East Late: 30 Doe/Fawn only and 22 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn only. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 53% compared to 67% last year. Late season success was 27%, compared to 33% last year. The terrain features and lack of complete road access in the eastern part of this unit creates visual limitations to hunters pursuing pronghorn and as a result, success can be variable from year to year if winter migrations haven't concentrated pronghorn on agriculture fields.

Depredation complaints: 1

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The August aerial survey was completed in 2023 and indicates an increased population. Survey methodology has recently changed. An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) Increase current population levels, 2) maintain hunter success, 3) maintain buck quality, and 4) address depredation issues with late doe/fawn permits. Winter migrations into the area continue but numbers of pronghorn are much lower than historic highs. Percent of adult bucks harvested on either sex permits reached desirable levels and percentage of yearling bucks did is also at desired levels. Maintaining October firearm permits is recommended to meet Objectives 1,2, and 3. Recommendation to maintain doe/fawn tags will still allow ample permits to meet objective 4 but allow for an increase in population to meet objective 1.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	20	14	0	14	70%	-	7%	100%
LO Oct Firearm	14	3	1	4	29%	0%	0%	75%
Total Oct Firearm	34	17	1	18	53%	-	6%	94%
Gen Late D/F	30	1	9	10	33%	-	-	10%
LO Late D/F	7	0	0	0	0%	0%	-	-
Total Late D/F	37	1	9	10	27%	-	-	10%
Archery	-	6	1	7	-	-	17%	86%
Muzzleloader	-	3	0	3	-	-	0%	100%
Total Harvest	-	27	11	38	-	-	11%	71%

BOX BUTTE EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	46	41	87	2%	53%	47%	22%	11%	67%
2021	31	21	52	24%	60%	40%	13%	10%	77%
2022	29	12	41	28%	71%	29%	24%	14%	62%
2023	27	16	43	22%	63%	37%	11%	11%	78%
2024	27	11	38	11%	71%	29%	22%	11%	67%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1D/F	Gen 50 1D/F LO 25 2D/F (7)	1	Not Completed		
2021	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1D/F	Gen 70 1D/F LO 35 2D/F (21)	1	98	25	18
2022	Gen 30 ES LO 22 ES, 1D/F	Gen 50 1D/F LO 37 2D/F (34)	1	Not Completed		
2023	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F (2)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (14)	1	-	23	30
2024	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F	1	-	47	24
2025*	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F				

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 25 Bucks and 15 Does and Fawns

BOX BUTTE WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Box Butte West: 40 Either Sex and 30 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. Reduction of 17 permits from 2024.

Box Butte West Late: 40 Doe/Fawn Only and 30 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn Only. Reduction of 17 permits from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 46% compared to 59% last year. Late season success was 36%, compared to 24% last year. Terrain features and lack of complete road access in the unit creates visual limitations to hunters pursuing pronghorn and as a result, success can be variable from year to year. This unit also receives high use from archers and muzzleloader hunters.

Depredation complaints: 2; DCP: 1

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) increase current populations levels, 2) address depredation issues, and 3) maintain buck quality and success. Percent adult bucks harvested on the either sex permit remains good while percent yearling buck in the harvest continues to meet objectives.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	50	26	0	26	52%	-	0%	100%
LO Oct Firearm	35	13	4	17	37%	11%	15%	77%
Total Oct Firearm	85	39	4	44	46%	-	5%	91%
Gen Late D/F	50	0	20	20	40%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	11	0	3	3	18%	9%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	61	0	23	23	36%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	22	6	28	-	-	18%	79%
Muzzleloader	-	14	1	15	-	-	29%	93%
Total Harvest	-	75	34	109	-	-	13%	69%

BOX BUTTE WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	154	45	199	7%	77%	23%	47%	16%	37%
2021	115	69	184	6%	63%	37%	31%	15%	54%
2022	114	61	175	7%	65%	35%	26%	16%	58%
2023	81	38	119	16%	68%	32%	19%	20%	62%
2024	75	34	109	13%	69%	31%	29%	19%	52%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 60 ES LO 30 ES, 1D/F	Gen 60 1D/F LO 30 2D/F	1	Not completed		
2021	Gen 60 ES LO 30 ES, 1D/F	Gen 120 1D/F LO 60 2D/F (45)	1	2243	19	20
2022	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	Gen 120 1D/F LO 90 2D/F (77)	1	Not completed		
2023	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F (19)	Gen 75 1D/F LO 56 2D/F (47)	3	1125	9	18
2024	Gen 50 ES LO 37 ES, 1D/F (2)	Gen 50 1D/F LO 37 2D/F (26)	2 (1)	-	47	42
2025*	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES, 1D/F	Gen 40 1D/F LO 30 2D/F				

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 75 Bucks and 35 Does and Fawns

CHERRY MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Cherry: 60 Either Sex permits with 45 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Cherry Late: 30 Doe/Fawn permits with 22 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn permits. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 45% compared to 57% last year. Late season success was 22%, compared to 28% last year. The terrain features and lack of complete road access in the Cherry Unit creates visual limitations to hunters pursuing pronghorn and, as a result, success can be highly variable from year to year.

Depredation complaints: 1; DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: August aerial survey was completed in 2023 and shows a slight increase in population from 2021 but continues to trend down since 2010. An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021. Depredation complaints were due to the severe winter.

The objectives are to: 1) Increase current populations levels, 2) address depredation issues in problem areas through late season doe/fawn permits, and 3) increase buck quality/success.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	60	34	3	37	62%	-	21%	92%
LO Oct Firearm	39	8	2	10	21%	5%	25%	80%
Total Oct Firearm	99	42	5	47	45%	-	21%	89%
Gen Late D/F	30	0	7	7	23%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	6	0	2	2	17%	17%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	36	0	9	9	22%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	11	1	12	-	-	9%	92%
Muzzleloader	-	4	0	4	-	-	25%	100%
Total Harvest	-	57	15	72	-	-	19%	79%

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	71	16	87	9%	82%	18%	15%	10%	75%
2021	65	25	90	14%	72%	28%	15%	9%	75%
2022	62	20	82	11%	76%	24%	13%	13%	74%
2023	64	23	87	16%	74%	26%	17%	5%	78%
2024	57	15	72	19%	79%	21%	19%	7%	74%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 80 ES LO 40 ES, 1D/F	Gen 20 1D/F LO 10 2D/F (3)	0	Not completed		
2021	Gen 80 ES LO 40 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 15 2D/F (8)	0	928	14	40
2022	Gen 80 ES LO 60 ES, 1D/F (15)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (16)	0	Not completed		
2023	Gen 70 ES LO 52 ES, 1D/F (26)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (12)	4 (3)	997	17	29
2024	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F (6)	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F (16)	1	-	27	22
2025*	Gen 60 ES LO 45 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F				

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 55 Bucks and 20 Does and Fawns

CHEYENNE MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Cheyenne: 30 Either Sex and 22 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Cheyenne Late: 30 Doe/Fawn and 22 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn only. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 48% compared to 57% last year. Late success was 30% compared to 19% last year.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) maintain or slightly increase the population, 2) maintain hunter success and buck quality, and 3) address depredation issues through late season doe/fawn permits.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	30	16	2	18	60%	-	6%	89%
LO Oct Firearm	22	5	2	7	32%	0%	20%	71%
Total Oct Firearm	52	21	4	25	48%	-	10%	84%
Gen Late D/F	30	0	13	13	43%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	16	0	1	1	6%	0%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	46	0	14	14	30%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	5	2	7	-	-	20%	71%
Muzzleloader	-	8	0	8	-	-	38%	100%
Total Harvest	-	34	20	54	-	-	18%	63%

CHEYENNE MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	67	25	92	14%	73%	27%	24%	18%	58%
2021	61	32	93	13%	66%	34%	13%	28%	59%
2022	54	24	78	13%	69%	31%	13%	15%	72%
2023	49	18	67	22%	73%	27%	16%	18%	65%
2024	34	20	54	18%	63%	37%	15%	24%	62%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1D/F	Gen 40 1D/F LO 20 1D/F, 1D/F	0	Not completed		
2021	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1D/F	Gen 60 1D/F LO 30 1D/F, 1D/F (5)	2	433	15	32
2022	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES, 1D/F	Gen 60 1D/F LO 45 1D/F, 1D/F (25)	0	Not completed		
2023	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES, 1D/F (14)	Gen 60 1D/F LO 45 1D/F, 1D/F (33)	1	-	13	10
2024	Gen 30 ES LO 22 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 1D/F, 1D/F (6)	0	-	53	15
2025*	Gen 30 ES LO 22 ES, 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 1D/F, 1D/F				

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; methodology changed in 2021, fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 40 Bucks and 15 Does and Fawns

DISMAL MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Dismal: 30 Either Sex and 22 Landowner permits (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn). No change from 2024.

Dismal Late: Remove permit. Reduction of 17 permits.

General Information: Hunter success for the firearm season was 54%, compared to 58% last year. Late season success was 36% compared to 15% last year.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Hunter harvest success may seldom reach 75% since this unit is 100% private land with limited access. The topographic landscape creates visual limitations requiring hunters to commonly spend a considerable amount of time trying to locate a quality pronghorn buck. Based on general observations, pronghorn numbers appear to be decreasing in the Dismal Unit.

Generally, landowners in the Dismal Unit have tolerance for pronghorn populations as there is limited agricultural cropland in this Sandhills pronghorn habitat. The population objective is to increase this herd. The D/F permit was added in 2019 and is no longer needed.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	30	17	3	20	67%	-	0%	85%
LO Oct Firearm	22	8	0	8	36%	0%	0%	100%
Total Oct Firearm	52	25	3	28	54%	-	0%	89%
Gen Late D/F	10	0	5	5	50%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	4	0	0	0	0%	0%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	14	0	5	5	36%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	7	0	7	-	-	0%	100%
Muzzleloader	-	3	1	4	-	-	0%	75%
Total Harvest	-	35	9	44	-	-	0%	80%

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	64	18	82	8%	78%	22%	28%	14%	58%
2021	55	5	60	9%	92%	8%	20%	15%	65%
2022	45	2	47	4%	96%	4%	18%	16%	67%
2023	50	8	58	8%	86%	14%	18%	12%	70%
2024	35	9	44	0%	80%	20%	20%	9%	71%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1 D/F	Gen 20 1D/F LO 10 2D/F (4)	0	Unit not surveyed		
2021	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES, 1 D/F	Gen 20 1D/F LO 10 2D/F	1			
2022	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES, 1 D/F	Gen 10 1D/F LO 7 2D/F	1			
2023	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES, 1 D/F (8)	Gen 10 1D/F LO 7 2D/F (4)	1			
2024	Gen 30 ES LO 22 ES, 1 D/F	Gen 10 1D/F LO 7 2D/F (3)	0			
2025*	Gen 30 ES LO 22 ES, 1 D/F					

* Recommended permits

** Aerial survey results; fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 35 Bucks and 5 Does and Fawns

EAST SANDHILLS MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

East Sandhills: 20 Either Sex permits and 15 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

General Information: Regional variable densities of pronghorn combined with the lack of roads to locate pronghorn make success highly variable in this unit. Firearm success was 29%, compared to 20% last year. Firearm permits are not valid on the Halsey Nebraska National Forest Service lands.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Management objectives are to allow the population to increase. Pronghorn are scattered and sparse throughout most of the unit and depredation complaints have been minimal historically.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	20	6	0	6	30%	-	17%	100%
LO Oct Firearm	11	3	0	3	27%	0%	0%	100%
Total Oct Firearm	31	9	0	9	29%	-	11%	100%
Archery	-	4	0	4	-	-	25%	100%
Muzzleloader	-	2	0	2	-	-	0%	100%
Total Harvest	-	15	0	15	-	-	13%	100%

EAST SANDHILLS MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	19	3	23	21%	76%	24%	43%	7%	50%
2021	23	3	26	9%	88%	12%	22%	4%	74%
2022	18	3	21	13%	86%	14%	28%	11%	61%
2023	16	1	17	19%	94%	6%	38%	25%	38%
2024	15	0	15	13%	100%	0%	27%	13%	60%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 20 ES LO 10 ES, 1D/F		0	Unit not surveyed		
2021	Gen 20 ES LO 10 ES, 1D/F		1			
2022	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F		0			
2023	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F (6)		0			
2024	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F (4)		0			
2025*	Gen 20 ES LO 15 ES, 1D/F					

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 15 Bucks and 3 Does and Fawns

GARDEN MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Garden: 40 Either Sex and 30 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

Garden Late: 30 Doe/Fawn and 22 Landowner 2 Doe/Fawn only. Reduction of 18 permits from 2024.

General Information: Firearm hunter success was 46%, compared to 72% last year. Garden Late success was 36% compared to 19% last year.

Depredation complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) continue to alleviate depredation complaints through late season doe/fawn permits, 2) Increase population slightly, and 3) maintain buck quality and success.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	40	26	0	26	65%	-	0%	100%
LO Oct Firearm	31	6	2	8	23%	3%	17%	75%
Total Oct Firearm	71	32	2	34	46%	-	3%	94%
Gen Late D/F	40	0	16	16	40%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	15	0	4	4	27%	0%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	55	0	20	20	36%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	13	3	16	-	-	8%	81%
Muzzleloader	-	5	0	5	-	-	0%	100%
Total Harvest	-	50	25	75	-	-	4%	67%

GARDEN MANAGEMENT UNIT

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	67	59	126	6%	53%	47%	37%	16%	47%
2021	60	60	120	3%	50%	50%	20%	13%	67%
2022	64	52	116	9%	55%	45%	19%	8%	73%
2023	61	33	94	5%	65%	35%	15%	5%	80%
2024	50	25	75	4%	67%	33%	26%	10%	64%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 40 ES LO 20 ES 1D/F	Gen 90 1D/F LO 45 2D/F (22)	3	Not Completed		
2021	Gen 50 ES LO 25 ES 1D/F	Gen 140 1D/F LO 70 2D/F (53)	1	953	29	38
2022	Gen 50 ES LO 37 ES 1D/F	Gen 100 1D/F LO 75 2D/F (63)	0	Not Completed		
2023	Gen 50 ES LO 37 ES 1D/F (16)	Gen 70 1D/F LO 52 2D/F (38)	0	-	20	34
2024	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES 1D/F	Gen 40 1D/F LO 30 2D/F (15)	0	-	33	34
2025*	Gen 40 ES LO 30 ES 1D/F	Gen 30 1D/F LO 22 2D/F				

¹Total Permit Quota, Limited Landowner Quota is 43% of total quota. The 2019 allocation was all LO October Firearm had a bonus doe/fawn tag. Bonus tag added to LO Late Season in 2020.

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does. Aerial survey methodology was different from 2019 to 2021, so estimates may not be comparable.

ES – Either Sex D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 50 Bucks and 20 Does and Fawns

NORTH SIOUX MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

North Sioux: 100 Either Sex and 75 Landowner (1 Either Sex, 1 Doe/Fawn) permits. No change from 2024.

North Sioux Late: 80 Doe/Fawn only and 60 Landowner Doe/Fawn only permits. No change from 2024.

Boundary Change: Extend the Late boundary east to the Dawes-Sheridan County line.

General Information: Hunter success for firearm season was 63% compared to 62% last year. Late success was 23% compared to 17% last year. Historically, approximately 1/3 of the harvest for all seasons is in the Oglala National Grasslands. Continued monitoring of Oglala grasslands use by hunters is recommended. With a high percentage of public ground compared to other units this unit is viewed as more of an opportunity unit. Quality bucks can be found but some hunters are less selective. Percent yearling male harvest is within desirable levels this year.

Depredation complaints: 1

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: An EHD outbreak occurred in the fall of 2021.

The objectives are to: 1) maintain the current population, 2) maintain buck quality and hunter success, 3) keep opportunity to hunt a buck high, and 4) alleviate depredation complaints through late season doe/fawn permits. Migration into this unit occurs annually. Doe/fawn tags are primarily a depredation tool. There is limited LO interest in permits in this unit.

2024 Harvest by Permit

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			1 st Tag Success	2 nd Tag Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total				
Gen Oct Firearm	100	68	8	76	76%	-	19%	89%
LO Oct Firearm	47	15	6	21	34%	11%	0%	71%
Total Oct Firearm	147	83	14	97	63%	-	16%	86%
Gen Late D/F	80	0	18	18	23%	-	-	0%
LO Late D/F	3	0	2	2	33%	33%	-	0%
Total Late D/F	83	0	20	20	23%	-	-	0%
Archery	-	65	9	74	-	-	31%	88%
Muzzleloader	-	14	2	16	-	-	21%	88%
Total Harvest	-	163	45	208	-	-	22%	78%

Management Unit Harvest Comparisons:

Year	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck	% D/F	% Buck Harvest		
	Bucks	D/F	Total				Archery	MZ	Rifle
2020	159	63	222	13%	72%	28%	42%	14%	44%
2021	134	47	181	19%	74%	26%	34%	13%	53%
2022	145	50	195	25%	74%	26%	32%	11%	57%
2023	134	39	173	23%	77%	23%	33%	10%	57%
2024	163	45	208	22%	78%	22%	40%	9%	52%

Total Permits Authorized and Survey Data:

Year	Oct FA ¹ (unsold)	Late Doe/Fawn (unsold)	Depredation Complaints	Surveys**		
				Pop Est	F:100D	B:100D
2020	Gen 110 ES LO 55 ES, 1D/F (3)	Gen 80 1D/F LO 40 2D/F (33)	3	Not completed		
2021	Gen 110 ES LO 55 ES, 1D/F (12)	Gen 80 1D/F LO 40 2D/F (38)	2	2026	48	54
2022	Gen 100 ES LO 75 ES, 1D/F (32)	Gen 80 1D/F LO 60 2D/F (56)	1	Not completed		
2023	Gen 100 ES LO 75 ES, 1D/F (42)	Gen 80 1D/F LO 60 2D/F (54)	1	-	32	34
2024	Gen 100 ES LO 75 ES, 1D/F (28)	Gen 80 1D/F LO 60 2D/F (57)	1	-	65	43
2025*	Gen 100 ES LO 75 ES, 1D/F	Gen 80 1D/F LO 60 2D/F				

¹Total Permit Quota, Limited Landowner Quota is 43% of total quota. The 2019 allocation was all LO October Firearm had a bonus doe/fawn tag. Bonus tag added to LO Late Season in 2020.

* Recommended permits

**Aerial survey results; fawns seen per 100 does, and bucks seen per 100 does.

ES – Either Sex

D/F – Doe/Fawn

Expected Harvest: 140 Bucks and 50 Does and Fawns

NORTH SIOUX MUZZLELOADER

2025 Recommendations: 25 General Either Sex and 18 Limited Landowner. No change from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for muzzleloader season was 64% compared to 64% last year. There is very little landowner interest in this permit, there has not been a LO permit purchased since 2021.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Consistent with the pronghorn season setting guidelines, muzzleloader permits are an additional 25% of regular Firearm permits. Firearm permits did not increase.

2024 Harvest:

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total			
Gen NS MZ	25	14	2	16	64%	21%	88%
LO NS MZ	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Total NS MZ	25	14	2	16	64%	21%	88%

Harvest comparisons for Muzzleloader seasons:

Year	Permits Authorized (unsold)		Type	Success	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck
	Gen	Landowner			Bucks	D/F	Total		
2020	28	14 (12)	ES	67%	18	0	18	6%	100%
2021	28	14 (13)	ES	66%	17	2	19	35%	90%
2022	25	18 (18)	ES	68%	16	1	17	25%	94%
2023	25	18 (18)	ES	64%	14	1	15	36%	88%
2024	25	18 (18)	ES	64%	14	2	16	21%	88%
2025*	25	18	ES						

* Recommended permits
ES – Either Sex

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest in the muzzleloader season is 15 bucks and 2 does.

PRAIRIE MUZZLELOADER

2025 Recommendations: 87 Either Sex and 65 Landowner Either Sex permits. This is a decrease of 5 permits from 2024.

General Information: Hunter success for muzzleloader season was 66% compared to 58% last year. Landowner interest in this permit has declined significantly over the last 5 years.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The objective is to allow limited opportunity to muzzleloaders throughout pronghorn range. According to the pronghorn season setting guidelines, Muzzleloader permits will be 25% of the total rifle unit allocation.

2024 Harvest:

Permit	Permits Sold	Harvest			Success	% Age 1.5	% Ad Buck
		Bucks	D/F	Total			
Gen Prairie MZ	90	57	3	60	67%	16%	95%
LO Prairie MZ	3	1	0	1	33%	0%	100%
Total Prairie MZ	93	58	3	61	66%	16%	95%

Harvest comparisons for Muzzleloader seasons:

Year	Permits Authorized (unsold)		Type	Success	Harvest			% Age 1.5	% AD Buck
	Gen	Landowner			Bucks	D/F	Total		
2020	122	61 (37)	ES	61%	85	3	88	7%	97%
2021	128	64 (40)	ES	59%	87	2	89	5%	98%
2022	125	93 (78)	ES	62%	85	2	87	11%	98%
2023	115	86 (79)	ES	59%	71	1	72	15%	99%
2024	90	67 (64)	ES	66%	58	3	61	16%	95%
2025*	87	65	ES						

* Recommended permits

Harvest Distribution:

Unit	Harvest
Banner North	5
Banner South	6
Box Butte East	3
Box Butte West	15
Cherry	4
Cheyenne	8
Dismal	4
Eastern Sandhills	2
Garden	5
None	9

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 60 adult bucks and 2 does and fawns.

ARCHERY PRONGHORN

2025 Recommendations:

Residents: Unlimited permits for one pronghorn of either sex, except one pronghorn with horns longer than ears on the Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest.

Nonresidents: 250 permits for one pronghorn of either sex, except one pronghorn with horns longer than ears on the Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest.

Area Open: Statewide, except closed on state and federal refuges that prohibit pronghorn hunting.

General Information: Permit sales declined from the highest on record in 2020, and archery success was 11% compared to 16% last year, with 182 pronghorn taken by 1212 permit holders. The use of crossbows has been slowly increasing in past years but has stabilized at 30-35% of archery harvest.

Harvest Strategy: This is a recreational hunt that provides the only opportunity for non-residents to hunt pronghorn in Nebraska. Success is low and allows hunters to pursue pronghorn in areas with low herd numbers without concern for herd reductions.

Expected Harvest: 180 bucks and 30 does and fawns.

Archery permits, harvest and success

Year	Permits Issued	# Non Residents	Harvest			% Success	% Age 1.5	% Xbow
			Buck	Doe/Fawn	Total			
2020	1710	543	295	43	338	20%	12%	33%
2021	1380	250	192	34	226	16%	19%	39%
2022	1278	250	159	23	182	14%	19%	29%
2023	1212	250	118	18	136	11%	28%	35%
2024	1248	250	157	27	184	15%	22%	26%

Harvest Distribution

Unit	Harvest	Unit	Harvest
Banner North	12	Dismal	7
Banner South	14	Eastern Sandhills	4
Box Butte East	7	Garden	16
Box Butte West	28	North Sioux	74
Cherry	12	Southwest	3
Cheyenne	7		

DEER

INTRODUCTION

Overall, deer harvest was down 1% in 2024 from 2023 totals. Total harvest was the lowest since 1993. Mule Deer buck harvest increased 13% after declining 6 years in a row, however it is still 46% below the historic high in 2017. Whitetail buck harvest was the lowest since 1993. Buck success (bucks harvested per buck permit) has declined from 0.37 in 2019 to 0.27 in 2023. The overall permit success rate (deer harvested per permit issued) of 32.8% is the lowest success rate in our history. 2021 and 2022 rank 3rd and 4th to last respectively. Declines in deer populations can largely be attributed to drought (EHD and other mortality factors) and increased antlerless harvest since 2019.

Resident permit sales were down 5.8% and were the lowest since 1998. Nonresident permit sales were down 7.3% but were still the 13th highest total and made up 13.2% of all permit sales, ranking 7th historically.

Whitetail harvest statewide had largely remained stable in the years following the large EHD event in 2012. However, between increased harvest due to depredation complaints in the late 2010's and moderate EHD events in 2021 and 2022, whitetail numbers and harvest are down across nearly every unit. Our recommendations address these population declines and changes in social desires for deer numbers. Depredation complaints along major river corridors continue the need for moderate levels of antlerless harvest in those areas. However, the need for an excess of antlerless permits on the landscape has significantly diminished. Staff encourage landowners to require their hunters to harvest antlerless deer along river corridors where crop damage is occurring. Our depredation program has helped us make large strides in this area.

Mule deer harvest has declined greatly from record and near record levels in many western deer management units in recent years. This decline in buck harvest and populations has been much faster than anticipated and further than planned. Cases of meningeal brain worm have been reported in several central and southwest units the past few years. Fawn production has also declined significantly in recent years, correlating with drought. Recent research showed poorer than expected adult doe and fawn survival for mule deer in the southwest and northwest. Adult doe survival was about 0.67 for both areas and fawn survival was 0.11 in the southwest and 0.26 in the northwest. Expected ranges were around 85% for adult does and 0.40-0.50 for fawns. We recommend continuing reduced MD permit quotas and limiting hunters to one unit permit that allows the harvest of a MD buck per unit in all western units. We recommend reducing antlerless permits while keeping some permits to deal with any potential depredation issues, should they arise.

Deer Management Goals:

Mule Deer: Increase populations in all units that will support mule deer.

Whitetail: Increase populations in most units while allowing moderate permit levels to address any depredation. Stabilize populations in Keya Paha, Loup East, Plains, and Sandhills.

<u>Summary</u>	<u>Change from 2024</u>	<u>Historic Rank</u>
Total Deer Harvest	Down 1.1% to 39,324	#31 (of 76)
Deer Permit Sales	Down 6.2% to 113,704	#21
Whitetail Buck Harvest	Down 2.9% to 21,415	#31
Whitetail Antlerless Harvest	Down 3.2% to 11,930	#28
Mule Deer Buck Harvest	Up 13.2% to 5,249	#54
Mule Deer Antlerless Harvest	Down 4.6% to 730	#69

2025 RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

Unit November Firearm Permits – Reduce 800, 35,900 total November Firearm from 36,700 in 2024 (-2%)

- Calamus East – bag limit change to 1 Buck from 1 AD2
- Elkhorn – Remove 200 permits (2700 to 2500), bag limit change to 1 Buck from 1 AD
- Frenchman WT – Remove 200 permits (800 to 600), bag limit change to 1 WT Buck from 1 WT
- Keya Paha – Remove bonus, bag limit: 1 AD²
- Loup East – Remove bonus, bag limit: 1 AD²
- Missouri – Remove 300 permits (2900 to 2600)
- Platte WT – Remove 100 permits (700 to 600)

Unit Antlerless Only Permits – Reduce 700, 11,500 total Antlerless Only permits from 12,200 in 2023 (-4%)

- Buffalo – Remove bonus, bag limit: 1 AOWT
- Buffalo North – Remove Bonus, bag limit: 1 AO
- Frenchman WT – Remove 200 permits (400 to 200)
- Missouri West – Remove 200 permits (300 to 100)
- Pine Ridge WT – Add 100 permits (400 to 500)
- Wahoo – Remove 400 permits (1900 to 1500)

River Antlerless – Reduce 2,000, 4,000 total 2 AOWT from 6,000 in 2024 (-33%).

- Remove Missouri sections below 81 and above 30 in Elkhorn and Missouri Units; Elkhorn River above 30; Wood River entirely and South Loup in Buffalo; Middle Loup in Loup West; Platte River in Platte Unit; Republican to Harlan dam in Republican; White River in Pine Ridge; Cedar River to 91 Bridge in Calamus East; and North Loup to 70 Bridge in Calamus West and Loup West.

Statewide Permits

- No changes.

Statewide Restrictions

- Continue statewide antlerless mule deer harvest prohibition on all lands open to public access, Open Fields and Waters properties excepted.
- Continue MDCA restrictions.

Nonresident Quotas

- No change to NR quota of 10,000 ES/BO permits.
- No change to NR Archery or Muzzleloader quotas or permit restrictions.
- NR quotas remain at 15% as designated, no change.

2025 RECOMMENDED DEER SEASONS

Season Dates: **November Firearm:** November 15-23, 2025
Archery Season Dates: September 1 – December 31, 2025
Muzzleloader Season Dates: December 1-31, 2025
Late Antlerless Only Firearm: January 1-15, 2026, All AO, Youth and LO
October River Antlerless Firearm: October 1-15, 2025, River Antlerless Only

Unit Permit	Permits	Bag Limit	Antlerless Only Permit	Permits	Bag Limit
Blue Northwest	2200	1 AD	Blue NW AO	1800	1 AOWT
Blue Southeast	3500	1 AD	Blue SE AO	2000	1 AOWT
Buffalo WT	1200	1 WT	Buffalo AO	500	1 AOWT
Buffalo MDCA	800	1 AD ²	Buffalo North AO	50	1 AO
Calamus East	1000	1 Any Buck	Calamus East AO	100	1 AOWT
Calamus West	1400	1 AD ²	Calamus West AO	200	2 AOWT
Elkhorn	2500	1 Any Buck	Elkhorn AO	200	1 AOWT
Frenchman MDCA	1200	1 AD ²	Elkhorn West AO	200	1 AOWT
Frenchman WT	600	1 WT Buck	Frenchman WT AO	200	1 AOWT
Keya Paha	2000	1 AD ²	Frenchman West AO	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Loup East	2700	1 AD ²	SW Reservoir AO	50	1 AOWT
Loup West	700	1 AD ²	Keya Paha AO	500	2 AOWT
Loup West WT	600	1 WT	Loup East AO	1000	2 AOWT
Missouri	2600	1 AD	Loup West AO	100	1 AO
Pine Ridge MDCA	900	1 AD ²	Loup West WT AO	150	1 AOWT
Pine Ridge PLO	150	1 AD ²	Missouri AO	100	1 AOWT
Pine Ridge WT	1000	1 WT	Missouri West AO	100	1 AOWT
Plains	1000	1 AD ² , 1 AOWT	Pine Ridge AO	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Plains WT	200	1 WT, 1 AOWT	Pine Ridge WT AO	500	2 AOWT
Platte MDCA	700	1 AD ²	Plains AO	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Platte WT	600	1 WT	Plains WT AO	200	2 AOWT
Republican MDCA	50	1 AD ²	Platte AO	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Republican WT	2200	1 WT	Platte WT AO	200	1 AOWT
Sandhills	1200	1 AD ² , 1 AOWT	Republican AO	800	1 AOWT
Sandhills PLO	200	1 AD ² , 1 AOWT	Sandhills AO	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Sandhills WT	300	1 WT, 1 AOWT	Sandhills WT AO	300	2 AOWT
Upper Platte	800	1 AD ²	Upper Platte AO	50	1 AO, 1 AOWT
Wahoo	3600	1 AD	Upper Platte WT AO	200	2 AOWT
			Wahoo AO	1500	1 AOWT
			River Antlerless	4,000	2 AOWT
TOTALS	35,900		TOTALS	15,500	
OTHER PERMITS					
WT Statewide Buck	8,000	1 WT Buck	Season Choice format		
Rest Statewide Buck	1,000	1 Any buck	Season Choice, not valid for MD in the MDCA		
Statewide Buck	70/30	1 Any buck	Season Choice, valid statewide		
Archery Res/NR	Unl/3,000	1 AD	NR not valid for mule deer in MDCA units, archery only		
Muzzleloader Res/NR	Unl/1,000	1 AD	Not valid for mule deer in MDCA units, muzzleloader only		
Resident Youth	Unlimited	1 AD	Season Choice		
NR Restricted Youth	Unlimited	1 AD	Season Choice, not valid in Frenchman, Platte or Pine Ridge Units		
Youth WT	Unlimited	1 WT	Season Choice		
Landowner	Unlimited	1 AD, 1 AO	Season Choice		
Special Landowner	Unlimited	1 AD	Valid for any legal weapon the Sat-Mon prior to the Nov FA		

AD – Any deer AD² – Any deer except AO MD AO – Antlerless Only AOWT – Antlerless Only WT
B – Buck NR – Non-Resident WT – Whitetail MD – Mule Deer
SW – Statewide UNL – Unlimited Buck – Deer with one antler six inches or more in length
SC – Season Choice: valid for all open seasons with the legal weapon PLO – Private Land Only
MDCA – Mule Deer Conservation Area

* ALL PERMITS: Antlerless MD restrictions on all publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program excepted.

2024 DEER SEASON HARVEST

Permit	Quota	Sold	Bag Limit	Harvest					% Success	
				Total	MD		WT		1 st	Bonus
					B	AO	B	AO		
Blue Northwest	2200	2200	1AD	948	1	1	750	196	43	
Blue Southeast	3500	3498	1AD	1442	0	0	1164	278	41	
Buffalo MDCA	800	800	1AD2	327	156	1	146	24	41	
Buffalo WT	1200	1200	1WT	443	2	0	372	69	37	
Calamus East	1000	1000	1AD2	319	47	1	213	58	32	
Calamus West	1400	1398	1AD2	565	223	2	288	52	40	
Elkhorn	2700	2700	1AD	792	1	1	611	179	29	
Frenchman MDCA	1200	1199	1AD2	565	490	5	58	12	47	
Frenchman WT	800	800	1WT	270	2	0	223	45	34	
Keya Paha	2000	1999	1AD2, 1AOWT	1148	62	0	771	315	48	9
Loup East	2700	2700	1AD2, 1AOWT	1251	16	0	802	433	40	6
Loup West	700	700	1AD2	274	85	0	153	36	39	
Loup West WT	600	600	1WT	166	1	1	138	26	28	
Missouri	2900	2900	1AD	931	11	1	739	180	32	
Pine Ridge	900	900	1AD2	389	252	2	111	24	43	
Pine Ridge PLO	150	150	1AD2	79	49	0	29	1	53	
Pine Ridge WT	1000	980	1WT	455	1	0	405	49	46	
Plains	1000	1000	1AD2, 1AOWT	565	349	5	136	75	52	4
Plains WT	200	200	1WT, 1AOWT	78	4	0	56	18	33	6
Platte MDCA	700	700	1AD2	324	247	2	66	9	46	
Platte WT	700	700	1WT	233	0	0	192	41	33	
Republican WT	2200	2199	1WT	862	0	0	709	153	39	
Republican MD	50	50	1AD2	12	7	0	5	0	24	
Sandhills	1200	1200	1AD2, 1AOWT	692	336	8	233	115	51	6
Sandhills PLO	200	200	1AD2, 1AOWT	157	87	0	54	16	71	8
Sandhills WT	300	300	1WT, 1AOWT	201	3	1	146	51	57	10
Upper Platte	800	799	1AD2	368	271	1	86	10	46	0
Wahoo	3600	3600	1AD	1414	7	1	1133	273	39	0
Nov Firearm Total/Average	36,700	36,672		15,270	2,710	33	9,789	2,738	40	7
Landowner Deer	UNL	14168	1AD, 1AO	5379	844	280	2798	1457	33	5
Special LO	UNL	4518	1AD	1179	234	18	813	114	26	
Archery	UNL	16374	1AD	3562	283	27	2733	519	22	
Muzzleloader	UNL	5781	1AD	1235	264	48	583	340	21	
Statewide Youth	UNL	5288	1AD	2178	619	103	1111	345	41	
Statewide WT Youth	UNL	3552	1WT	1317	6	1	959	351	37	
Restricted NR Youth	UNL	374	1AD	160	75	6	62	17	43	
Rest SWB	1000	1000	1Buck	353	182	0	168	3	35	
Statewide Buck Only	100	100	1Buck	36	24	0	12	0	36	
WT Statewide Buck	8000	8000	1WT Buck	2204	3	0	2179	22	28	
Auction/Supertag	6	6	Varies	3	1	0	2	0	50	
Statewide Total/Average	59,161	59,161		17,606	2,535	483	11,420	3,168	29	5

WT – Whitetail MD – Mule Deer AD – Any deer AD² – Any deer except AO MD
 AO – Antlerless Only AOWT – Antlerless Only WT B – Buck NR – Non-Resident
 SW – Statewide UNL – Unlimited Buck – Male deer with antlers greater than six inches in length
 * ALL PERMITS: Antlerless MD restrictions on all publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program excepted.

2024 DEER SEASON HARVEST

Permit	Quota	Sold	Bag Limit	Harvest					% Success	
				Total	MD		WT		1 st	Bonus
					B	AO	B	AO		
Blue Northwest AO SC	1800	1800	1AOWT	523	0	0	16	507	29	
Blue Southeast AO SC	2000	2000	1AOWT	602	1	0	15	586	30	
Buffalo AO SC	500	500	2AOWT	202	1	0	4	197	30	10
Buffalo North AO SC	50	50	1AO, 1AOWT	29	0	18	0	11	50	8
Calamus East AO SC	100	100	1AOWT	28	0	1	1	26	28	
Calamus West AO SC	200	199	2AOWT	64	0	1	0	63	25	7
Elkhorn AO SC	200	200	1AOWT	51	0	0	3	48	26	
Elkhorn West AO SC	200	200	1AOWT	44	0	0	3	41	22	
Frenchman WT AO SC	400	400	1AOWT	98	1	0	4	93	24	
Frenchman West AO SC	100	100	1AO, 1AOWT	66	0	46	0	20	55	11
SW Reservoirs AO SC	50	50	1AOWT	15	0	0	0	15	30	
Keya Paha AO SC	500	351	2AOWT	172	0	2	5	165	36	13
Loup East AO SC	1000	1000	2AOWT	276	0	0	9	267	22	6
Loup West AO SC	100	100	1AO	32	0	9	1	22	32	
Loup West WT AO SC	150	150	1AOWT	30	0	0	1	29	20	
Missouri AO SC	100	100	1AOWT	28	0	0	1	27	28	
Missouri West AO SC	300	300	1AOWT	62	0	0	1	61	21	
Pine Ridge AO SC	100	100	1AO, 1AOWT	67	0	27	1	39	50	17
Pine Ridge AO SC WT	400	400	2AOWT	245	0	0	10	235	40	22
Plains AO SC	100	100	1AO, 1AOWT	46	1	29	0	16	41	5
Plains WT AO SC	200	181	2AOWT	56	0	0	4	52	24	7
Platte AO SC	100	100	1AO, 1AOWT	49	0	24	2	23	34	15
Platte WT AO SC	200	200	1AOWT	42	0	0	2	40	21	
Republican AO SC	800	800	1AOWT	201	0	0	4	197	25	
Sandhills AO SC	100	100	1AO, 1AOWT	59	0	29	2	28	45	14
Sandhills WT AO SC	300	146	2AOWT	84	0	0	4	80	40	18
Upper Platte AO SC	50	50	1AO, 1AOWT	30	0	20	1	9	50	10
Upper Platte WT AO SC	200	200	2AOWT	45	0	3	1	41	18	5
Wahoo AO SC	1900	1900	1AOWT	424	0	0	17	407	22	
River Antlerless	6000	6000	2AOWT	2778	0	5	94	2679	34	12
AO SC TOTAL	18,200	17,877		6,448	4	214	206	6,024	30	11
ALL SEASONS	63,906	113,710		39,324	5,249	730	21,415	11,930	32	10

AD – Any deer

AD² – Any deer except AO MD

AO – Antlerless Only

AOWT – Antlerless Only WT

B – Buck

NR – Non-Resident

WT – Whitetail

MD – Mule Deer

SW – Statewide

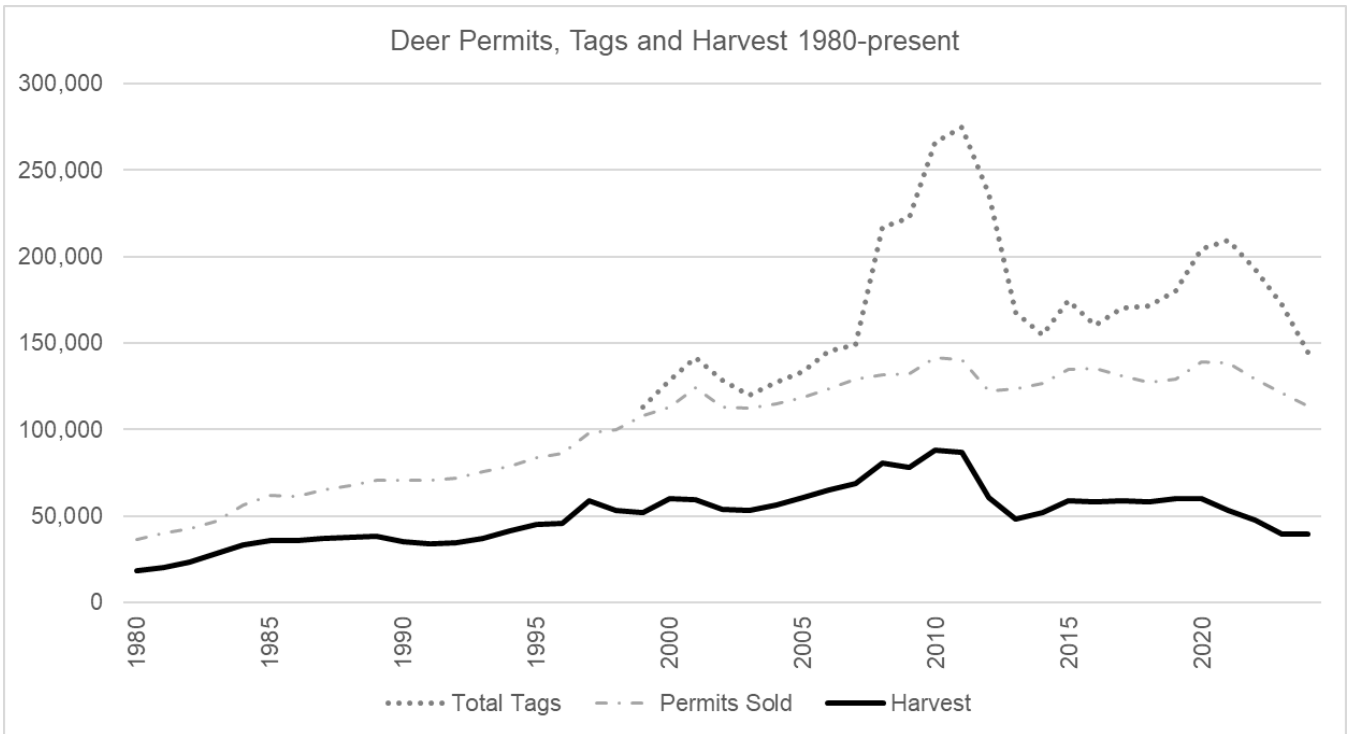
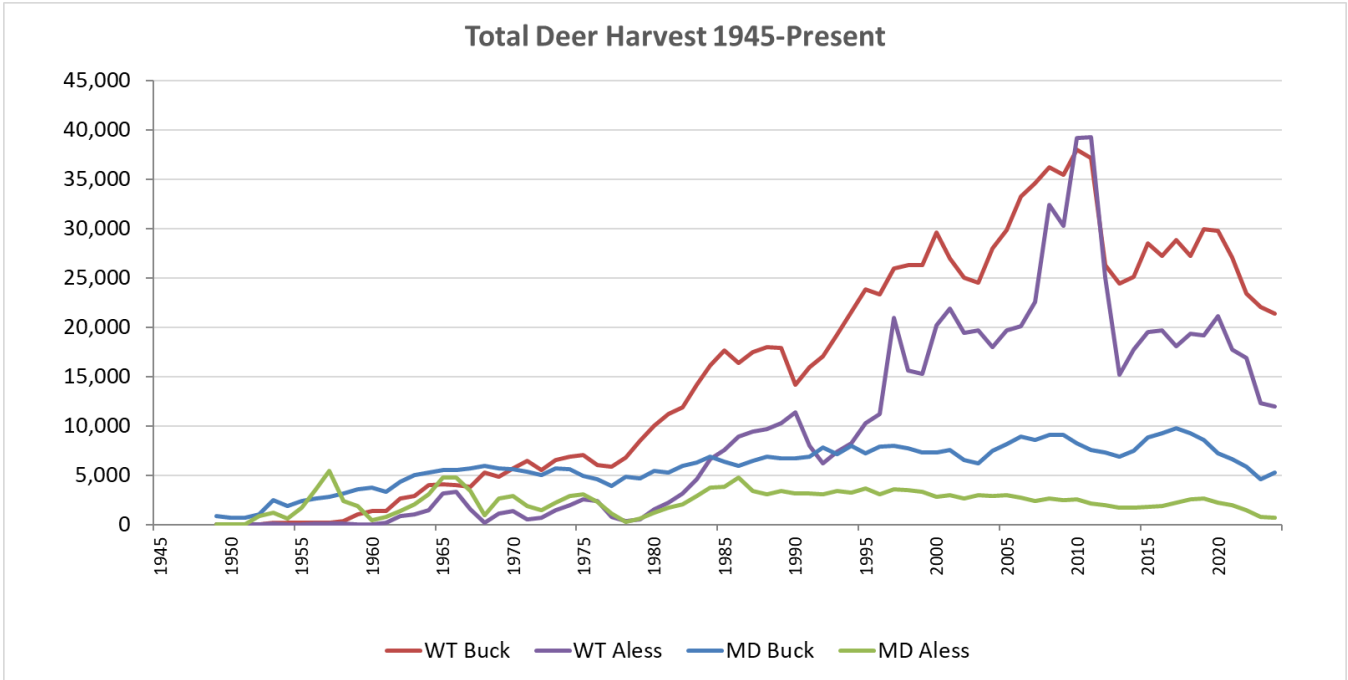
UNL – Unlimited

SC – Season Choice: valid for all open seasons with the legal weapon

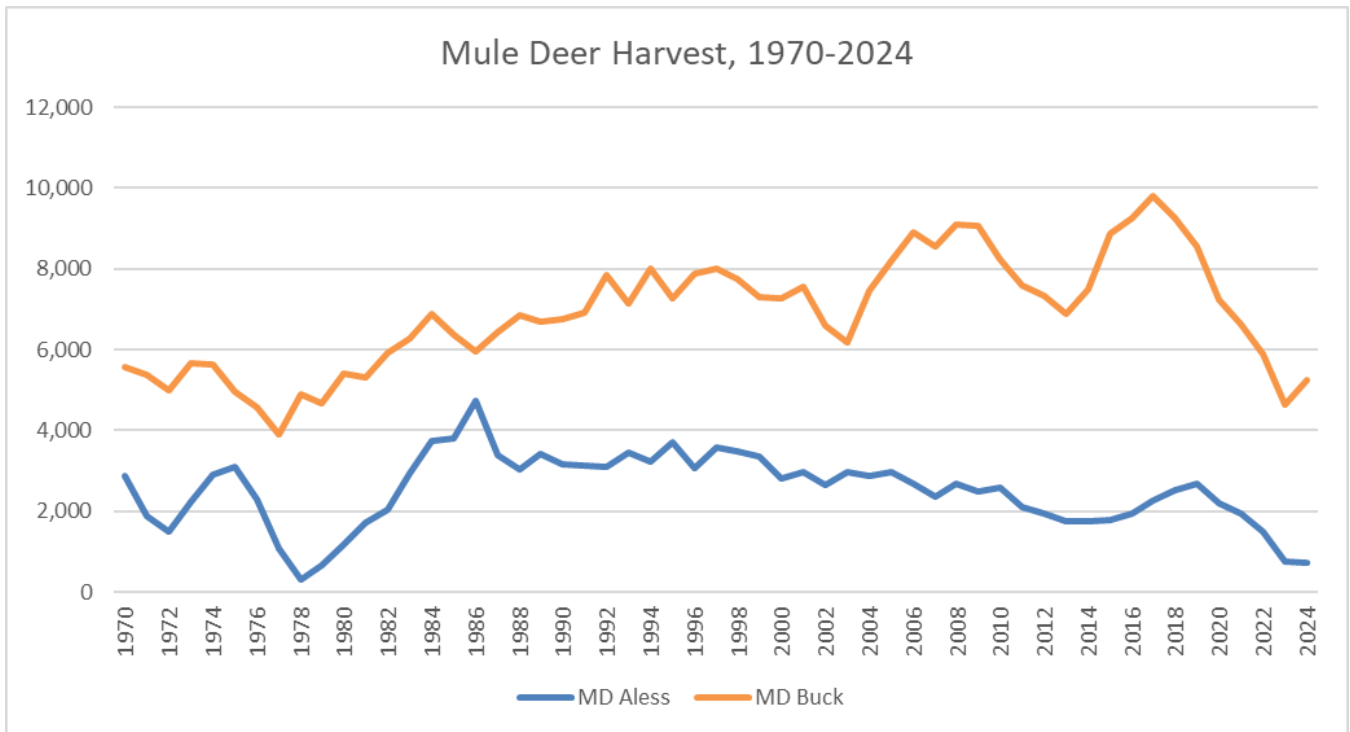
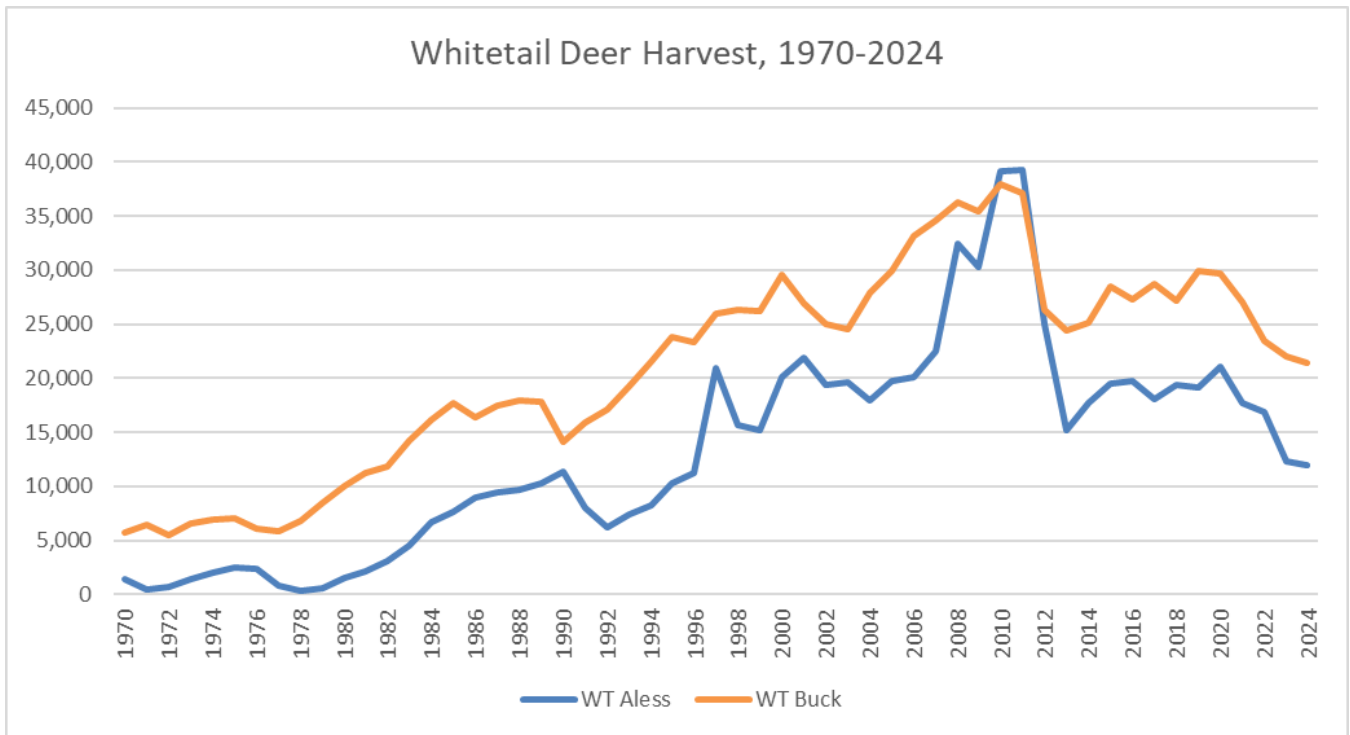
Buck – Male deer with antlers greater than six inches in length

*** ALL PERMITS: Antlerless MD restrictions on all publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program excepted.**

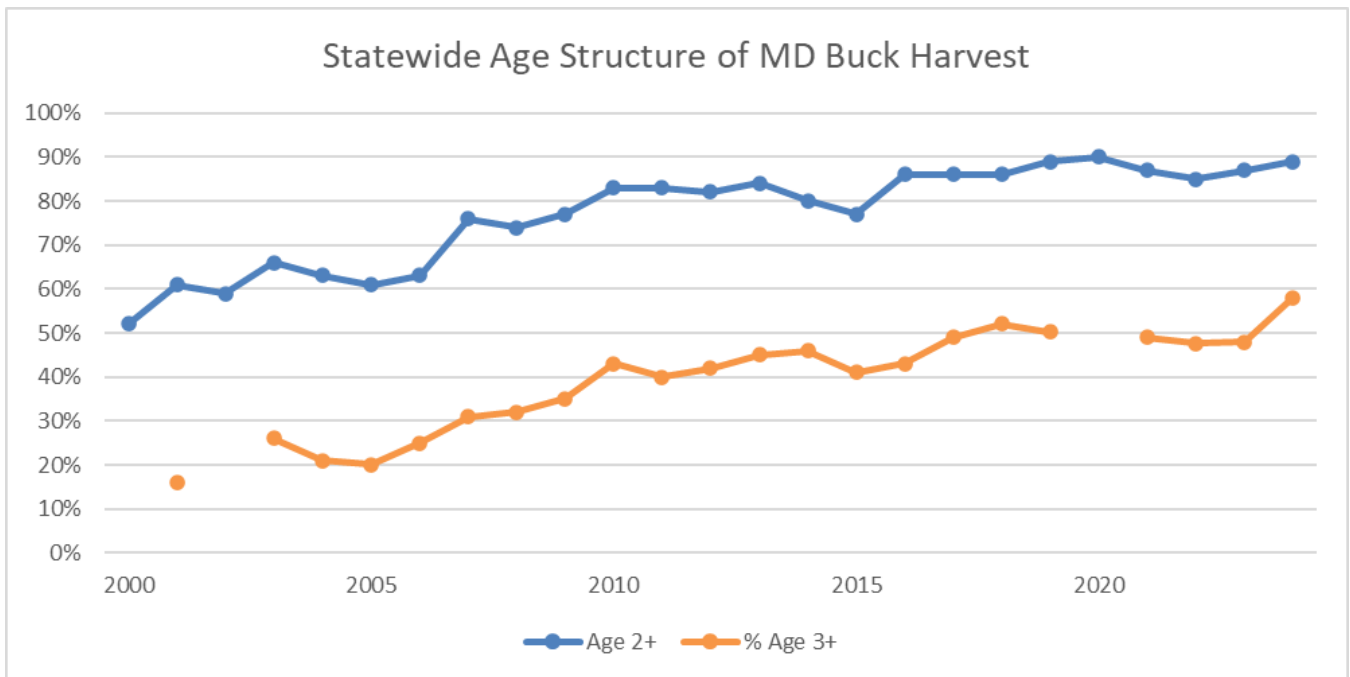
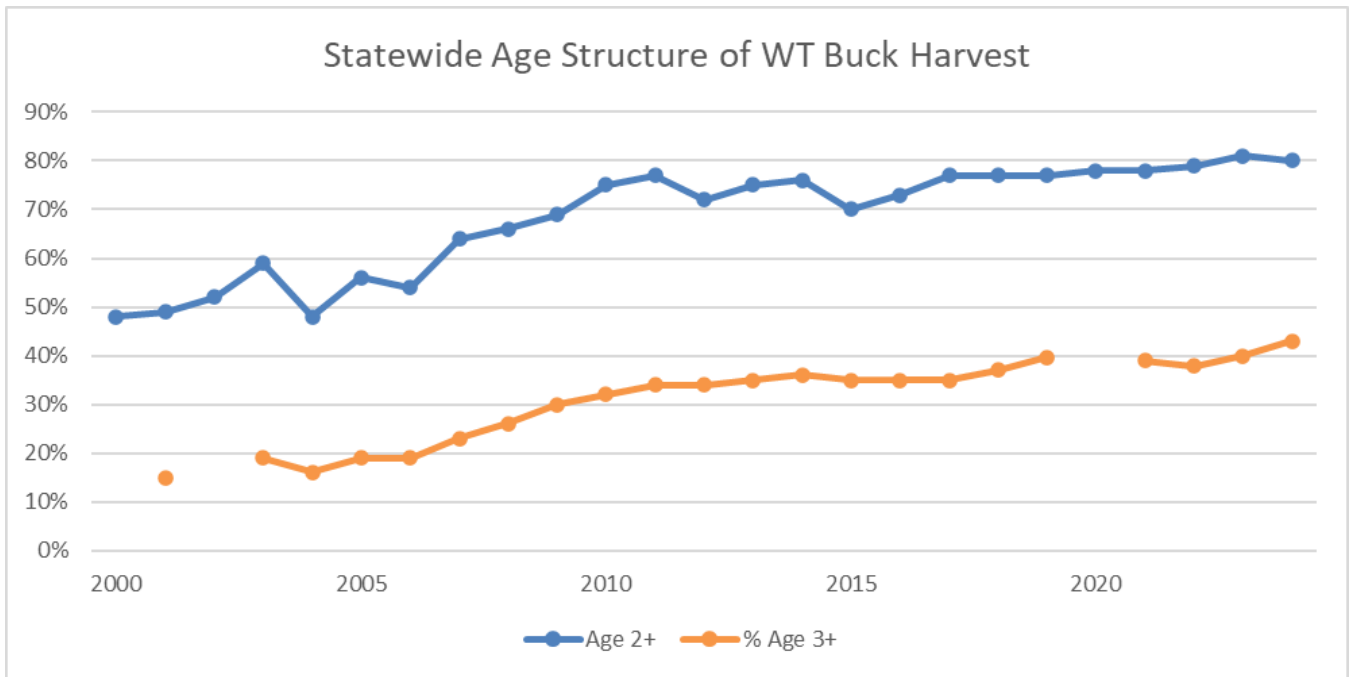
HISTORIC DEER TRENDS



Deer Harvest since 1970:

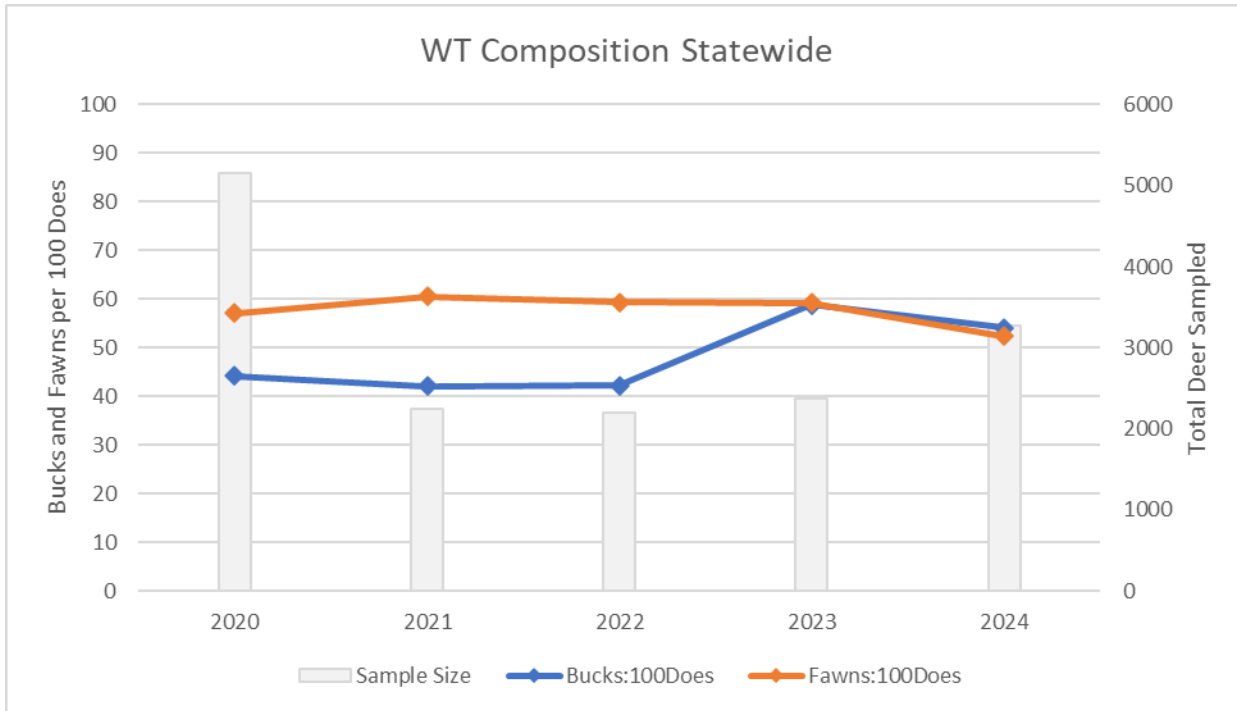


Statewide Age Structure of Harvested Bucks:

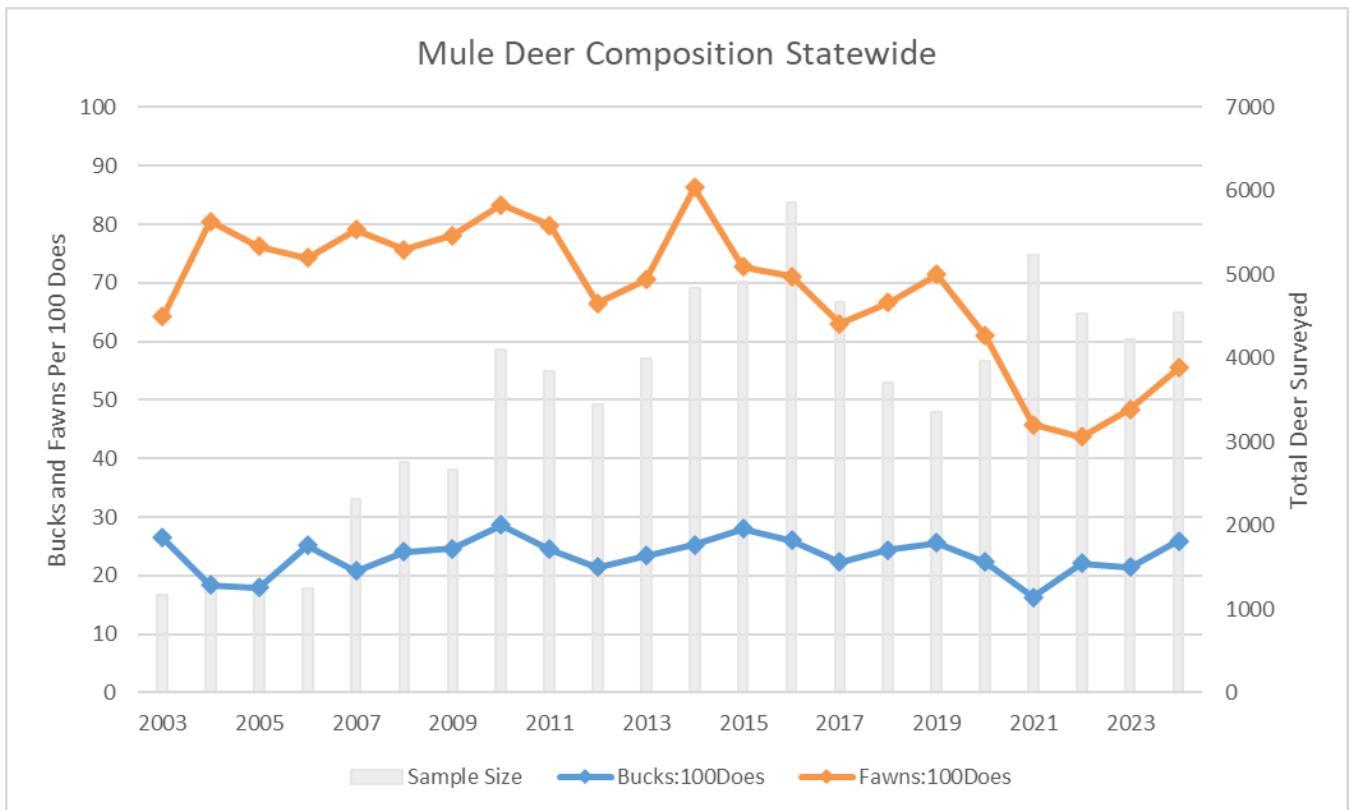


The opening of Telecheck during the firearm season likely biased the age data in 2024.

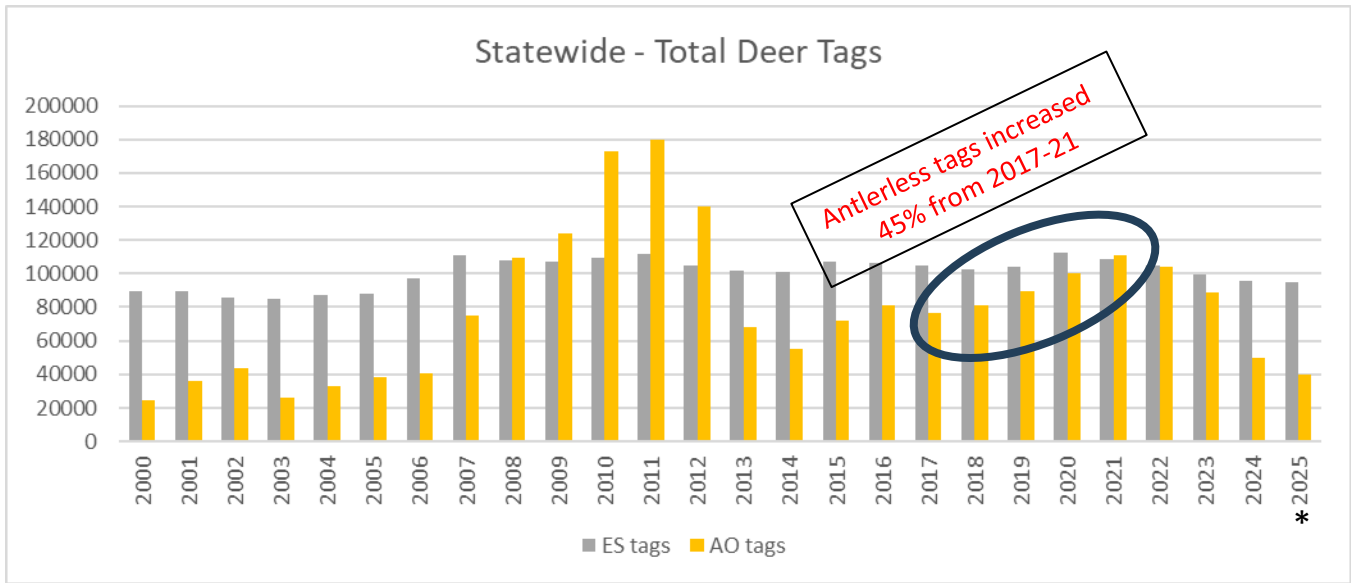
Results of the Bowhunter Survey:



Results of Staff Winter Mule Deer Classification Survey:

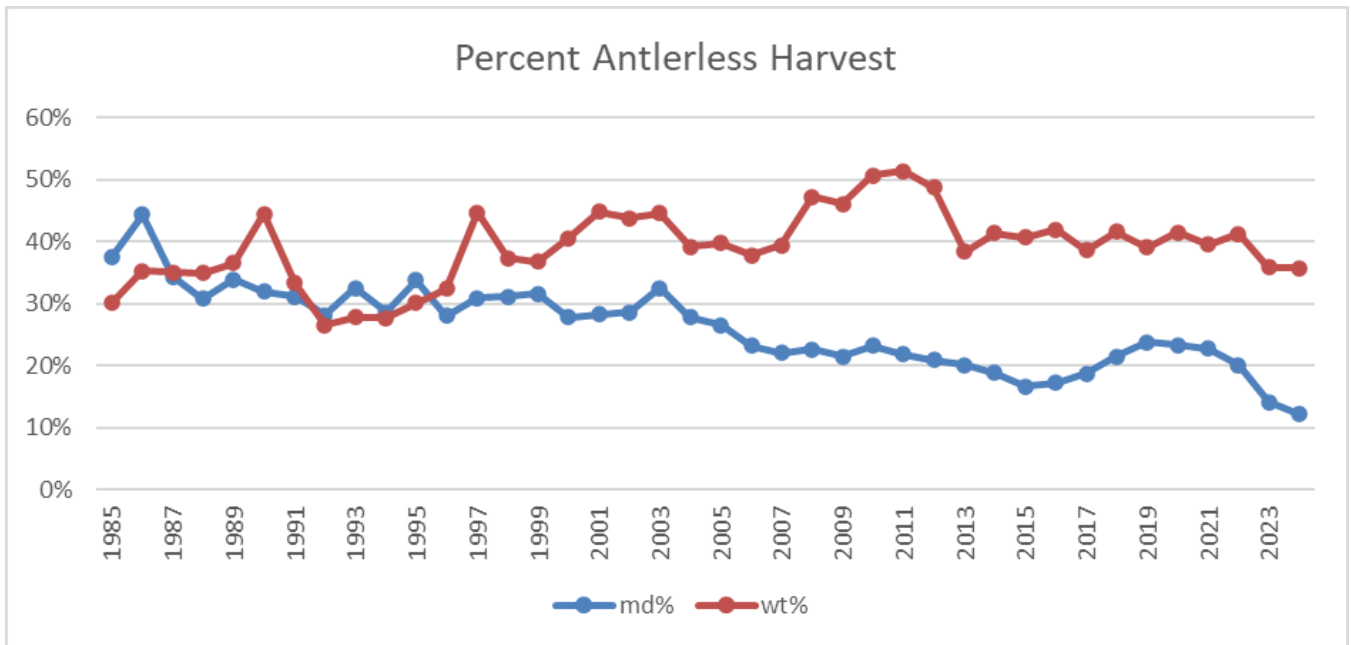


Total deer tags over time:



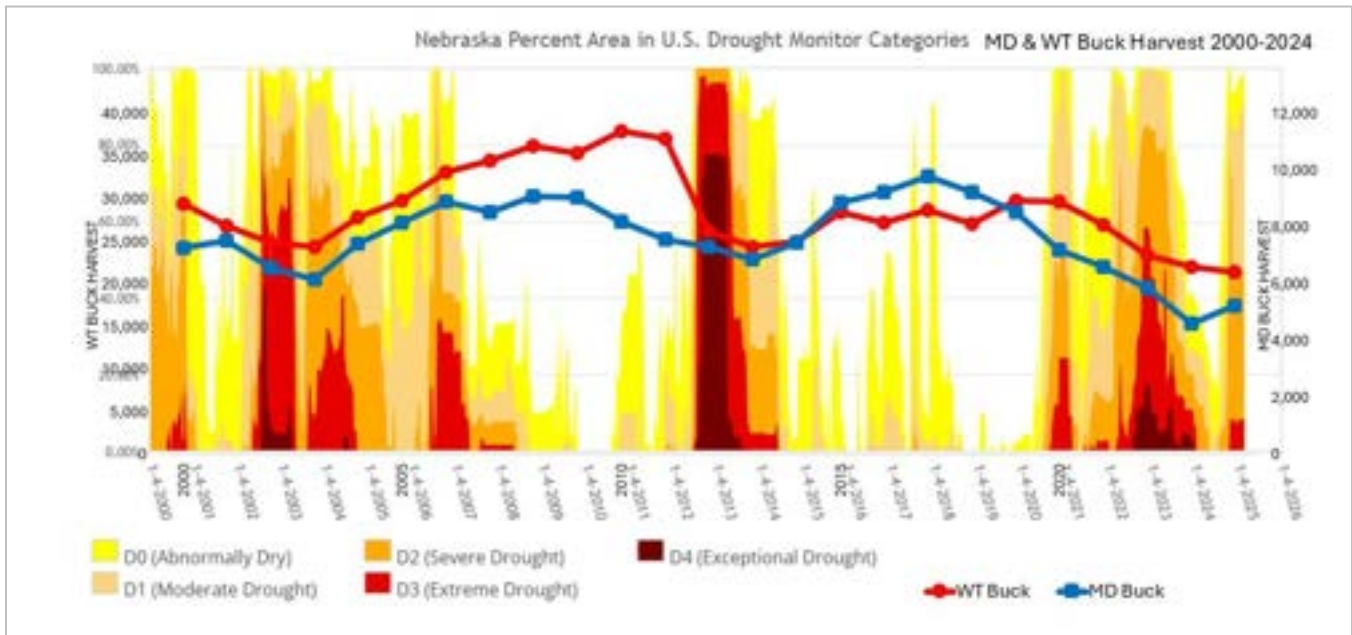
* Proposed 2025 antlerless tags. Down 64% from the 2021 peak.

Percent Antlerless Harvest Statewide since 1985:

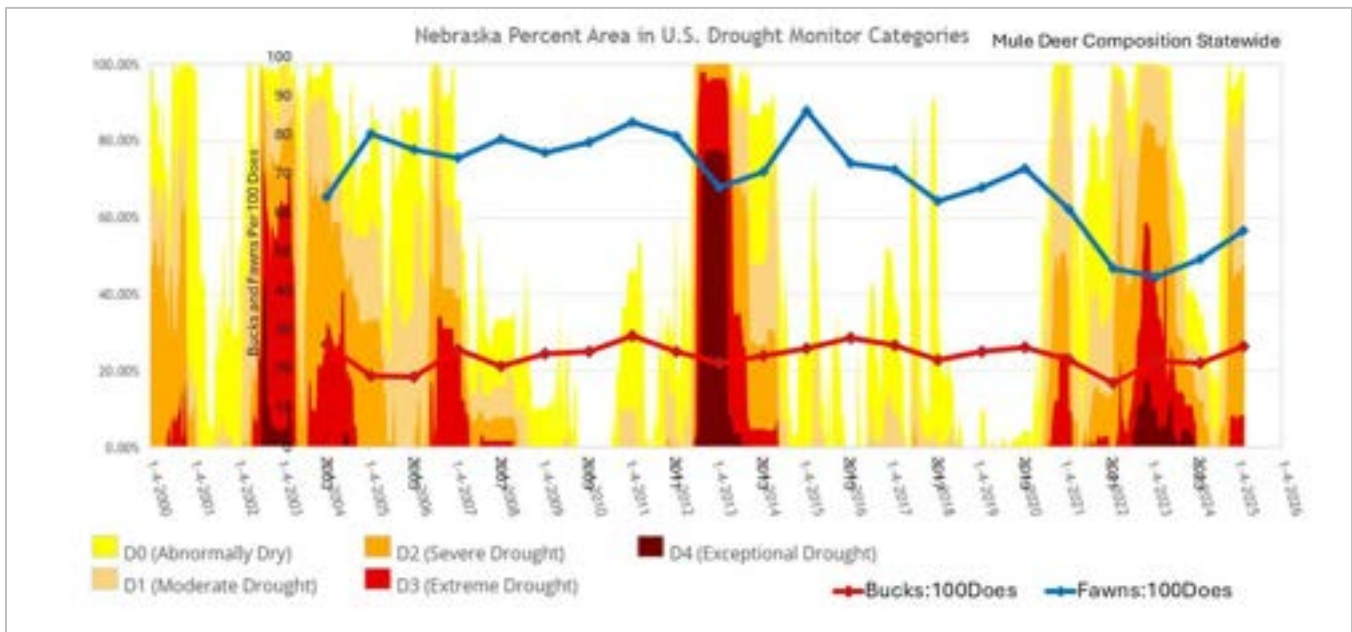


Based on historic harvest, maintenance harvest (stable population) occurs at about 40% for whitetail deer and about 18% for mule deer in Nebraska during normal years. There is significant variation across units and that is described in the narrative for each unit.

Drought Monitor Categories and Buck Harvest:

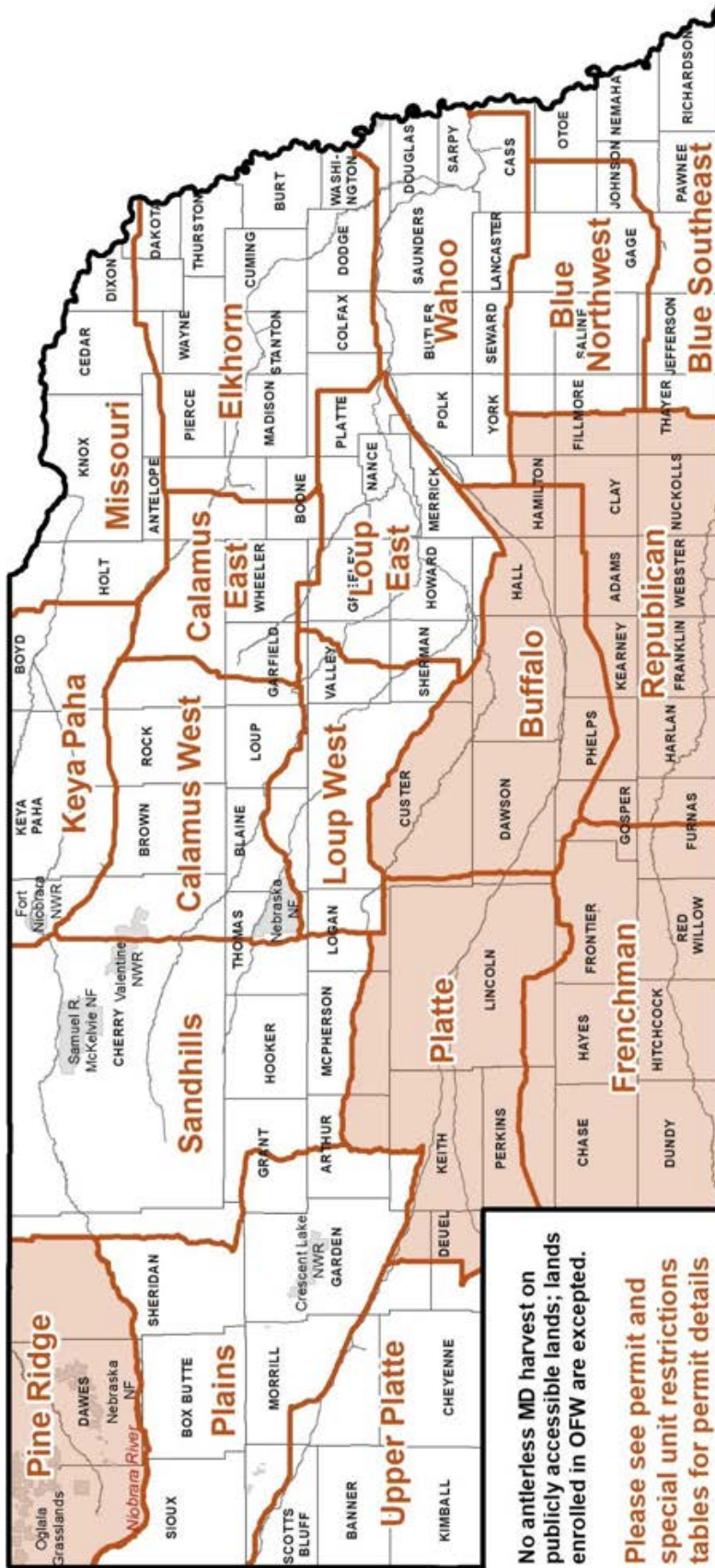


Drought Monitor Categories and Mule Deer Herd Metrics:

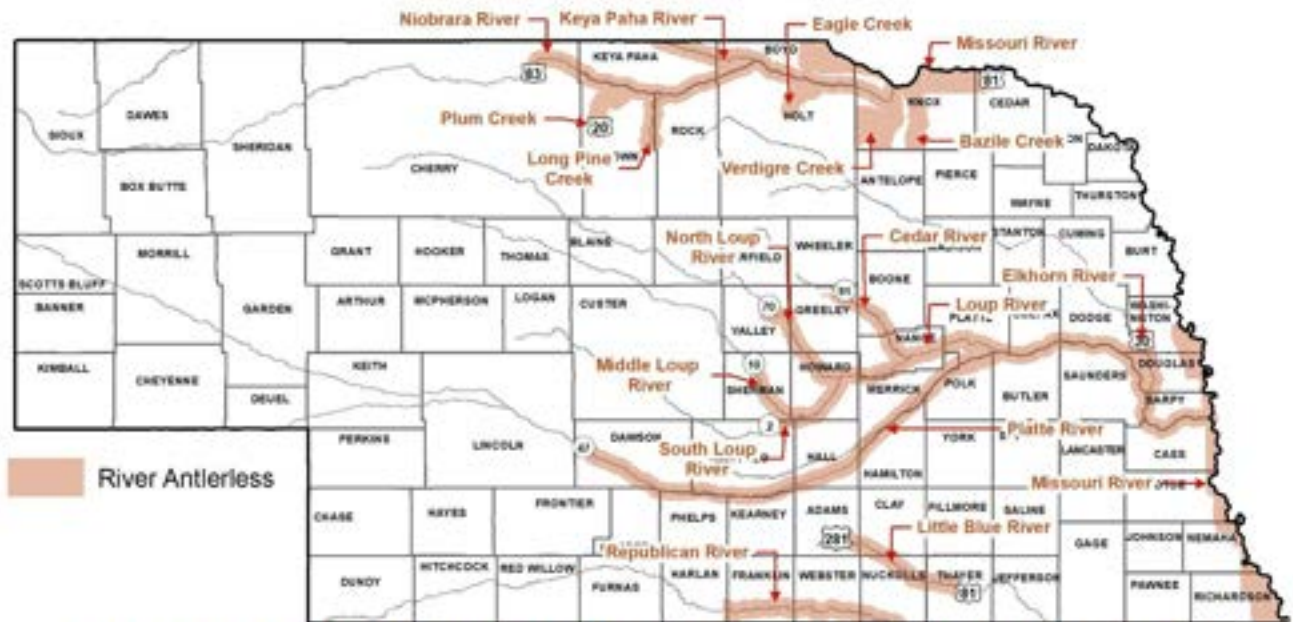


DEER MANAGEMENT UNITS

2025 NOVEMBER FIREARM AND ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON CHOICE UNITS

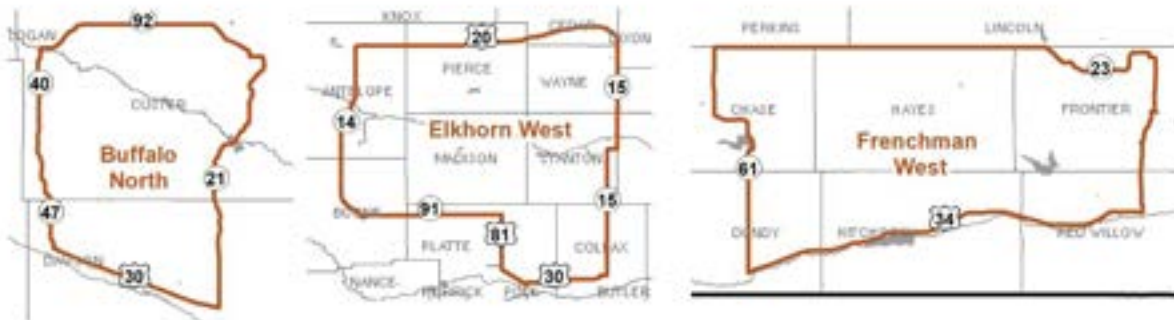


2025 RIVER ANTLERLESS PRIVATE LAND ONLY



ALL FEDERAL AND STATE PUBLIC LANDS CLOSED TO RIVER ANTLERLESS PERMITS

2025 ADDITIONAL ANTLERLESS ONLY PERMITS



Medicine Creek WMA/SRA, Red Willow Reservoir WMA/SRA, Enders Reservoir WMA/SRA, and Swanson WMA/SRA are closed to the use of all Frenchman AOSC and Frenchman West AOSC permits.



BLUE NORTHWEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Blue Northwest November Firearm: 2200 Any Deer permits. No change from 2024.

Blue Northwest Antlerless Only Season Choice: 1800 permits for one antlerless whitetail deer. No change from 2024.

General Information: Harvest for all seasons was 2016 whitetail bucks and 1086 antlerless whitetail. Total harvest increased by 10% from 2023, with buck harvest increasing by 12% and antlerless harvest increasing by 5%. Blue Northwest Firearm and Season Choice permits each saw success increase by 4%. Total harvest decreased 2% from the 5-year average, with buck harvest increasing 3% and antlerless harvest decreasing 9%. Landowner complaints remained the same in 2024.

Depredation complaints: 5 DCP: 5 (18 deer taken)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Population numbers appear to be within landowner tolerances; hunter and landowners continue to report lower deer numbers. There was one report of EHD in the fall of 2024; population impacts from EHD appear insignificant. The population goal and permit strategy are to allow growth in Blue Northwest while increasing an older buck age structure.

Harvest objective is 2200 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 35-40% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Blue Northwest

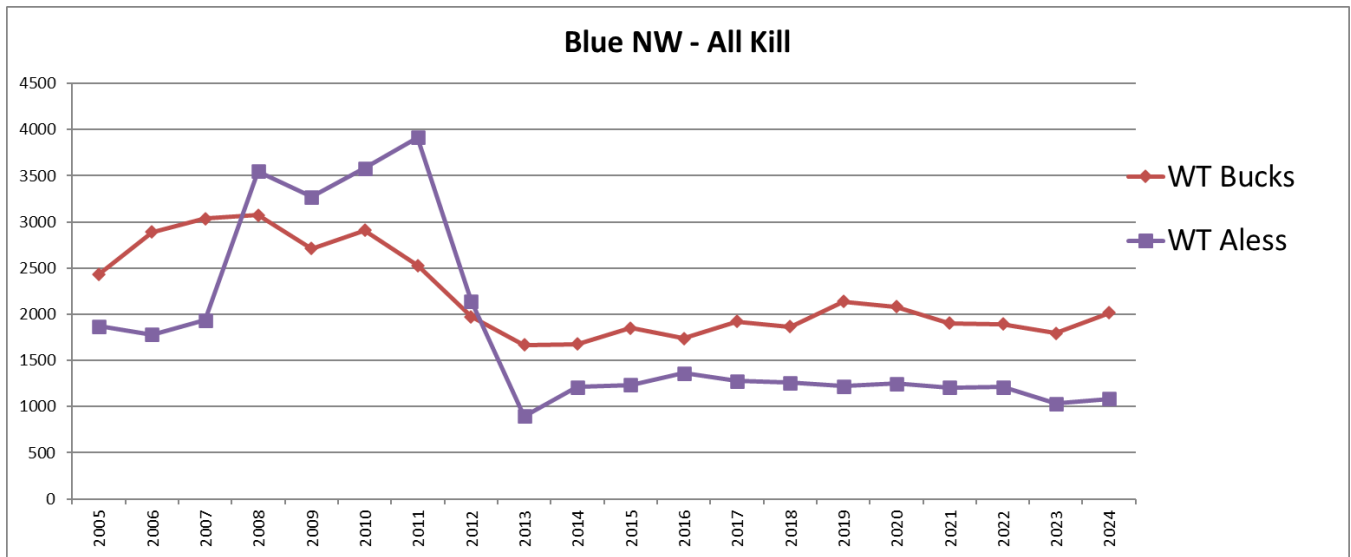
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Blue Northwest	2200	2200	10/30/24	1	1	2	750	196	946	43	-
Blue Northwest AO SC	1800	1800	11/15/24	0	0	0	16	507	523	29	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	5	6	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	0	0	0	294	169	463	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	0	0	0	117	13	130	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	2	0	2	298	81	379	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	63	37	100	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	88	27	115	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	103	49	152	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	3	0	3	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	13	0	13	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	270	2	272	-	-
Total	-	-	-	3	1	4	2016	1086	3102	-	-

BLUE NORTHWEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	2081	1248	3329	38	26	74	
2021	2	3	5	-	-	-	-	1902	1205	3107	39	31	37	32
2022	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	1893	1214	3107	39	30	41	29
2023	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	1796	1034	2830	37	26	40	34
2024	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	2016	1086	3102	35	23	38	39



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	2200 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 1800 (1 AOWT)	9	8 (16)
2021	2400 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 2200 (1 AOWT)	7	6 (22)
2022	2400 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 2200 (1 AOWT)	8	6 (24)
2023	2400 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 2200 (1 AOWT)	6	5 (11)
2024	2200 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 1800 (1 AOWT)	5	5 (18)
2025*	2200 (1 AD)	Blue NW AOSC – 1800 (1 AOWT)		

*Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only

AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	-	2100	-	1100

BLUE SOUTHEAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Blue Southeast November Firearm: 3500 Any Deer permits. No change from 2024.

Blue Southeast Antlerless Only Season Choice: 2000 permits for one antlerless whitetail deer. No change from 2024.

General Information: Harvest for all seasons was 2960 bucks and 1555 antlerless whitetails. Total harvest increased by 4% from 2023 and 1% from the 5-year average. Buck harvest increased by <1% from 2023 and antlerless harvest increased by 10%. Buck harvest increased 4% from the 5-year average and antlerless harvest decreased 6%. Buck harvest is nearing unit objective of 3000 whitetail bucks.

Depredation complaints: 4 DCP: 1 (0)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Population numbers are acceptable within landowner tolerance; hunters would like an increased population. The population goal is to increase the current population while continuing the trend of older buck age structure. River antlerless permits remain a useful tool for decreasing depredation complaints along the Missouri River. There was one report of EHD in 2024.

Harvest objective is 3000 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 35-40% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Blue Southeast

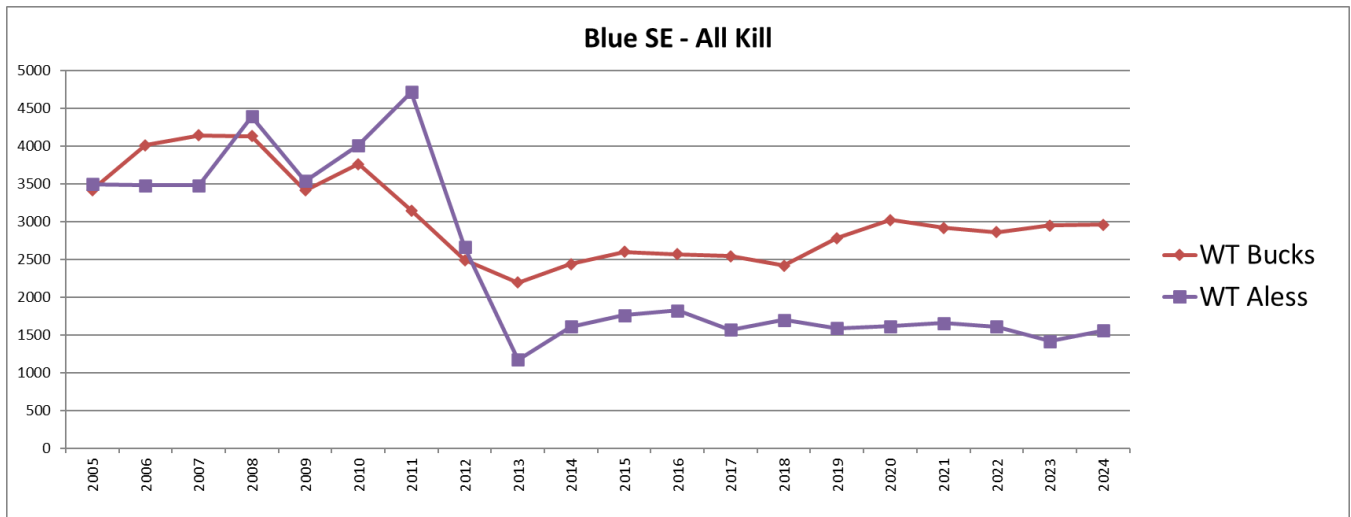
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Blue Southeast	3500	3498	11/3/24	0	0	0	1164	278	1442	41	-
Blue Southeast AO SC	2000	2000	11/13/24	1	0	1	15	586	601	30	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	2	2	8	206	214	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	0	0	0	430	256	686	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	0	0	0	111	16	127	-	-
SW Archery	-	-	-	0	0	0	545	83	628	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	60	38	98	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	96	43	139	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	139	44	183	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	7	1	8	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	3	0	3	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	9	0	9	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	373	4	377	-	-
Total	-	-	-	1	2	3	2960	1555	4515	-	-

BLUE SOUTHEAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	7	4	11	-	-	-	-	3021	1613	4634	35	22	78	
2021	7	7	14	-	-	-	-	2917	1653	4570	36	25	33	42
2022	3	5	8	-	-	-	-	2858	1610	4468	36	24	36	40
2023	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	2949	1414	4363	32	18	42	40
2024	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	2960	1555	4515	34	17	40	43



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	3500 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2000 (1 AOWT)	4	1 (0)
2021	3700 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2400 (1 AOWT)	4	1 (0)
2022	3700 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2400 (1 AOWT)	4	1 (0)
2023	3700 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2400 (1 AOWT)	3	1 (0)
2024	3500 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2000 (1 AOWT)	4	1 (0)
2025*	3500 (1 AD)	Blue SE AOSC – 2000 (1 AOWT)		

*Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	-	3000	-	1600

BUFFALO MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Buffalo MDCA: 800 permits for Any Deer² valid during Archery, Muzzleloader and November Firearm seasons. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Buffalo Whitetail November Firearm: 1200 permits for one whitetail. No change from 2024.

Buffalo Antlerless Only Season Choice: 500 permits for one antlerless whitetail. The bonus AOWT tag is being removed for 2025.

Buffalo North Antlerless Only Season Choice: 50 permits for one antlerless deer. The bonus AOWT tag is being removed for 2025.

River Antlerless: Remove South Loup and Wood River from River Antlerless.

General Information: Deer harvest for all seasons was 309 adult male mule deer, 53 antlerless mule deer, 1330 adult male whitetail and 950 antlerless whitetails. 7 cases of meningeal worm mortalities were reported in mule deer with one confirmed. No EHD reports were received. However, EHD is suspected to have caused more mortalities than reported.

Depredation complaints: 4, DCP: 1

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Whitetail populations have declined throughout the Buffalo Unit. However, whitetail populations have been known to rebound quickly, especially along portions of the Platte River. Total buck harvest decreased 9% from last year, and age structure remains stable at 19% 1.5-year-olds. The population objective is to allow for slow growth of the whitetail herds in all portions of the unit while still providing permits to control whitetail herds on the Platte River. This will be accomplished by lower quotas of Buffalo Any Deer, WT only, AOSC permits, and eliminating all unit bonus permits, but still maintaining the liberal use of River Antlerless permits on the Platte River. River Antlerless is being removed from the Wood River and South Loup River.

Harvest objectives are 500 MD bucks and 2000 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 10-12% for MD and 42% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Buffalo

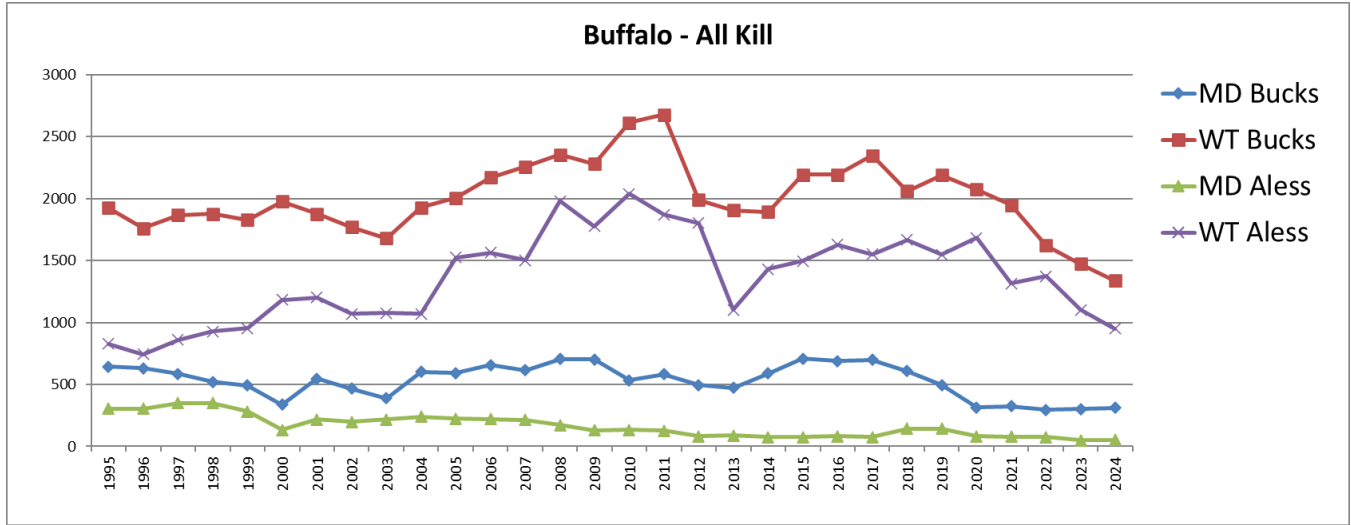
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Buffalo MDCA	800	800	7/14/24	156	1	157	146	24	170	41	-
Buffalo WT	1200	1200	10/20/24	2	0	2	372	69	441	37	-
Buffalo North AO SC	50	50	7/25/24	0	18	18	0	11	11	50	8
Buffalo AO SC	500	500	11/5/24	1	0	1	4	197	201	30	10
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	12	393	405	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	76	23	99	184	107	291	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	14	0	14	39	8	47	-	-
SW Archery	-	-	-	5	1	6	189	39	228	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	43	35	78	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	48	10	58	90	35	125	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	65	28	93	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	3	0	3	2	1	3	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	2	0	2	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	1	0	1	7	0	7	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	1	0	1	177	3	180	-	-
Total	-	-	-	309	53	362	1330	950	2280	-	-

BUFFALO MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer							
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+	
2020	314	83	397	21	14	86	2075	1683	3758	45	21	79			
2021	325	79	404	20	15	47	38	1949	1316	3265	40	15	35	50	
2022	297	77	374	21	22	37	42	1621	1374	2995	46	21	31	48	
2023	302	50	352	14	19	53	28	1475	1103	2578	43	18	33	49	
2024	309	53	362	15	8	35	56	1330	950	2280	42	19	24	57	



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	MDCA 1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 2100 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	6	4
2021	MDCA 1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 2100 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	5	2 (16)
2022	MDCA 1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 2100 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	2	3 (27)
2023	MDCA 1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 1800 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 50 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	12 (winter)	0
2024	MDCA 800 (1 AD ²) WT 1200 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 50 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	4	1 (0)
2025*	MDCA 800 (1 AD ²) WT 1200 (1 WT)	Buffalo AOSC – 500 (1 AOWT) Buffalo AOSC North – 50 (1 AO)		

* Recommended permit numbers

MDCA – Mule Deer Conservation Area

WT – Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	300	1400	50	750

CALAMUS EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Calamus East November Firearm: 1000 Any Buck permits. This is a change in bag limit from the Any Deer² permit in 2024.

Calamus East Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 Antlerless Only Whitetail. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove all sections in Calamus East from River Antlerless.

General Information: The whitetail adult buck kill was lower than expected for the fourth consecutive year, but age structure continues to be desirable. Antlerless only harvest increased a small amount after 3 years of decrease. Indices show a stable but low population. Mule deer buck harvest was higher than expected and is annually variable based on environmental conditions, habitat, and hunter preference. This unit has experienced EHD each of the last 4 years. Drought has also likely contributed to population declines, particularly when combined with the impacts from EHD and severe winter in 2022.

Depredation complaints: 0 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The objective in this unit is to allow the whitetail population to grow by removing antlerless harvest on firearm permits and river antlerless segments, while maintaining Season Choice permits for isolated depredation issues. Whitetail buck harvest and age data trends indicate a decreasing population. The objective for the mule deer population is to allow the herd to grow as allowed by landowner tolerance, habitat conditions, and disease events.

Harvest objectives are 100 MD bucks and 800 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 10-12% for MD and 28-30% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Calamus East

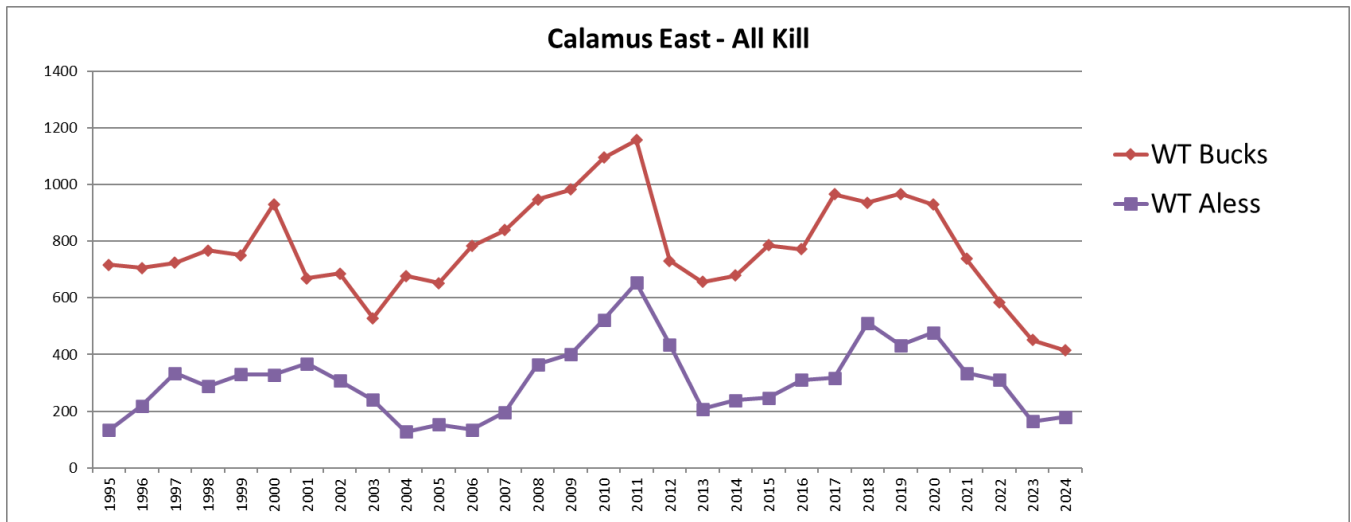
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Calamus East	1000	1000	11/7/24	47	1	48	213	58	271	32	-
Calamus East AO SC	100	100	11/7/24	0	1	1	1	26	27	28	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	2	30	32	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	14	2	16	64	26	90	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	3	0	3	15	5	20	-	-
SW Archery	-	-	-	2	0	2	22	10	32	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	4	1	5	5	8	13	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	10	2	12	29	11	40	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	25	4	29	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	3	0	3	8	0	8	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	31	0	31	-	-
Total	-	-	-	84	7	91	415	179	594	-	-

CALAMUS EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	84	2	86	2	10	90	928	478	1406	34	20	80		
2021	88	2	90	2	12	31	57	737	334	1071	31	19	52	29
2022	75	6	81	7	17	37	47	585	311	896	35	18	49	33
2023	79	3	82	4	18	21	61	451	164	615	27	11	47	43
2024	84	7	91	8	13	17	71	415	179	594	30	24	39	37



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1300 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Calamus East AOSC – 400 (2 AOWT)	1	1 (0)
2021	1500 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Calamus East AOSC – 400 (2 AOWT)	3	2 (0)
2022	1500 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Calamus East AOSC – 400 (2 AOWT)	0	0
2023	1200 (1 AD ²)	Calamus East AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT)	0	0
2024	1000 (1 AD ²)	Calamus East AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT)	0	0
2025*	1000 (1 Any Buck)	Calamus East AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	80	415	5	90

CALAMUS WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Calamus West November Firearm: 1400 Any Deer² permits. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Calamus West Antlerless Only Season Choice: 200 permits for two antlerless whitetails. No change from 2024.

Use of all bonus tags and antlerless permits prohibited on Nebraska NF and Valentine NWR.

River Antlerless: Remove Elkhorn River, North Loup and Middle Loup from River Antlerless.

General Information: Mule deer buck harvest increased 63% and is at harvest objectives for the unit, and age structure remains excellent. Mule deer antlerless harvest remains at a desirable proportion of the harvest. Whitetail buck harvest decreased 5%%, but age structure is still excellent. Whitetail antlerless harvest was lower than 2024, likely in response to lower permits and lower populations. NR permits were restricted to 15% beginning in 2023.

Depredation complaints: 1 DCP 1

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The harvest strategy will for whitetails should maintain the population at current levels or allow slight growth. The harvest strategy for mule deer should grow the population. North Loup and Middle Loup Rivers are being removed from River Antlerless.

Harvest objectives are 400 MD bucks and 600 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 10% for MD and 25% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Calamus West

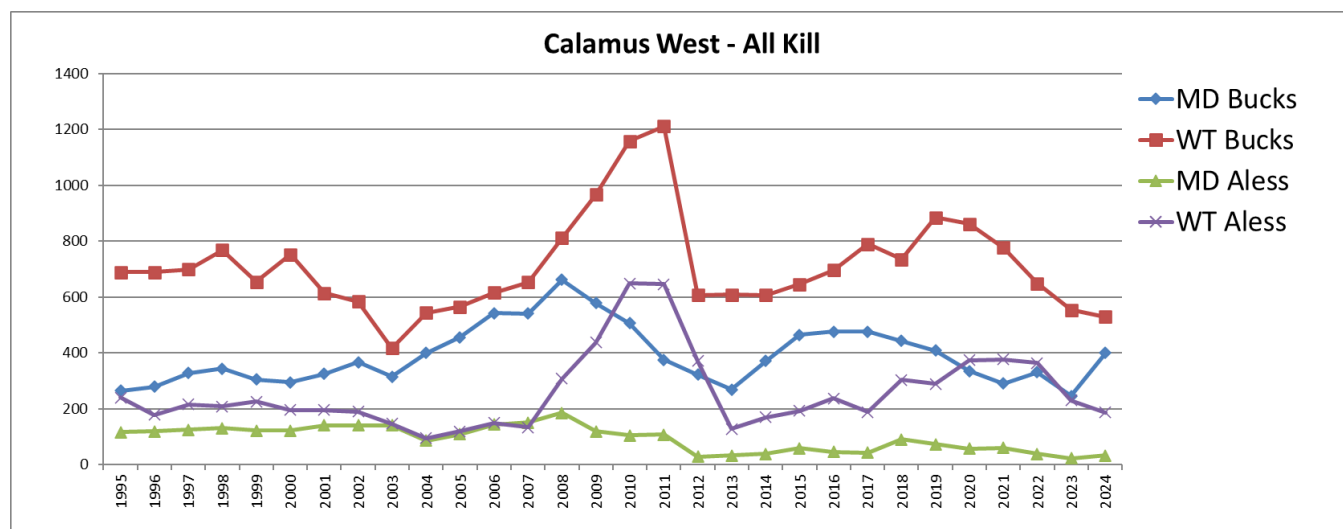
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Calamus West	1400	1398	11/14/24	223	2	225	288	52	340	40	-
Calamus West AO SC	200	199	11/19/24	0	1	1	0	63	63	25	7
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	18	19	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	43	14	57	61	25	86	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	5	0	5	16	1	17	-	-
SW Archery	-	-	-	25	1	26	46	6	52	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	46	9	55	12	8	20	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	36	5	41	43	7	50	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	13	6	19	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	3	0	3	1	0	1	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	0	1	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	18	0	18	16	0	16	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	31	0	31	-	-
Total	-	-	-	246	22	268	553	230	783	-	-

CALAMUS WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	335	57	392	15	11	89		861	373	1234	30	18	82	
2021	290	60	350	17	13	29	58	777	377	1154	33	14	33	53
2022	330	38	368	10	24	30	46	648	363	1011	36	14	39	47
2023	246	22	268	8	13	30	57	553	230	783	29	11	41	47
2024	399	32	431	7	7	28	65	529	186	715	26	8	47	45



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1600 (1 AD, 1 AOWT)	Calamus West AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT)	0	0
2021	1600 (1 AD, 2 AOWT)	Calamus West AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	2	0 (0)
2022	1600 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Calamus West AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	1	0 (0)
2023	1600 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Calamus West AOSC – 200 (3 AOWT)	2 (Winter)	1 (11)
2024	1400 (1 AD ²)	Calamus West AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	1	1 (0)
2025*	1400 (1 AD ²)	Calamus West AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
Calamus West	350	530	30	180

ELKHORN MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Elkhorn November Firearm: 2500 Any Buck permits. Reduction of 200 permits and bag limit change from Any Deer.

Elkhorn Antlerless Only Season Choice: 200 Antlerless Only Whitetail permits with no antlerless bonus tags. No change from 2024.

Elkhorn West Antlerless Only Season Choice: 200 Antlerless Only Whitetail permits with no antlerless bonus tags. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove all section in the Elkhorn unit from River Antlerless.

General Information: Whitetail buck harvest has declined for the 3 season out of the last 4. Populations are much lower than desired. Historically, this unit had significant crop damage complaints from WT deer, mostly along the river corridors, however with habitat changes, annual EHD events and drought conditions population levels remain low. Removal of River Antlerless permits and going to buck only firearm permits should reduce antlerless harvest to the extent population growth can occur.

Depredation complaints: 1 DCP: 1 (1)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The population objective is to allow the whitetail population to grow, while maintaining hunting opportunity with the November firearm any deer permits.

Harvest objective is 2400 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 42% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Elkhorn

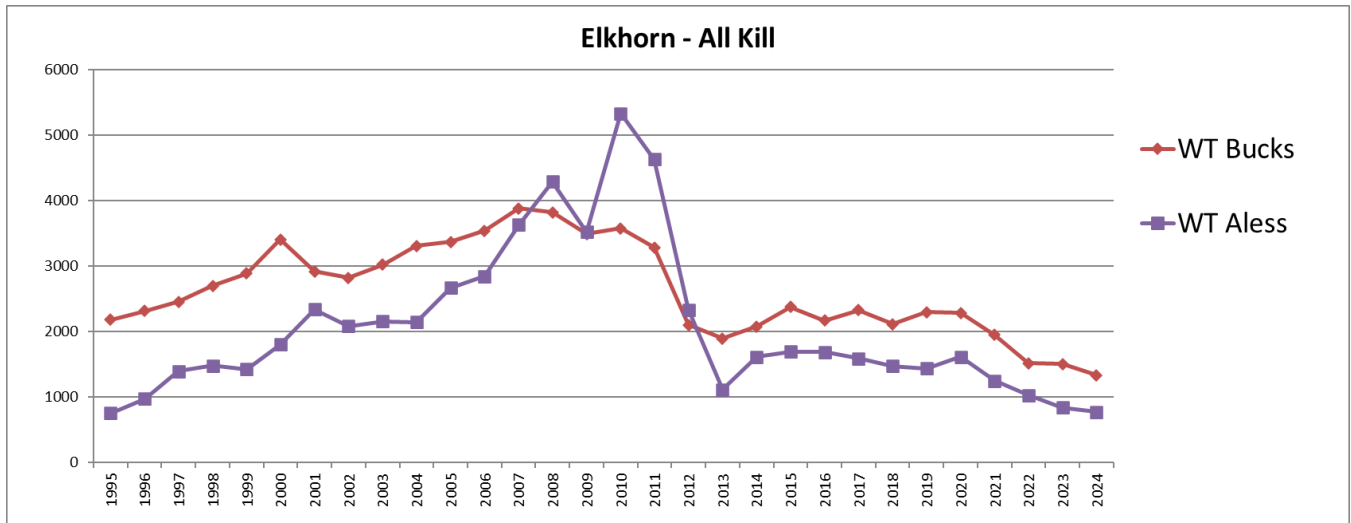
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Elkhorn	2700	2700	11/8/24	1	1	2	611	179	790	29	-
Elkhorn AO SC	200	200	7/24/24	0	0	0	3	48	51	26	-
Elkhorn West AO SC	200	200	11/2/24	0	0	0	3	41	44	22	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	15	281	296	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	2	0	2	169	92	261	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	1	0	1	55	5	60	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	0	0	0	173	35	208	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	21	29	50	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	79	25	104	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	65	28	93	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	2	4	6	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	1	0	1	7	0	7	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	121	2	123	-	-
Total	-	-	-	5	1	6	1324	769	2093	-	-

ELKHORN MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	11	3	14	21	-	-	-	2283	1614	3897	41	29	71	
2021	9	5	14	36	-	-	-	1948	1250	3198	39	37	44	19
2022	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	1519	1028	2547	40	32	48	19
2023	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	1507	842	2349	36	33	48	19
2024	5	1	6	17	-	-	-	1324	769	2093	37	32	42	27



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	2700 (1 AD)	Elkhorn AOSC – 1000 (AOWT)	2	2
2021	2900 (1 AD)	Elkhorn AOSC – 1000 (AOWT)	2	1 (2)
2022	2900 (1 AD)	Elkhorn AOSC – 250 (AOWT) Elkhorn West AOSC – 750 (AOWT)	4	4 (0)
2023	2700 (1 AD)	Elkhorn AOSC – 250 (AOWT) Elkhorn West AOSC – 350 (AOWT)	3	3 (2)
2024	2700 (1 AD)	Elkhorn AOSC – 200 (AOWT) Elkhorn West AOSC – 200 (AOWT)	1	1 (1)
2025*	2500 (1 Any Buck)	Elkhorn AOSC – 200 (AOWT) Elkhorn West AOSC – 200 (AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	-	1300	-	300

FRENCHMAN MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Frenchman MDCA: 1200 Any Deer² permits valid during Archery, Muzzleloader and November Firearm seasons. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Frenchman Whitetail November Firearm: 600 permits for One Whitetail Buck. This is a decrease of 200 permits and a bag limit change from Any Whitetail in 2024.

Frenchman WT Antlerless Only: 200 permits for one antlerless whitetail, not valid on Red Willow WMA/SRA, Medicine Creek WMA/SRA, Swanson WMA/SRA or Enders WMA/SRA. Decrease of 200 permits from 2024.

Frenchman West Antlerless Only: 100 permits for one antlerless and one antlerless WT, not valid on Red Willow WMA/SRA, Medicine Creek WMA/SRA, Swanson WMA/SRA or Enders WMA/SRA. No change from 2024.

Southwest Reservoirs Antlerless Only: 50 permits for one AOWT. Valid only on Red Willow WMA/SRA, Medicine Creek WMA/SRA, Swanson WMA/SRA or Enders WMA/SRA. No change from 2024.

General Information: Buck harvest was stable from 2023 for both WT and MD, despite cuts in permits. However, both are significantly below recent highs and well below objectives. 1,931 residents applied for 1,020 Frenchman MDCA permits (53% success), and 648 non-residents applied for 180 permits (28% success).

Depredation Complaints: 5; DCP: 2 (2).

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Mule deer populations have been reduced across the unit. Staff have received several complaints from landowners and hunters of low MD populations. Antlerless MD harvest has been reduced significantly over the past several seasons. Population objectives are to allow for controlled growth in MD numbers while allowing for enough doe permits to address depredation complaints.

Whitetail deer populations have decreased substantially, and staff have received numerous complaints from landowners and hunters of low WT populations along the Republican River. The population objective is to reduce WT doe harvest to allow for moderate growth in WT numbers while allowing for enough doe permits to address depredation complaints. Reducing the AO WT permit and going to buck only for the Frenchman WT permit will assist in accomplishing these objectives.

Harvest objectives are 1750 MD bucks and 1200 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 20-25% for MD and 35-40% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Frenchman

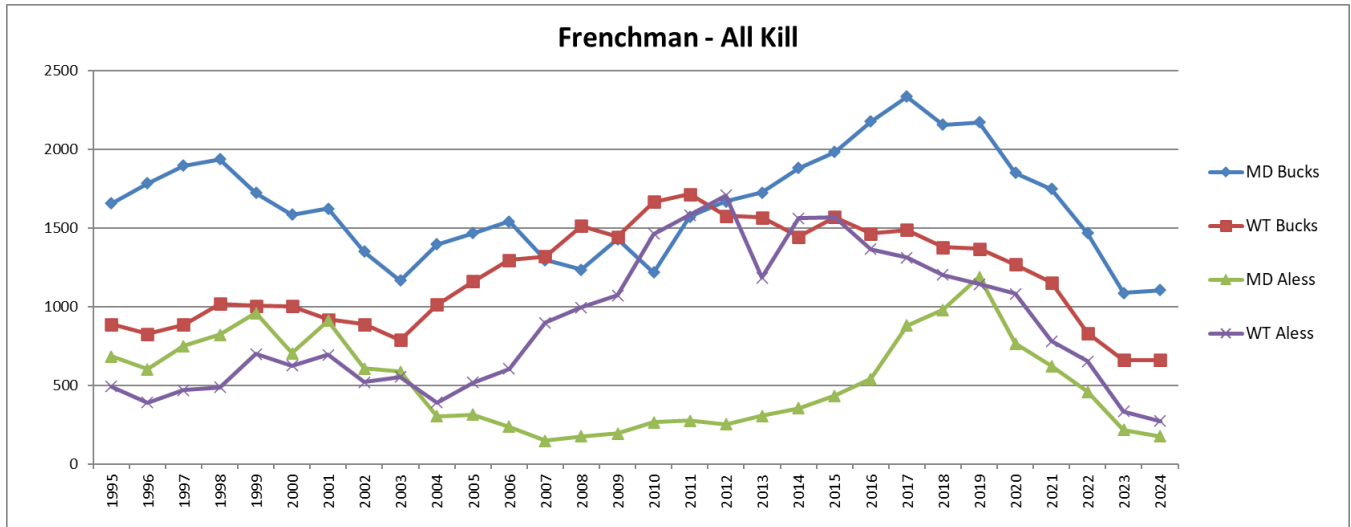
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Frenchman MDCA	1200	1199	DRAW	490	5	495	58	12	70	47	-
Frenchman WT	800	800	8/17/24	2	0	2	223	45	268	34	-
Frenchman WT AO SC	400	400	9/3/24	1	0	1	4	93	97	24	-
Frenchman West AO SC	100	100	7/10/24	0	46	46	0	20	20	55	11
SW Reservoirs AO SC	50	50	7/24/24	0	0	0	0	15	15	30	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	4	4	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	257	94	351	103	29	132	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	81	7	88	22	10	32	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	70	3	73	72	14	86	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	15	14	29	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	189	21	210	41	7	48	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	19	7	26	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	2	0	2	1	1	2	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	10	0	10	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	1	0	1	10	0	10	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	93	0	93	-	-
Total	-	-	-	1103	176	1279	661	271	932	-	-

FRENCHMAN MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons for all seasons are show below:

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	1848	764	2612	29	6	94		1266	1082	2348	46	18	82	
2021	1749	622	2371	26	7	38	55	1158	791	1949	41	21	40	39
2022	1466	457	1923	24	10	39	51	831	651	1482	44	23	38	39
2023	1085	216	1301	17	7	44	49	661	334	995	34	12	46	42
2024	1103	176	1279	14	10	35	56	661	271	932	29	17	41	42



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	MDCA 2000 (1 AD, 1 AOWT) WT 1600 (1 WT/1 AOWT)	Frenchman AOSC – 300 (1AO, 1AOWT) Frenchman WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 650 (2 AO)	21	16
2021	MDCA 2000 (1 AD, 1 AOWT) WT 1600 (1 WT/1 AOWT)	Frenchman AOSC – 300 (1AO, 1AOWT) Frenchman North WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Frenchman South WT AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 650 (2 AO) SW Reservoir AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT)	19	9 (15)
2022	MDCA 1600 (1 AD, 1 AOWT) WT 1200 (1 WT)	Frenchman AOSC – 150 (1AO, 1AOWT) Frenchman North WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Frenchman South WT AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 500 (1AO, 1 AOWT) SW Reservoir AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT)	6	5 (8)
2023	MDCA 1400 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Frenchman AOSC – 75 (1AO, 1AOWT) Frenchman North WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Frenchman South WT AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 250 (1AO, 1 AOWT) SW Reservoir AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT)	12	4 (1)
2024	MDCA 1200 (1 AD ²) WT 800 (1 WT)	Frenchman WT AOSC – 400 (1 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 100 (1AO, 1 AOWT) SW Reservoir AOSC – 50 (1 AOWT)	5	2 (2)
2025*	MDCA 1200 (1 AD ²) WT 600 (1 WT Buck)	Frenchman WT AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT) Frenchman West AOSC– 100 (1AO, 1 AOWT) SW Reservoir AOSC – 50 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

MDCA – Mule Deer Conservation Area

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

WT – Whitetail

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	1100	600	175	175

KEYA PAHA MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Keya Paha November Firearm: 2000 Any Deer² permits. Removal of one bonus tag from 2024.

Keya Paha Antlerless Only Season Choice: 500 Antlerless Only Whitetail with one Antlerless Only Whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove Elkhorn River from River Antlerless.

General Information: Hunter and landowners indicate a lower than desired population in the unit. WT adult buck harvest increased 3% but is still below objectives and age structure remains very desirable. Mule deer buck harvest increased 48%. Extreme winter conditions in 2023 and EHD events likely negatively affected deer populations in this unit the last 2 years.

Depredation complaints: 6 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Harvest of mature WT bucks remains high in this unit with 89% of bucks harvested aged at 2.5 years or older. The mule deer adult buck age structure was 90% for bucks 2.5 or older, though mule deer harvest remains low compared to historical harvest. The objective for this unit is to maintain or slightly reduce a WT antlerless harvest to provide for a stable to slightly growing population. Population objectives for Whitetails are near goal, while the population objective for mule deer is to maintain buck age structure while providing opportunity for hunters and landowners.

Harvest objectives are 200 MD bucks and 1400 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 8% for MD and 34% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Keya Paha

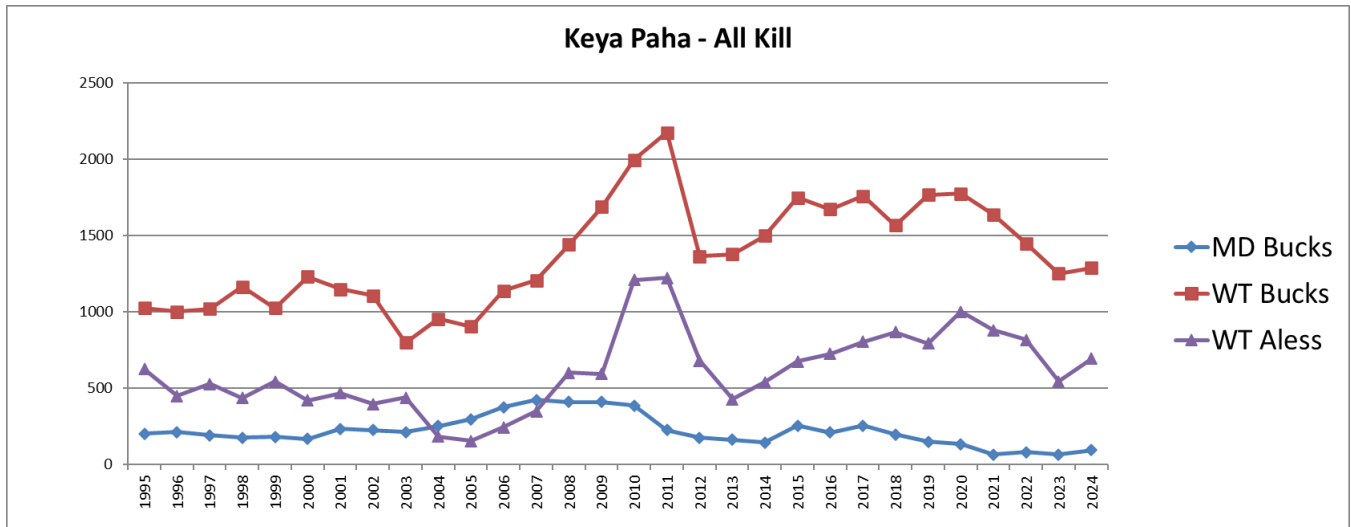
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Keya Paha	2000	1999	11/19/24	62	0	62	771	315	1086	48	9
Keya Paha AO SC	500	351	DNS	0	2	2	5	165	170	36	13
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	2	92	94	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	11	0	11	127	67	194	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	4	0	4	57	4	61	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	4	0	4	112	11	123	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	3	0	3	56	9	65	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	8	0	8	56	12	68	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	37	15	52	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	8	3	11	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	3	0	3	8	0	8	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	51	1	52	-	-
Total	-	-	-	95	2	97	1290	694	1984	-	-

KEYA PAHA MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	134	17	151	11	13	87		1776	1001	2777	36	15	85	
2021	65	4	69	6	14	29	57	1639	880	2519	35	9	31	60
2022	82	3	85	4	12	24	64	1449	817	2266	36	9	47	44
2023	65	6	71	8	11	21	68	1253	543	1796	30	10	37	54
2024	95	2	97	2	10	13	77	1290	694	1984	35	11	32	57



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	2500 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT)	10	5
2021	2500 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (3 AOWT)	10	5 (15)
2022	2500 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (3 AOWT)	5	3 (26)
2023	2500 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (3 AOWT)	12 (winter)	5 (36)
2024	2000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT)	6	0
2025*	2000 (1 AD ²)	Keya Paha AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	95	1300	5	480

LOUP EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Loup East November Firearm: 2700 Any Deer² permits. Removal of one bonus tag from 2024.

Loup East Antlerless Only Season Choice: 1000 Antlerless Only Whitetail, with one Antlerless Only Whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024.

General Information: Harvest of whitetail bucks decreased 7%. Prior to this season, antlerless harvest has met or nearly met the 50% goal every year since 2019. Indicators show a trend for decreasing WT population. The age of whitetail bucks remains high. Mule deer buck harvest and age structure remains stable, but at low levels. EHD had localized impacts on WT deer in 2021 and 2022.

Depredation complaints: 3 DCP: 2 (11)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: High permit numbers, extra antlerless bonus tags and a season extension boosted antlerless WT harvest and were effective at reducing the population in recent years. WT Buck harvest declined and is below harvest objectives, but age structure remains high. The objective for whitetails is to reduce antlerless harvest to allow slight population growth. Deer damage complaints have been typically located along the Loup River system but decreased substantially the last 3 years. River Antlerless still allow hunters to harvest antlerless deer. To reduce antlerless harvest, it is recommended to remove the bonus tag from the firearm permit.

Harvest objective is 1650 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 45% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Loup East

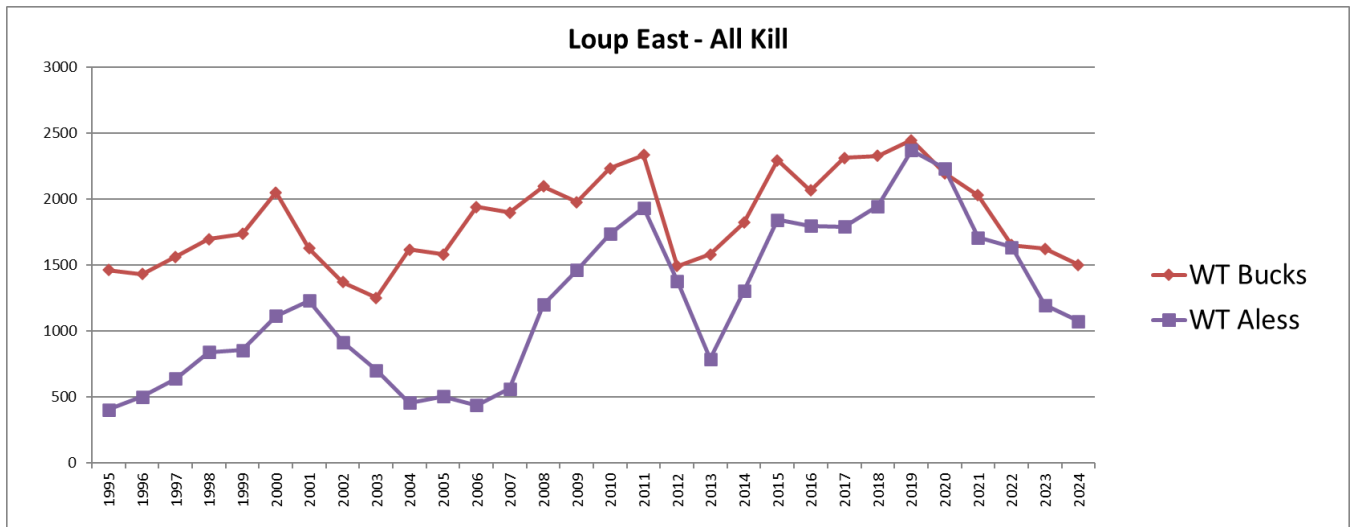
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Loup East	2700	2700	11/13/24	16	0	16	802	433	1235	40	6
Loup East AO SC	1000	1000	12/31/24	0	0	0	9	267	276	22	6
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	9	198	207	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	4	2	6	221	92	313	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	4	0	4	56	8	64	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	0	0	0	125	23	148	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	1	0	1	37	12	49	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	5	5	10	79	26	105	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	52	13	65	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	11	1	12	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	1	0	1	10	0	10	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	90	1	91	-	-
Total	-	-	-	33	7	40	1501	1074	2575	-	-

LOUP EAST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	60	10	70	14	25	75		2197	2232	4429	50	22	78	
2021	37	11	48	23	25	35	40	2027	1708	3735	46	20	45	35
2022	47	3	50	6	25	54	21	1651	1634	3285	50	20	44	37
2023	47	6	53	11	26	56	19	1622	1197	2819	42	16	41	44
2024	33	7	40	18	13	-	-	1501	1074	2575	42	12	41	46



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	3300 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Loup East AOSC – 1500 (3 AOWT)	16	11
2021	3300 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Loup East AOSC – 1500 (3 AOWT)	13	6 (0)
2022	3300 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Loup East AOSC – 1500 (3 AOWT)	6	5 (23)
2023	3000 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT)	Loup East AOSC – 1500 (3 AOWT) (718)	3	1 (0)
2024	2700 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT)	Loup East AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT)	3	2 (11)
2025*	2700 (1 AD ²)	Loup East AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	40	1500	5	900

LOUP WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Loup West November Firearm: 700 Any Deer² permits. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Loup West Whitetail November Firearm: 600 Any Whitetail permits. No change from 2024.

Loup West Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 permits for One Antlerless Deer. No change from 2024.

Loup West Whitetail Antlerless Only Season Choice: 150 permits for One Antlerless Only Whitetail. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove all sections in Loup West from River Antlerless.

General Information: MD buck harvest increased 6% from last year. 9 cases of meningeal brain worm were reported this year. WT buck harvest decreased 6% and antlerless harvest remained stable. The age structure for Whitetail bucks is good within the unit. This unit was sampled in 2023 for CWD with 2 positives detected.

Depredation complaints: 0, DCP: 0.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The whitetail deer population has decreased significantly. EHD and poor habitat conditions due to severe drought the past couple of years has impacted the whitetail populations in this unit. However, the age structure for Whitetail bucks remains good. The population objective for whitetail is to allow for growth of the herd. Loup West WT AOSC will allow us to address any crop damage concerns in the unit. There appears to be little hunter interest in additional AOWT harvest in this unit. Removal of the Middle Loup River portion on the River Antlerless will allow some whitetail herd growth.

The mule deer population appears to be stabilizing. Age structure remains good. The mule deer population experienced substantial disease mortality due to meningeal brain worm in the past. The population objective is to allow the mule deer herd to grow, while maintaining the current age structure.

Harvest objectives are 400 MD bucks and 800 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 17% for MD and 35% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Loup West

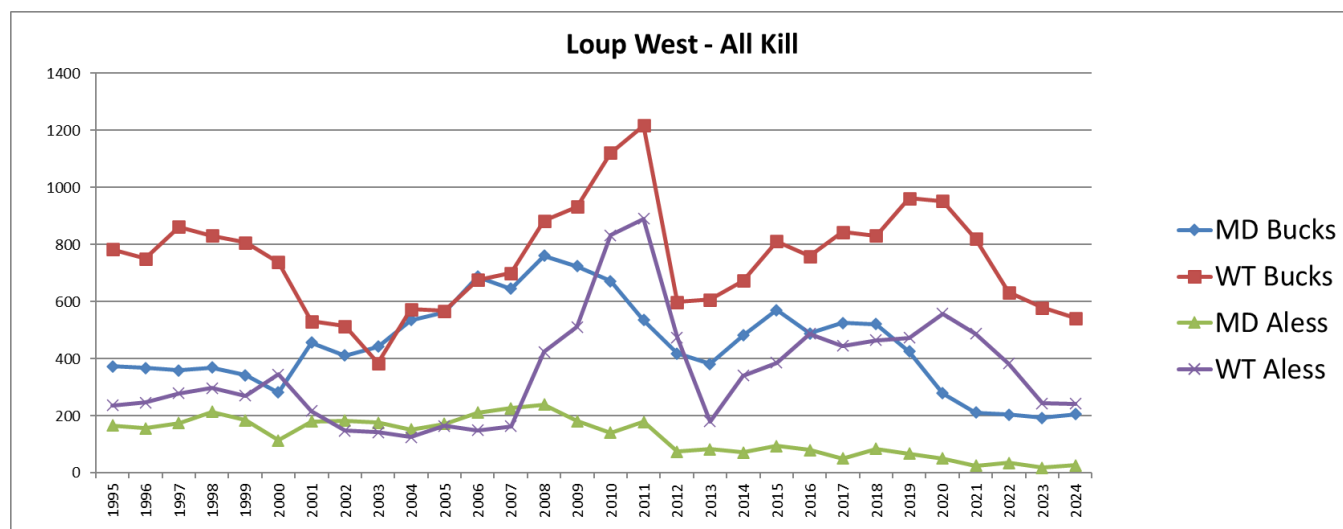
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Loup West	700	700	10/15/24	85	0	85	153	36	189	39	-
Loup West WT	600	600	11/15/24	1	1	2	138	26	164	28	-
Loup West AO SC	100	100	11/12/24	0	9	9	1	22	23	32	-
Loup West WT AO SC	150	150	1/3/24	0	0	0	1	29	30	20	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	62	63	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	42	15	57	87	36	123	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	14	0	14	21	1	22	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	5	0	5	35	11	46	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	17	1	18	14	6	20	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	24	1	25	45	9	54	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	17	4	21	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	5	0	5	0	1	1	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	12	0	12	5	0	5	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	25	0	25	-	-
Total				206	27	233	543	243	786	-	-

LOUP WEST MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	279	51	330	16	13	87	952	558	1510	37	17	83		
2021	211	26	237	11	11	53	36	820	488	1308	37	15	35	50
2022	205	35	240	15	21	21	59	633	384	1017	38	13	31	56
2023	193	19	212	9	19	34	47	579	244	823	30	18	30	52
2024	206	27	233	12	17	30	53	543	243	786	31	23	19	59



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1200 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT) 600 (1 WT, 2 AOWT)	Loup West AOSC – 400 (1 AO, 2 AOWT)	0	0
2021	1000 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT) 800 (1 WT, 2 AOWT)	Loup West AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 2 AOWT) Loup West WT AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	1	0
2022	1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) 800 (1 WT, 1 AOWT)	Loup West AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Loup West WT AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT)	0	0
2023	1000 (1 AD ²) 800 (1 WT)	Loup West AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Loup West WT AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT)	1 (Winter)	1 (0)
2024	700 (1 AD ²) 600 (1 WT)	Loup West AOSC – 100 (1 AO) Loup West WT AOSC – 150 (1 AOWT)	0	0
2025*	700 (1 AD ²) 600 (1 WT)	Loup West AOSC – 100 (1 AO) Loup West WT AOSC – 150 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

WT – Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	200	550	30	180

MISSOURI MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Missouri November Firearm: 2600 Any Deer. Reduction of 300 permits from 2024.

Missouri Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 Antlerless Only Whitetail. No change from 2024.

Missouri West Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 Antlerless Only Whitetail. Reduction of 200 permits from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove Elkhorn River and Missouri River below US Hwy 81 from River Antlerless.

General Information: The whitetail buck decreased 15%, the fifth consecutive year of decline. Percent antlerless harvest increased despite a reduction in antlerless permits last year. Whitetail buck age structure remains desirable. Whitetail densities are highest in the western ½ of the unit. EHD events have occurred annually the last 4 years, and combined with drought have likely had substantial population effects. The further reduction of antlerless permits and removal of River Antlerless permits in the eastern portion of the unit should allow for population growth in the absence of EHD events.

Depredation complaints: 1 DCP: 1 (7)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Whitetail buck harvest remains below unit objectives. The objective is to further reduce antlerless whitetail harvest to allow the herd to grow. The age structure of the bucks in the harvest meets unit goals but hunter success has declined. The split of the Antlerless Only Season Choice units is in response to the population and habitat discrepancy between the eastern and western portions of the unit.

Harvest objective is 2200 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 40% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Missouri

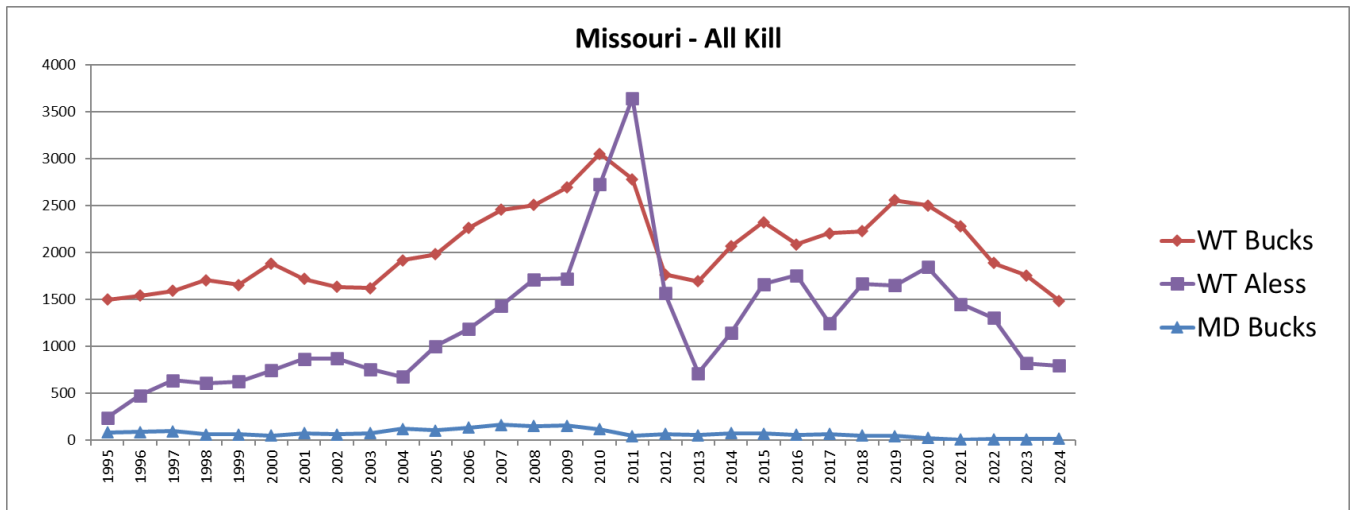
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Missouri	2900	2900	11/14/24	11	1	12	739	180	919	32	-
Missouri AO SC	100	100	7/25/24	0	0	0	1	27	28	28	-
Missouri West AO SC	300	300	11/15/24	0	0	0	1	61	62	21	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	4	315	319	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	1	2	3	220	101	321	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	0	0	0	73	11	84	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	1	0	1	150	22	172	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	23	25	48	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	92	30	122	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	67	22	89	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	8	0	8	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	0	1	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	7	1	8	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	102	0	102	-	-
Total	-	-	-	15	3	18	1488	795	2283	-	-

MISSOURI MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer							
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+	
2020	25	6	31	19	20	80									
2021	8	2	10	20											
2022	12	1	13	8	-	-	-								
2023	11	0	11	-	-	-	-								
2024	15	3	18	17	-	-	-								



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	3200 (1 AD, 1 AOWT)	Missouri AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT)	9	4
2021	3200 (1 AD, 1 AOWT)	Missouri AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT)	5	2 (8)
2022	3200 (1 AD, 1 AOWT)	Missouri AOSC – 1000 (2 AOWT)	3	2 (23)
2023	3200 (1 AD)	Missouri AOSC – 1000 (1 AOWT)	7 (winter)	3 (3)
2024	2900 (1 AD)	Missouri AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT) Missouri West AOSC – 300 (1 AOWT)	1	1 (7)
2025*	2600 (1 AD)	Missouri AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT) Missouri West AOSC – 100 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	10	1400	0	675

PINE RIDGE MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

No person may obtain more than one Pine Ridge permit that allows for the take of a mule deer buck.

Pine Ridge MDCA: 900 permits valid for one Any Deer² valid during Archery, Firearm and Muzzleloader season. No change from 2024. Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Private Land Only Pine Ridge MDCA: 150 permits valid for one Any Deer² valid during Archery, Firearm and Muzzleloader season. No change from 2024. Not valid on land open to public hunting access.

Pine Ridge Whitetail November Firearm: 1000 permits valid for one whitetail of either sex. No change from 2024.

Pine Ridge Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 permits for one antlerless deer and one antlerless whitetail. No change from 2024.

Pine Ridge Whitetail Antlerless Only Season Choice: 500 permits for two antlerless only whitetails. Increase of 100 from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove White River from River Antlerless.

General Information: Firearm Mule deer buck harvest was 14% below the 5-year average but up 21% since 2023. Whitetail buck harvest was 14% below the 5-year average but up 13% since 2023. Overall unit harvest: Mule Deer buck harvest was up 25% more than expected and Whitetail buck harvest was 14% more than expected. Buck:Doe ratio (25:100) increased.

Depredation complaints: 5 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Trends indicate low numbers of both mule deer and whitetail. Lower populations are attributed to fall 2012 EHD event and the winter of 2022/2023. Fawn:Doe (60:100) ratios showed possibility of increased recruitment compared to recent years. A low level of antlerless harvest on mule deer will still be acceptable. Objectives are to increase hunter satisfaction in this largely public land unit, increase mule deer populations and buck age, while providing some opportunity to harvest antlerless mule deer. Objectives for whitetails are to allow for a slight increase in population. Whitetail harvest will be monitored closely.

Harvest objectives are 700 MD bucks and 900 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 15% for MD and 36% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data - Pine Ridge

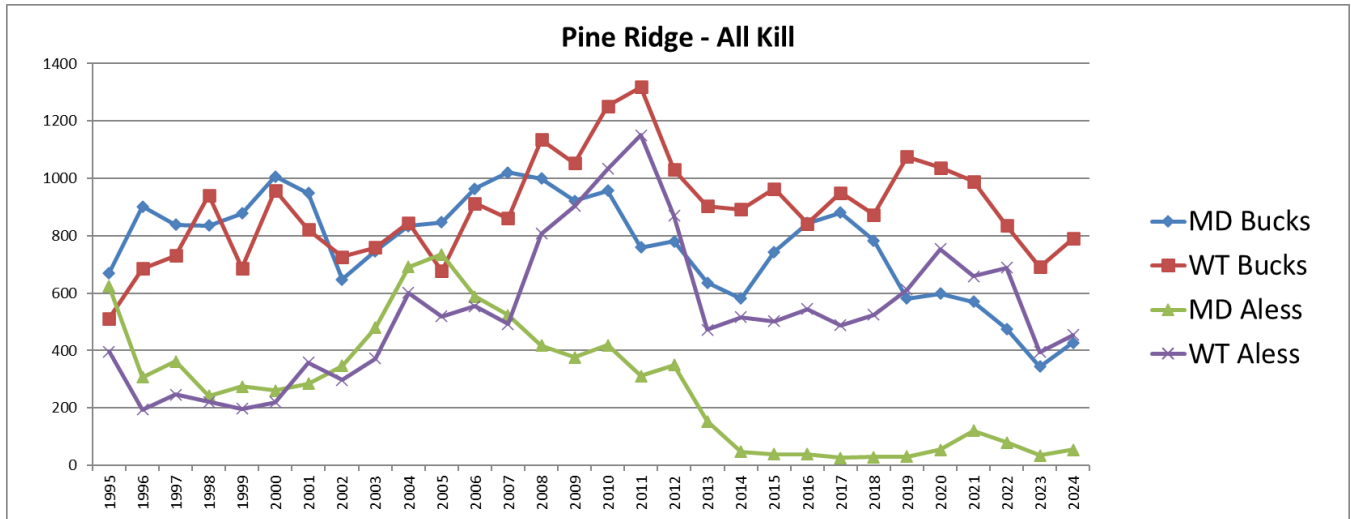
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Pine Ridge MDCA	900	900	9/1/24	252	2	254	111	24	135	43	-
Pine Ridge MDCA PLO	150	150	10/13/25	49	0	49	29	1	30	53	-
Pine Ridge WT	1000	980	DNS	1	0	1	405	49	454	46	-
Pine Ridge AO SC	100	100	7/11/24	0	27	27	1	39	40	50	17
Pine Ridge WT AO SC	400	400	11/25/24	0	0	0	10	235	245	40	22
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	28	29	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	54	18	72	64	42	106	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	15	0	15	10	2	12	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	23	2	25	47	4	51	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	35	9	44	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	29	5	34	31	9	40	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	20	12	32	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	1	0	1	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	1	0	1	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	3	0	3	5	0	5	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	21	0	21	-	-
Total	-	-	-	428	54	482	791	454	1245	-	-

PINE RIDGE MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	598	55	653	8	18	82	1038	754	1792	42	18	82		
2021	570	121	691	18	18	41	41	989	659	1648	40	14	45	41
2022	475	80	555	14	16	47	36	836	689	1525	45	15	38	47
2023	344	35	379	9	13	44	42	692	395	1087	36	13	43	44
2024	428	54	482	11	14	32	55	791	454	1245	36	27	29	44



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1200 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 200 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 600 (2 AOWT)	2	1
2021	1200 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 400 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 600 (2 AOWT)	2	0
2022	MDCA 1200 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 200 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 600 (2 AOWT)	4	0
2023	MDCA 1200 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 600 (2 AOWT)	10 (winter)	4 (15)
2024	MDCA 900 (1 AD ²) PLO MDCA 150 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 400 (2 AOWT)	5	0
2025*	MDCA 900 (1 AD ²) PLO MDCA 150 (1 AD ²) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Pine Ridge AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Pine Ridge AOSC WT – 500 (2 AOWT)		

*Recommended permit numbers

² No antlerless mule deer

WT – Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only

AD – Any Deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	450	800	50	480

PLAINS MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Plains November Firearm: 1000 Any Deer² with one bonus antlerless whitetail permit. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Plains Whitetail November Firearm: 200 permits valid for one whitetail of either sex with one bonus antlerless whitetail permit. No change from 2024.

Plains Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 Antlerless Only Season Choice permits with two Antlerless Only Whitetail bonus tags. No change from 2024.

Plains Whitetail Antlerless Only Season Choice: 200 permits for 2 AOWT. No change from 2024.

General Information: Firearm Mule deer buck harvest was down 23% from the 5-year average but up 18% from 2023. Whitetail buck harvest was down 17% from the 5-year average but up 23% from 2023. Overall unit harvest: Mule Deer buck harvest was up 21% more than expected and Whitetail buck harvest was 35% more than expected. Buck:Doe ratio (34:100) increased.

Sampling for MBW happened during the 2022 firearm season. Sampling was focused on whitetail deer in the Plains and Sandhills units but other samples were received from the Pine Ridge and Platte units. 22 of 77 deer tested were positive.

Depredation Complaints: 4 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Trends indicate lower numbers of Mule deer and whitetail. Lower populations are attributed to the fall 2021 EHD event and the winter of 2022/2023. Fawn:Doe (68:100) ratios showed possibility of increased recruitment compared to recent years. Population objectives are to increase mule deer populations by reduced overall harvest and stabilize whitetail populations. This recommendation will continue the effort to increase Mule deer populations and address depredation problems areas with Season Choice Antlerless Only permits.

Harvest objectives are 800 MD bucks and 300 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 15-20% for MD and 30% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Plains

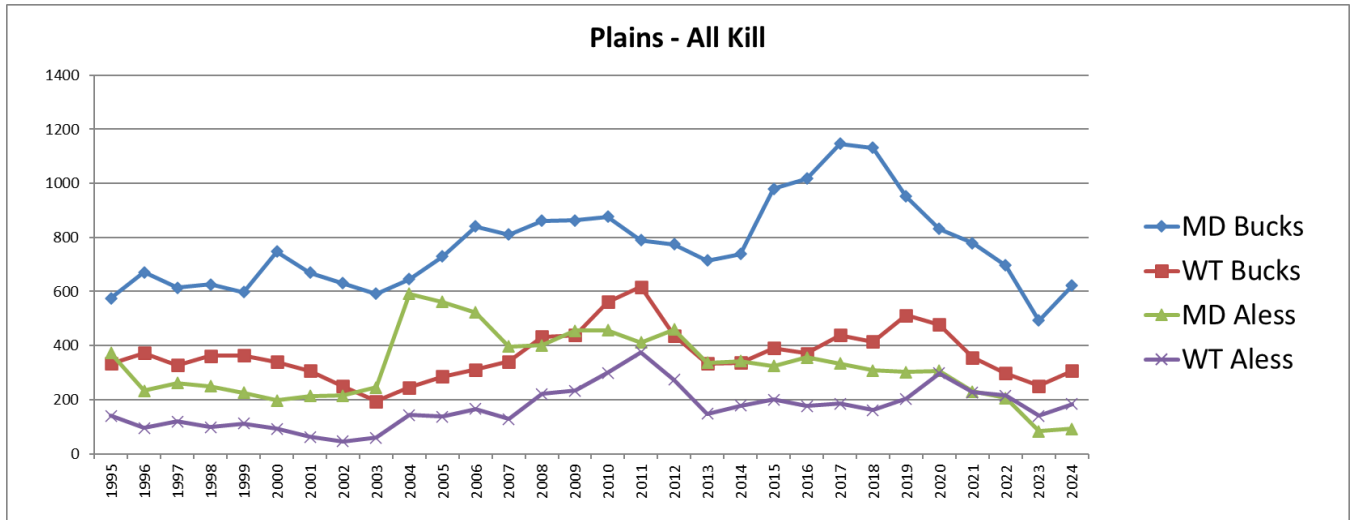
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Plains	1000	1000	11/14/24	349	5	354	136	75	211	52	4
Plains WT	200	200	11/16/24	4	0	4	56	18	74	33	6
Plains AO SC	100	100	8/1/24	1	29	30	0	16	16	41	5
Plains WT AO SC	200	181	DNS	0	0	0	4	52	56	24	7
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	6	6	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	39	26	65	25	6	31	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	13	1	14	3	2	5	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	30	4	34	11	1	12	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	62	13	75	17	4	21	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	55	14	69	19	2	21	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	11	1	12	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	14	0	14	2	1	3	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	2	0	2	1	0	1	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	52	0	52	12	0	12	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	10	0	10	-	-
Total	-	-	-	622	92	714	307	184	491	-	-

PLAINS MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	832	307	1139	27	10	90	477	297	774	38	15	85		
2021	779	230	1009	23	12	36	52	356	228	584	39	22	30	49
2022	697	207	904	23	15	31	54	297	216	513	42	20	34	46
2023	492	84	576	15	16	38	46	251	140	391	36	14	33	52
2024	622	92	714	13	12	42	46	307	184	491	37	22	28	50



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1700 (1 AD, 1 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 500 (1 AO, 1 AOWT)	2	0
2021	1700 (1 AD, 2 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 500 (1 AO, 2 AOWT)	4	1 (1)
2022	1500 (1 AD, 2 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 200 (1 AO, 2 AOWT) Plains WT AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	3	0
2023	1000 (1 AD ² , 2 AOWT) 300 (1 WT, 2 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 2 AOWT) Plains WT AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	5 (winter)	1 (1)
2024	1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) 200 (1 WT, 1 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Plains WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	4	0
2025*	1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) 200 (1 WT, 1 AOWT)	Plains AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Plains WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	650	325	100	200

PLATTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Platte MDCA: 700 Any Deer² valid during Archery, November Firearm and Muzzleloader seasons. Reduction of 200 permits and removal of the bonus tag from 2023. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Platte Whitetail November Firearm: 600 permits for one whitetail. Decrease of 100 from 2024.

Platte Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 permits for one antlerless deer and one antlerless whitetail. Valid for entire Platte Unit. No change from 2024.

Platte Whitetail Antlerless Only Season Choice: 200 permits for one antlerless whitetail. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove all sections of the Platte unit from River Antlerless.

General Information: Whitetail buck harvest is 31% below the 5-year average. Mule deer buck harvest is 34% below the 5-year average. Mule deer densities are decreasing across most of the unit. Whitetail numbers no longer exceed landowner tolerance on most portions of the Platte River where leasing is occurring. Reports from hunters indicate a substantial decrease in the deer population across the entire unit. 1037 residents applied for 595 MDCA permits (57% success) and 277 non-residents applied for 105 MDCA permits (38% success).

Depredation Complaints: 2, DCP: 2 (17)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to improve age structure and to increase whitetail herds in riparian corridors and to maintain a low density in the uplands to limit competition between species and slow brainworm transmission with mule deer. Mule deer populations are declining across the unit due to a combination of previous doe harvest, drought conditions, and a hard winter in 2022-23. Mule Deer objectives are to increase age structure and increase the population. There was one confirmed report of brainworm in 2023.

Harvest objectives are 800 MD bucks and 900 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 20-22% for MD and 42% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Platte

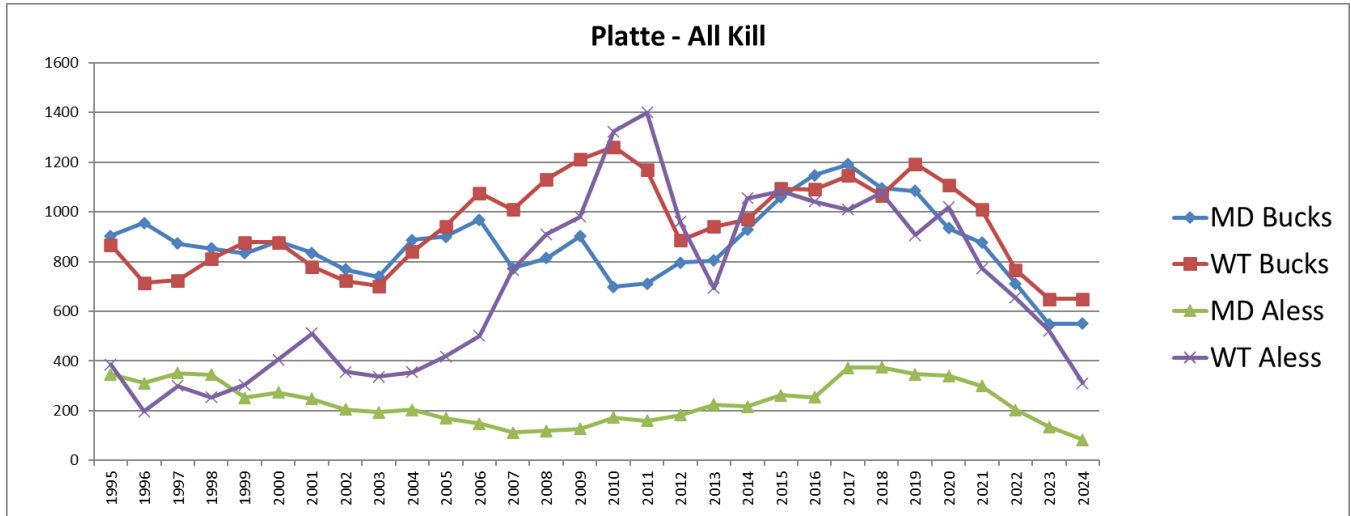
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Platte MDCA	700	700	DRAW	247	2	249	66	9	75	46	-
Platte WT	700	700	10/19/24	0	0	0	192	41	233	33	-
Platte AO SC	100	100	7/10/24	0	24	24	2	23	25	34	15
Platte AO WT SC	200	200	8/6/24	0	0	0	2	40	42	21	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	2	2	2	93	95	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	149	36	185	90	51	141	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	25	3	28	25	2	27	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	30	4	34	100	20	120	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	2	0	2	23	6	29	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	87	10	97	40	15	55	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	1	2	32	9	41	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	1	0	1	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	7	0	7	1	0	1	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	2	0	2	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	1	0	1	71	1	72	-	-
Total	-	-	-	550	82	632	649	310	959	-	-

PLATTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	935	340	1275	27	9	91		1108	1019	2127	48	18	82	
2021	875	299	1174	25	16	46	38	1009	774	1783	43	18	47	35
2022	711	203	914	22	13	47	40	767	655	1422	46	21	44	35
2023	548	135	683	20	10	54	36	649	523	1172	45	19	49	32
2024	550	82	632	13	10	31	59	649	310	959	32	21	44	35



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	MDCA 1400 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 1300 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 200 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Platte AOSC North – 400 (2 AO)	3	2
2021	MDCA 1400 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 1300 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 200 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 500 (2 AOWT) Platte AOSC North – 400 (2 AO)	4	4 (23)
2022	MDCA 1000 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 1000 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 200 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 400 (2 AOWT) Platte AOSC North – 300 (1AO, 1 AOWT)	1	0 (0)
2023	MDCA 900 (1 AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 900 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 400 (2 AOWT) Platte AOSC North – 200 (1AO, 1 AOWT)	6 (winter)	0 (0)
2024	MDCA 700 (1 AD ²) WT 700 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT)	2	2 (17)
2025*	MDCA 700 (1 AD ²) WT 600 (1 WT)	Platte AOSC – 100 (1AO, 1AOWT) Platte WT AOSC – 200 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

MDCA – Mule Deer Conservation Area

AO – Antlerless Only

WT – Whitetail

AD – Any Deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	550	620	80	310

REPUBLICAN MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Republican MDCA: 50 Any Deer² permits valid during Archery, November Firearm and Muzzleloader seasons. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Republican Whitetail November Firearm: 2200 permits for one whitetail valid during the November Firearm season. No change from 2024.

Republican Antlerless Only: 800 permits for two antlerless whitetail deer. Permits are not valid on Harlan County Lake USACE Property. No change from 2024.

River Antlerless: Remove the section above the Harlan County Dam from River Antlerless.

General Information: The whitetail population has decreased significantly along the Republican River in the western portion of the unit. The eastern portion of the unit still appears to be stable, especially along the Little Blue and Republican Rivers. However, unit-wide harvest has been trending downward for the last 4-5 years. CWD continues to be a concern in the western half of the unit. The mule deer herd has been impacted severely by habitat loss and meningeal worm over the past 2 decades.

Depredation complaints: 1 DCP: 1 (8)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: The mule deer herd is low and appears to be declining slightly. The whitetail herd appears to be declining throughout the unit with harvest declining, which is also a result of reduced permit quotas. Buck age structure is relatively good and success remains stable. The population objective for whitetails is to allow slow growth of the herd throughout the unit by reducing the number of Republican Whitetail, Republican AOSC, but still maintaining the liberal use of River Antlerless permits east of Harlan County Reservoir. The population goal for mule deer is to allow the herd to grow by restricting the harvest of antlerless mule deer, however mule deer populations do not seem to be responding to past tactics.

Harvest objective is 2500 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 40% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Republican

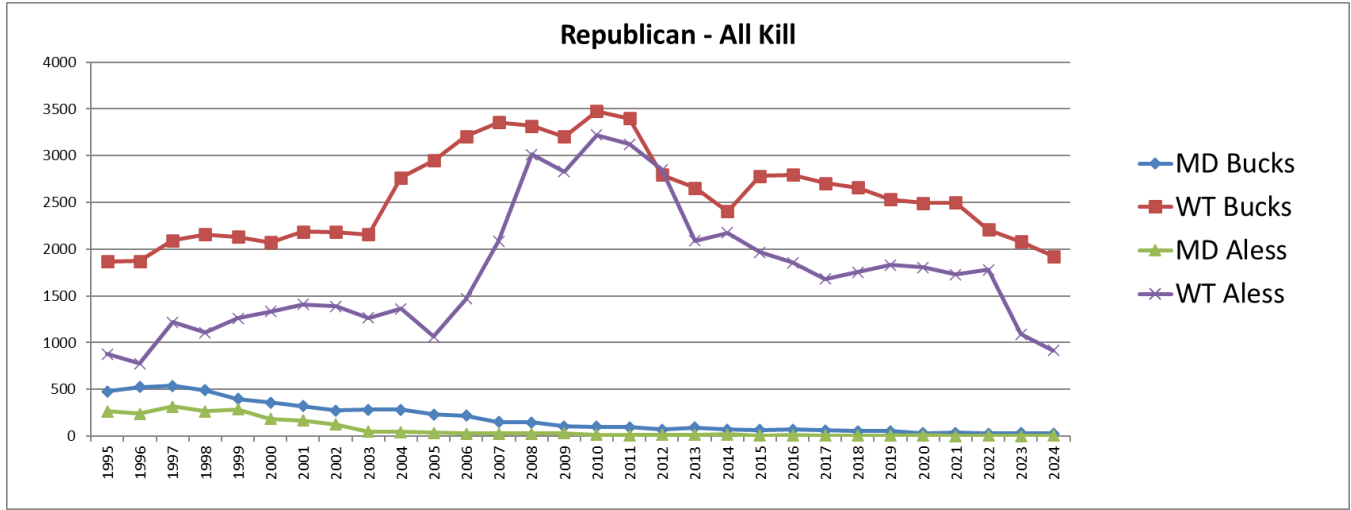
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Republican MDCA	50	50	7/18/24	7	0	7	5	0	5	24	-
Republican WT	2200	2199	10/10/24	0	0	0	709	153	862	39	-
Republican AO SC	800	800	11/1/24	0	0	0	4	197	201	25	-
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	1	1	8	267	275	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	12	5	17	263	126	389	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	3	0	3	77	6	83	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	2	0	2	236	38	274	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	55	38	93	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	3	2	5	105	31	136	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	120	55	175	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	4	2	6	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	8	1	9	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	330	1	331	-	-
Total	-	-	-	27	8	35	1924	915	2839	-	-

REPUBLICAN MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	34	11	45	24	11	89	2495	1803	4298	42	21	79		
2021	36	4	40	10			2498	1728	4226	41	23	24	52	
2022	27	5	32	16	-	-	2209	1779	3988	45	24	32	44	
2023	33	4	37	11	-	-	2079	1092	3171	34	25	31	44	
2024	27	8	35	23	-	-	1925	915	2840	32	21	33	46	



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	MDCA 75 (1 MD Buck) WT 3000 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 1500 (2 AOWT)	3	2
2021	MDCA 75 (1 MD Buck) WT 3000 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 1500 (2 AOWT) HCR AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	3	2 (2)
2022	MDCA 75 (1 MD Buck) WT 3000 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 1500 (2 AOWT) HCR AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	2	0 (0)
2023	MDCA 50 (1 MD Buck) WT 2500 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 1200 (2 AOWT) HCR AOSC – 100 (2 AOWT)	2	0 (0)
2024	MDCA 50 (1 AD ²) WT 2200 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 800 (1 AOWT)	1	1 (8)
2025*	MDCA 50 (1 AD ²) WT 2200 (1 WT)	Republican AOSC – 800 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

MDCA – Mule Deer Conservation Area

AO – Antlerless Only

WT – Whitetail

AD – Any Deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	30	1900	5	875

SANDHILLS MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

No person may obtain more than one Sandhills permit that allows for the take of a mule deer buck.

Sandhills November Firearm: 1200 permits for Any Deer² and one antlerless whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024. Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Private Land Only Sandhills November Firearm: 200 permits for Any Deer² and one antlerless whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024. Not valid on land open to public hunting access.

Sandhills Whitetail November Firearm: 300 Any Whitetail tags with one antlerless whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024.

Sandhills Antlerless Only Season Choice: 100 Antlerless Only permits with one AOWT bonus tag. No change from 2024.

Sandhills Whitetail Antlerless Only Season Choice: 300 Antlerless Only Whitetail permits with one AOWT bonus tag. No change from 2024.

General Information: Firearm Mule deer buck harvest was 12% below the 5-year average but up 12% since 2023. Whitetail buck harvest was 17% below the 5-year average but up 8% since 2023. Sampling for MBW happened during the 2022 firearm season Sampling was focused on whitetail deer in the Plains and Sandhills units but other samples were received from the Pine Ridge and Platte units. 22 of 77 deer tested were positive.

Depredation complaints: 5 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Trends indicate a lower population of both whitetail and mule deer. Lower populations are attributed to EHD in the fall of 2021 and the winter of 2022/2023. Isolated pockets of higher Mule Deer populations are present. Fawn:Doe (57:100) ratios showed possibility of increased recruitment compared to recent years. Population Objectives for mule deer are to increase the population while addressing depredation issues through antlerless permits and to maintain the current buck age structure. Objectives for whitetails are to stabilize the population. This recommendation provides the basis for reduced Mule deer harvest to aid in a population growth unit wide. Recommendations should stabilize a reduced whitetail population and maintain reduced species interaction to benefit mule deer.

Harvest objectives are 1000 MD bucks and 750 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 12% for MD and 25-30% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Sandhills

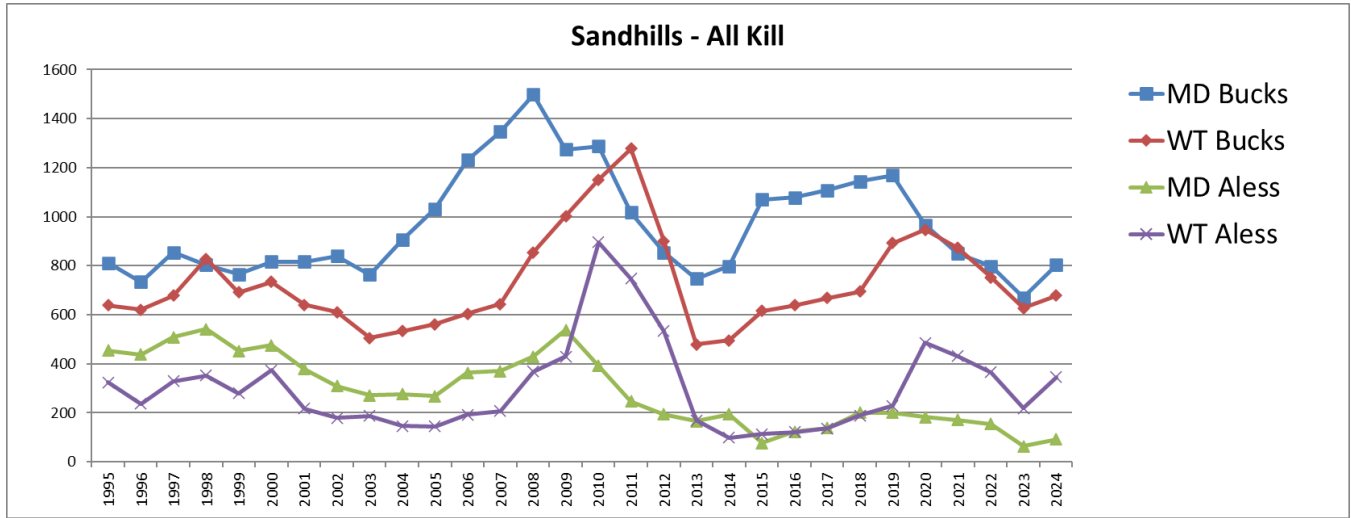
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Sandhills	1200	1200	11/16/24	336	8	344	233	115	348	51	6
Sandhills PLO	200	200	7/24/24	87	0	87	54	16	70	71	8
Sandhills WT	300	300	11/11/24	3	1	4	146	51	197	57	10
Sandhills AO SC	100	100	8/30/24	0	29	29	2	28	30	45	14
Sandhills WT AO SC	300	146	DNS	0	0	0	4	80	84	40	18
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	5	6	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	65	21	86	47	23	70	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	28	1	29	12	1	13	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	36	4	40	37	5	42	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	93	16	109	32	10	42	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	67	10	77	33	7	40	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	17	3	20	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	21	2	23	6	1	7	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	2	0	2	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	65	0	65	22	1	23	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	1	0	1	30	0	30	-	-
Total	-	-	-	803	92	895	678	346	1024	-	-

SANDHILLS MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	966	183	1149	16	5	95		946	486	1432	34	11	89	
2021	849	171	1020	17	10	30	60	892	431	1303	33	11	40	49
2022	799	155	954	16	9	32	59	753	366	1119	33	10	35	55
2023	670	64	734	9	8	26	66	628	219	847	26	8	34	59
2024	803	92	895	10	6	22	72	678	346	1024	34	14	24	62



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	2000 (AD, 1 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 450 (AO, 2 AOWT)	5	0
2021	2000 (AD, 2 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 450 (AO, 2 AOWT)	0	0
2022	1500 (AD, 2 AOWT) WT 500 (WT, 2 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 300 (AO, 2 AOWT) Sandhills WT AOSC – 100 (3 AOWT)	2	0
2023	1500 (AD ² , 2 AOWT) WT 500 (WT, 2 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 100 (AO, 2 AOWT) Sandhills WT AOSC – 300 (3 AOWT)	3 (winter)	1 (7)
2024	1200 (AD ² , 1 AOWT) PLO 200 (AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 300 (WT, 1 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 100 (AO, 1 AOWT) Sandhills WT AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT)	5	0
2025*	1200 (AD ² , 1 AOWT) PLO 200 (AD ² , 1 AOWT) WT 300 (WT, 1 AOWT)	Sandhills AOSC – 100 (AO, 1 AOWT) Sandhills WT AOSC – 300 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	825	700	90	350

UPPER PLATTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Upper Platte November Firearm: 800 Any Deer² permits. No change from 2024. **One permit per person.**

Nonresident Allocation: 15%

Antlerless Only Season Choice Upper Platte: 50 Antlerless Only permits and an Antlerless Only Whitetail bonus tag. No change from 2024.

Antlerless Only Season Choice Upper Platte Whitetail: 200 permits for 2 Antlerless Only Whitetail. No change from 2024.

General Information: Firearm Mule deer buck harvest was 25% below the 5-year average but up 3% from 2023. Whitetail buck harvest was down 14% to the 5-year average but up 37% from 2023. Overall unit harvest: Mule Deer buck harvest was up 14% more than expected and Whitetail buck harvest was 13% more than expected. Buck:Doe ratio (22:100) decreased.

Depredation complaints: 1 DCP: 1 (0)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Trends indicate a lower population of both whitetail and mule deer. Lower populations are attributed to EHD in the fall of 2021 and the winter of 2022/2023. Fawn:Doe(53:100) ratio shows recruitment should be similar to recent years. Objectives are to increase mule deer populations unit wide and increase whitetail populations on the North Platte River. This recommendation will allow for an increase in deer populations in a historically stable deer unit and address depredation problems with Antlerless Only permits and the AOSC Whitetail permit.

Harvest objectives are 700 MD bucks and 250 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 23-25% for MD and 35% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Upper Platte

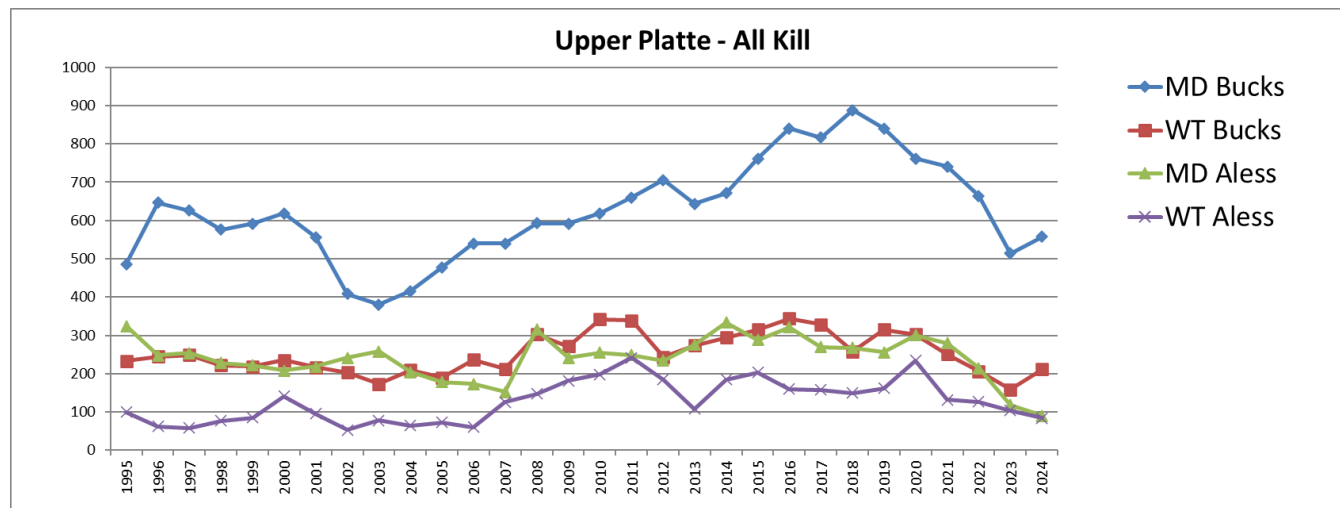
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Upper Platte	800	799	10/2/24	271	1	272	86	10	96	46	-
Upper Platte AO SC	50	50	7/10/24	0	20	20	1	9	10	50	10
Upper Platte WT AO SC	200	200	10/10/24	0	3	3	1	41	42	18	5
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	3	3	-	-
Landowner	-	-	-	75	22	97	31	11	42	-	-
Special LO Season	-	-	-	24	6	30	4	2	6	-	-
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	47	8	55	22	0	22	-	-
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	36	8	44	13	4	17	-	-
SW Youth	-	-	-	57	18	75	18	1	19	-	-
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	7	3	10	-	-
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	22	4	26	3	0	3	-	-
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	2	0	2	0	0	0	-	-
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	22	0	22	4	0	4	-	-
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	20	0	20	-	-
Total	-	-	-	556	90	646	210	84	294	-	-

UPPER PLATTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	761	301	1062	28	13	87		303	234	537	44	15	85	
2021	741	280	1021	27	15	37	48	251	132	383	34	13	35	52
2022	664	215	879	24	20	35	45	206	127	333	38	11	38	52
2023	514	118	632	19	17	30	53	159	104	263	40	11	16	73
2024	557	90	647	14	20	28	52	211	84	295	28	16	27	57



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	1200 (AD)	Upper Platte AOSC – 250 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	0	0
2021	1200 (AD)	Upper Platte AOSC – 250 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	3	0
2022	1200 (AD)	Upper Platte AOSC – 250 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	3	0
2023	1000 (AD ²)	Upper Platte AOSC – 100 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	4 (winter)	1 (9)
2024	800 (AD ²)	Upper Platte AOSC – 50 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)	5	0
2025*	800 (AD ²)	Upper Platte AOSC – 50 (1 AO, 1 AOWT) Upper Platte WT AOSC – 200 (2 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

² – No antlerless mule deer

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

AO – Antlerless Only

WT – Whitetail

AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Seasons	575	210	90	80

WAHOO MANAGEMENT UNIT

2025 Recommendations:

Wahoo November Firearm: 3600 Any Deer permits. No change from 2024.

Wahoo Antlerless Only Season Choice: 1500 permits valid for one Antlerless Only Whitetail deer. Reduction of 400 from 2024.

General Information: Harvest for all seasons was 2797 bucks and 1835 antlerless whitetail deer. Buck harvest decreased 7% from 2023 and antlerless harvest decreased 5%. Buck harvest decreased 7.5% from the 5-year average and antlerless harvest has decreased 22% from the 5-year average. Antlerless permit quota was reduced in 2023, and firearm permit quota was reduced in 2024; both permits had little change in success from 2023. Depredation issues in the Wahoo management unit fall within the boundaries of the River Antlerless permit.

Depredation Complaints: 8 DCP: 8 (26)

Population Status, Goals and Harvest Strategy: Population numbers remain lower than desired in unit. Population levels remain within landowner tolerance for most of the unit; however, there remains isolated areas of moderate crop damage along portions of the Platte River. There were no reports of EHD in 2024. Harvest strategies are to allow growth in upland areas of the unit, increasing age structure, and maintaining pressure along the river systems with the use of the river antlerless deer permit. The recommended changes are to reduce Antlerless Only Season Choice permits to 1500 to allow for population growth. Whitetail buck harvest is 82% of our target of 3400. Current antlerless harvest occurs below the maintenance level, indicating a future growth of population; reducing antlerless permits should further assist with increasing population growth.

Harvest objective is 3400 WT bucks. Maintenance AO harvest occurs at about 44% for WT in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data – Wahoo

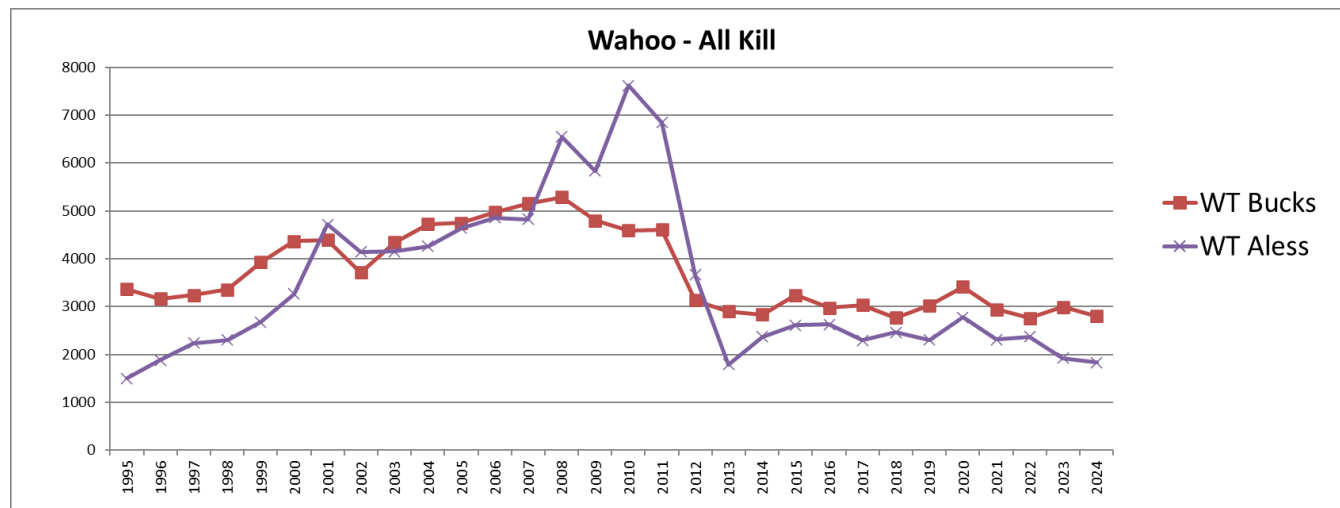
Permit Name	Permit numbers			Mule Deer			Whitetail			%Success	
	Quota	Sold	Sellout	Bucks	AO	Total	Bucks	AO	Total	1st	Bonus
Wahoo	3600	3600	11/8/24	7	1	8	1133	273	1406	39	
Wahoo AO SC	1900	1900	11/15/24	0	0	0	17	407	424	22	
River Antlerless	-	-	-	0	0	0	27	673	700		
Landowner	-	-	-	0	0	0	318	198	516		
Special LO Season	-	-	-	0	0	0	100	17	117		
SW Deer Archery	-	-	-	1	0	1	513	116	629		
SW Muzzleloader	-	-	-	0	0	0	59	48	107		
SW Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	127	48	175		
SW WT Youth	-	-	-	0	0	0	150	48	198		
Restricted NR Youth	-	-	-	1	0	1	2	0	2		
SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	3	0	3		
Restricted SW Buck Only	-	-	-	0	0	0	15	0	15		
WT SW Buck	-	-	-	0	0	0	333	7	340		
Total				9	1	10	2797	1835	4632		

WAHOO MANAGEMENT UNIT

(continued)

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Mule Deer							Whitetail Deer						
	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	% Buck Age		
					1	2	3+					1	2	3+
2020	8	6	14	-	-	-	-	3417	2779	6196	45	29	71	
2021	3	6	9	-	-	-	-	2942	2313	5255	44	38	42	20
2022	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	2758	2369	5127	46	29	46	25
2023	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	2994	1926	4920	39	29	43	28
2024	9	1	10	-	-	-	-	2797	1835	4632	40	28	42	29



Total Permits Authorized

Year	Nov. Firearm	Antlerless Only Permits	Depredation	
			Complaints	DCP
2020	3650 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 1900 (1 AOWT)	14	13 (133)
2021	3800 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 2200 (1 AOWT)	16	8 (87)
2022	3800 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 2200 (1 AOWT)	9	7 (80)
2023	3800 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 1900 (1 AOWT)	11	7 (43)
2024	3600 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 1900 (1 AOWT)	8	8 (26)
2025*	3600 (1 AD)	Wahoo AOSC – 1500 (1 AOWT)		

* Recommended permit numbers

AOWT – Antlerless Only Whitetail

² – No antlerless mule deer

AO – Antlerless Only AD – Any Deer

Expected Harvest:

Unit	MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
All Season	-	2900	-	1700

STATEWIDE BUCK

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: September 1 – December 31 (Archery)
 November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)
 December 1 -31 (Muzzleloader)

Permits: Residents: 70 buck permits.
 Nonresidents: 30 buck permits.

Area Open: Statewide.

General Information: This is a very limited, elevated price permit that was new in 2018. 58% of harvest was in the MDCA in 2024, which is lower than previous years. This permit was expanded to Season Choice format in 2024.

The resident permit sold out in 13 minutes on 7/10/24 and the NR quota sold out in 24 minutes on 7/24/24.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Due to their limited number, statewide buck permits have little impact on populations but provide additional opportunity for high demand units.

Harvest and permit comparisons by year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits</u>			<u>Mule Deer</u>			<u>Whitetail Deer</u>			<u>%Success</u>
	<u>Quota</u>	<u>Sold</u>	<u>NR</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2019	50	50	13	21	0	21	0	0	0	42
2020	100	59 ⁺	24	31	0	31	7	0	7	64
2021	100	100	33	51	0	51	7	0	7	58
2022	100	100	30	47	0	47	10	0	10	57
2023	70/30	102	32	41	0	41	13	0	13	53
2024	70/30	100	30	24	0	24	12	0	12	36
2025*	70/30									

*Recommended

+ Permit sales system crash inhibited sales, decision to not sell remaining permits was made.

2024 Unit Breakdown

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>		<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>	
	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>		<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>
Blue NW	0	0	0	0	Loup West	0	0	0	0
Blue SE	0	0	3	0	Missouri	0	0	1	0
Buffalo	2	0	0	0	Pine Ridge	1	0	0	0
Calamus East	0	0	0	0	Plains	2	0	1	0
Calamus West	0	0	1	0	Platte	7	0	1	0
Elkhorn	0	0	0	0	Republican	0	0	0	0
Frenchman	10	0	0	0	Sandhills	0	0	2	0
Keya Paha	0	0	0	0	Upper Platte	2	0	0	0
Loup East	0	0	0	0	Wahoo	0	0	3	0

Expected Harvest: 45 mule deer bucks and 10 whitetail bucks on 100 permits

RESTRICTED STATEWIDE BUCK

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: September 1 – December 31 (Archery)
 November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)
 December 1 -31 (Muzzleloader)

Permits: 1,000 permits for Any Buck. No change from 2024.

Area Open: Statewide, except that mule deer bucks may NOT be harvested in the Mule Deer Conservation Area (Pine Ridge, Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte and Republican Units).

General Information: 1,000 permits issued in 2024. Nonresidents purchased 259 permits. Harvest was 182 mule deer bucks and 168 whitetail bucks. 53% of harvest overall and 74% of the Mule Deer buck harvest on this permit occurs in the Sandhills, Plains and Calamus West DMU. In the past, this permit has been firearm season only, proposing to expand to all open seasons (Season Choice format) in 2024.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Statewide buck permits have little impact on populations, but harvest on these permits may impact buck age structure and provide additional access to sold out units.

Harvest and permit comparisons by year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits</u>				<u>Mule Deer</u>			<u>Whitetail Deer</u>			<u>% Success</u>
	<u>Quota</u>	<u>Sold</u>	<u>NR</u>	<u>Sell out</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2020	Unlimited	1,179	150	-	279	0	279	233	3	236	44
2021	Unlimited	1,243	245	-	268	0	268	242	3	245	41
2022	1,000	1,000	144	11/11/22	153	0	153	197	0	197	35
2023	1,000	1,000	236	10/10/23	163	0	163	160	1	161	32
2024	1,000	1,000	259	9/17/24	182	0	182	168	3	171	35
2025*	1,000										

*Recommended permit numbers

2024 Unit Breakdown

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>		<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>	
	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>		<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>
Blue NW	0	0	13	0	Loup West	12	0	5	0
Blue SE	0	0	9	0	Missouri	0	0	7	1
Buffalo	1	0	7	0	Pine Ridge	3	0	5	0
Calamus East	3	0	8	0	Plains	52	0	12	0
Calamus West	18	0	16	0	Platte	0	0	2	0
Elkhorn	1	0	7	0	Republican	0	0	8	1
Frenchman	1	0	10	0	Sandhills	65	0	22	1
Keya Paha	3	0	8	0	Upper Platte	22	0	4	0
Loup East	1	0	10	0	Wahoo	0	0	15	0

Expected Harvest: 175 mule deer bucks and 175 whitetail bucks.

STATEWIDE WHITETAIL BUCK

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates:

September 1 – December 31 (Archery)

November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)

December 1 -31 (Muzzleloader)

Permits: 8,000 permits, valid for one whitetail buck. No change.

Area Open: Statewide.

General Information: This permit that can be used during archery, muzzleloader and November firearm seasons. 2,179 whitetail bucks were harvested with this permit in 2024. 8,000 permits were issued. This permit is available to nonresidents, but there is little demand for it, only 321 were sold to nonresidents. It did sell out on 11/13/2024.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: This permit is preferred by resident hunters who wish to hunt in multiple seasons or units and was available if unit permits were sold out. This permit accounts for more than 10% of the WT buck harvest in 7 of our 18 units (BNW, BSE, BF, FR, PLT, RP and WH). Managing WT buck harvest has become increasingly difficult in many units and this permit was a contributing factor that which led to its limitation in 2022.

Harvest and permit comparisons by year

Year	Permits				Mule Deer			Whitetail Deer			%Success
	Quota	Sold	NR		Buck	AO	Total	Buck	AO	Total	
2020	Unlimited	10,626	182		8	0	8	3134	29	3163	30
2021	Unlimited	10,061	160		6	3	9	2878	24	2901	29
2022	8,000	8,000	137	11/11/22	4	0	4	2173	25	2198	27
2023	8,000	8,000	296	11/10/23	2	0	2	2163	14	2177	27
2024	8,000	8,000	321	11/13/24	3	0	3	2179	22	2201	28
2025*	8,000										

*Recommended

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	0	0	249	1	Loup West	0	0	32	1
Blue SE	0	0	353	2	Missouri	0	0	126	0
Buffalo	0	0	124	0	Pine Ridge	0	0	23	0
Calamus East	0	0	39	0	Plains	0	0	8	0
Calamus West	0	0	25	0	Platte	0	0	36	0
Elkhorn	0	0	158	4	Republican	0	0	315	0
Frenchman	0	0	78	0	Sandhills	1	0	31	0
Keya Paha	0	0	62	0	Upper Platte	0	0	12	0
Loup East	0	0	109	0	Wahoo	1	0	383	6

Expected Harvest: 2200 whitetail bucks on 8,000 permits

STATEWIDE YOUTH

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates:

September 1 – December 31 (Archery)

November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)

December 1 -31 (Muzzleloader)

January 1-15, 2025 – Late Antlerless Only (Firearm or Archery)

Permits: Unlimited, except that no youth may obtain more than one Youth permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

Resident Youth: Unlimited permits for Any Deer. One permit limit.

Nonresident Youth: Unlimited permits for Any Deer. One permit limit. Not valid in Frenchman, Pine Ridge or Platte units.

Youth Whitetail (resident/nonresident): Unlimited permits for Any Whitetail.

Area Open: Statewide, antlerless mule deer harvest is prohibited on publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program land is excepted.

General Information: Harvest on all Youth permits was 3,655. Resident and Nonresident youth are allowed to purchase two \$8.00 Youth permits, but no more than one may allow the take of a mule deer. 45% of MD buck harvest on this permit occurs in the Frenchman and Platte DMUs, where they make up 17% and 16%, respectively, of the total MD Buck harvest for the DMU.

Harvest comparisons by year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>			<u>Whitetail Deer</u>			<u>% Success</u>
		<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	
2020 (all)	11,854	1024	163	1187	3103	1021	4124	45
2021 (all)	11,085	909	126	1035	2731	829	3560	41
2022 (all)	10,084	854	146	1000	2334	784	3118	41
2023 (all)	9,734	680	111	791	2297	610	2889	38
2024 (all)	9,214	700	110	810	2132	713	2845	40
2024 Resident Youth	5288	619	103	722	1111	345	1456	41
2024 Youth Whitetail	3552	6	1	7	959	351	1310	37
2024 NR Rest. Youth	374	75	6	81	62	17	79	43

2024 Unit Breakdown

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>		<u>Unit</u>	<u>Mule Deer</u>		<u>Whitetail Deer</u>	
	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>		<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>Buck</u>	<u>AO</u>
Blue NW	0	0	194	76	Loup West	30	1	62	14
Blue SE	0	0	242	88	Missouri	2	0	167	52
Buffalo	51	10	157	64	Pine Ridge	30	5	52	21
Calamus East	11	2	54	16	Plains	70	14	32	4
Calamus West	39	5	57	13	Platte	89	11	73	24
Elkhorn	0	0	146	57	Republican	3	2	229	88
Frenchman	191	21	61	15	Sandhills	89	12	56	11
Keya Paha	8	0	101	30	Upper Platte	79	22	28	4
Loup East	7	5	142	40	Wahoo	1	0	279	96

Expected Harvest:

<u>MD Buck</u>	<u>WT Buck</u>	<u>MD Antlerless</u>	<u>WT Antlerless</u>
700	2200	100	700

STATEWIDE ARCHERY

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: September 1 - December 31

Permits: Residents: Unlimited Any Deer permits.

Nonresidents: 3,000 Any Deer permits, except that mule deer may NOT be harvested in the Mule Deer Conservation Area (Pine Ridge, Buffalo, Frenchman, Platte and Republican Units).

Area Open: Statewide, except antlerless mule deer harvest is prohibited on publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program land is excepted.

General Information: Permit sales remained steady and harvest increased 8% from 2023. 46% of all archery MD buck harvest occurred in the MDCA, which was down from 70% in 2022 and 67% in 2021, which was due to the NR restrictions put in place in 2023. In 2024, NR harvested 26% of the archery MD bucks, compared to 57% in 2022. NR made up 18% and 25% of permit holders for those years, respectively. Resident MD Buck harvest has ebbed and flowed with the fluctuations of MD populations while NR MD buck harvest had increased over time. This disproportionate use coupled with declining MD populations has led to the NR restrictions that began in 2023. The current restrictions, while they do restrict NR archers in certain areas, do still allow for ample and proportional opportunity for NR to hunt MD in Nebraska. The NR permit was moved to the draw in 2024, however only 45% drew out and the permit sold out on 8/29/24.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Archery deer seasons, for the most part, have little impact on statewide populations and provides a lot of hunting opportunity throughout the season. However, when permit use is disproportionate to the resource some restrictions may be necessary.

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Permits			Mule Deer			Whitetail Deer			Total	% Success	% XBow
	Sold	NR	%NR	Buck	AO	Total	Buck	AO	Total			
2020	20,341	4,900	24	652	76	728	3778	679	4457	5185	25	28
2021	19,095	5,032	26	499	69	568	3004	514	3518	4107	21	27
2022	18,054	4,566	25	455	48	503	2655	506	3161	3664	20	26
2023	16,372	2,997	18	231	27	258	2550	487	3037	3295	20	24
2024	16,374	2,999	18	283	27	310	2733	519	3252	3562	22	28
2025*	Res - Unl	3,000										

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	2	0	298	81	Loup West	5	0	35	11
Blue SE	0	0	545	83	Missouri	1	0	150	22
Buffalo	5	1	189	39	Pine Ridge	23	2	47	4
Calamus East	2	0	22	10	Plains	30	4	11	1
Calamus West	25	1	46	6	Platte	30	4	100	20
Elkhorn	0	0	173	35	Republican	2	0	236	38
Frenchman	70	3	72	14	Sandhills	36	4	37	5
Keya Paha	4	0	112	11	Upper Platte	47	8	22	0
Loup East	0	0	125	23	Wahoo	1	0	513	116

Expected Harvest:

MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
300	2700	30	500

STATEWIDE MUZZLELOADER

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: December 1 through December 31

Permits: Residents: Unlimited Any Deer permits.

Nonresidents: 1,000 Any Deer permits.

Area Open: Statewide, except not valid for mule deer in the Mule Deer Conservation Area and antlerless mule deer harvest is prohibited on publicly accessible land statewide, OFW program land is excepted.

General Information: 5630 permits were issued. Harvest was 847 bucks and 388 antlerless deer. 17% of permits were issued to nonresidents, down from 28% in 2022 due to the NR quota. Like archery, NR MD buck harvest has increased (in total and proportionally) in recent years, while resident harvest has declined significantly. The current quota is equal to the average NR permit sales for 2014-18. The quota also ensures that the types of permits (archery/firearm/muzzleloader/SWB) stay proportional to historic trends. The NR permit was moved to the draw in 2024, however only 58% drew out and the permit sold out on 8/8/24.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Muzzleloader deer season is a recreational season that provides a lot of deer hunting opportunity. However, our deer populations and specifically mule deer cannot support the additional harvest that a permit quota at demand or near demand levels.

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Permits			Mule Deer			Whitetail Deer			Total	% Success
	Sold	NR	% NR	Buck	AO	Total	Buck	AO	Total		
2020	7746	2201	28	404	78	482	950	496	1446	1928	25
2021	6715	2018	30	323	88	411	762	392	1154	1565	23
2022	5829	1609	28	255	58	313	714	306	1020	1333	23
2023	5630	996	18	183	30	213	628	289	917	1130	20
2024	5781	999	17	264	48	312	583	340	923	1235	21
2025*	R - UNL	1,000									

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	0	0	30	38	Loup West	19	0	11	4
Blue SE	0	0	68	39	Missouri	0	0	35	16
Buffalo	3	0	37	20	Pine Ridge	3	0	39	10
Calamus East	6	0	5	1	Plains	30	14	18	3
Calamus West	16	1	22	10	Platte	2	0	18	6
Elkhorn	1	1	43	24	Republican	0	0	70	26
Frenchman	3	0	17	5	Sandhills	63	5	38	17
Keya Paha	2	0	49	4	Upper Platte	31	8	8	3
Loup East	3	1	55	16	Wahoo	1	0	65	47

Expected Harvest: 1130 deer on 6,000 permits

MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
200	600	30	300

LIMITED LANDOWNER DEER

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: September 1 – December 31 (Archery)
 November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)
 December 1-31 (Muzzleloader)
 January 1-15, 2024 – Late Antlerless Only (Firearm or Archery)

Permits: Unlimited Any Deer permits with one antlerless only bonus tag. No changes.

Area Open: On property owned or leased for agricultural purposes by the qualifying landowner.

General Information: 14,168 Landowner permits were issued, up 10% from 2023, but equal to 2022 sales. Total harvest was 5,379 deer. This is the only statewide permit with a bonus antlerless tag. 4.4% were issued to nonresidents.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: This permit provides landowners with multiple seasons to harvest deer. This permit format was changed to it's present form in 2008 and was designed to increase antlerless kill and to give landowners more opportunity to harvest deer. Previously, Limited Landowner Deer permits were unit based and set for the weapon specific season.

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Permits	Total Harvest	Mule Deer				Whitetail Deer				% Success
			Buck	AO	Total	%AO	Buck	AO	Total	%AO	
2020	15,511	7366	1084	401	1485	27	3859	2022	5881	34	40 / 7
2021	14,613	5971	934	309	1243	25	3219	1509	4728	32	35 / 5
2022	14,396	5533	832	304	1136	27	2920	1477	4397	34	33 / 5
2023	12,882	4509	634	220	854	26	2608	1047	3655	29	31 / 4
2024	14,168	5379	844	280	1124	25	2798	1457	4255	34	33 / 5

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	0	0	294	169	Loup West	42	15	87	36
Blue SE	0	0	430	256	Missouri	1	2	220	101
Buffalo	76	23	184	107	Pine Ridge	54	18	64	42
Calamus East	14	2	64	26	Plains	39	26	25	6
Calamus West	43	14	61	25	Platte	149	36	90	51
Elkhorn	2	0	169	92	Republican	12	5	263	126
Frenchman	257	94	103	29	Sandhills	65	21	47	23
Keya Paha	11	0	127	67	Upper Platte	75	22	31	11
Loup East	4	2	221	92	Wahoo	0	0	318	198

Expected Harvest:

MD Buck	WT Buck	MD Antlerless	WT Antlerless
800	2800	250	1500

SPECIAL LANDOWNER DEER

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: November 8 – 10

Permits: Unlimited Any Deer permits. Up to 8 permits available for the landowner and immediate family per qualifying landowner, one per person. Up to six permits for hunters under 19, up to two permits for hunters 19 and over. No changes.

Area Open: On property owned or leased for agricultural purposes by the qualifying landowner.

General Information: There were 4518 permits sold, and 1179 total deer harvested, 91% were bucks. All were significant increases from past years. Permit sales increased 30% and harvest increased 47% from 2023.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: This permit provides landowners special opportunity to hunt their land prior to the November firearm season. Permit use appeared to be moderately compensatory with the Limited Landowner permit as total landowner harvest did not increase with the additional permit and paralleled harvest trends statewide the first 3 years of this permit. Harvest did divert from that trend in 2024. Harvest will be hard to predict with this permit.

Harvest comparisons by year

Year	Permits	Mule Deer			Whitetail Deer			Total Harvest	% Success
		Buck	AO	Total	Buck	AO	Total		
2021	3,690	176	26	202	594	103	697	899	24
2022	3,146	177	25	202	482	93	575	777	25
2023	3,467	147	16	163	531	108	639	802	23
2024	4,518	234	18	252	813	114	927	1179	26

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	0	0	60	14	Loup West	6	0	17	2
Blue SE	0	0	64	14	Missouri	0	0	50	5
Buffalo	8	2	25	4	Pine Ridge	11	0	8	4
Calamus East	2	0	12	0	Plains	8	0	0	1
Calamus West	7	1	7	1	Platte	16	4	15	5
Elkhorn	0	0	40	11	Republican	1	0	51	10
Frenchman	63	3	11	2	Sandhills	6	1	15	0
Keya Paha	1	0	26	4	Upper Platte	15	5	4	5
Loup East	3	0	38	7	Wahoo	0	0	88	19

RIVER ANTLERLESS

2025 Recommendations:

Season Dates: September 1 – December 31 (Archery)
 October 1-15 (Firearm)
 November 15-23, 2025 (Firearm)
 December 1-31 (Muzzleloader)
 January 1-15, 2025 (Firearm)

Permits: 4,000 permits for two antlerless whitetail deer. Reduction of 2,000 permits from 2024. 8,263 permits were sold in 2023.

Area Open: See unit definition and map. All state and federal public lands are closed.

2024 Changes: Remove all areas in Elkhorn, Calamus East, Loup West, and Platte. Remove White River in Pine Ridge, Missouri River below Hwy 81 in Missouri, Elkhorn River in Keya Paha, Missouri and Calamus West, North Loup River in Calamus West and Loup West, South Loup and Wood River in Buffalo, Cedar River above Hwy 91 in Loup East and Republican River above Harlan County Dam in Republican.

General Information: This \$14 multi-season permit targets river corridors which include some of the best whitetail deer habitat in Nebraska. This permit is the only permit which allows firearm hunting in October for antlerless deer. This permit accounted for 22% of AOWT harvest in 2024.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Whitetail populations and crop damage are higher in river corridors than in any other area of the state. While it is desirable to allow for this additional harvest of antlerless whitetails in these areas on private land, whitetail populations have declined across most of the state and additional reductions in this permit are needed. It has functioned as an unlimited antlerless permit for these areas and that approach is no longer desired at the current population levels. This permit will continue to change as conditions change.

Harvest comparisons:

Year	Permits		Mule Deer			Whitetail Deer			Total	% Success
	Quota	Sold	Buck	AO	Total	Buck	AO	Total		
2020	12,000	10,652	2	18	20	168	6052	6220	6240	40 / 18
2021	12,000	9,157	1	9	10	150	4304	4454	5564	34 / 14
2022	12,000	8,494	0	7	7	168	4107	4275	4282	36 / 14
2023	12,000	8,263	0	1	1	159	3329	3488	3489	31 / 11
2024	6,000	6,000	0	5	5	94	2697	2773	2778	34 / 12
2025*	4,000									

2024 Unit Breakdown

Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer		Unit	Mule Deer		Whitetail Deer	
	Buck	AO	Buck	AO		Buck	AO	Buck	AO
Blue NW	0	0	1	5	Loup West	0	0	1	62
Blue SE	0	2	8	206	Missouri	0	0	4	315
Buffalo	0	0	12	393	Pine Ridge	0	0	1	28
Calamus East	0	0	2	30	Plains	0	0	0	6
Calamus West	0	0	1	18	Platte	0	2	2	93
Elkhorn	0	0	15	281	Republican	0	1	8	267
Frenchman	0	0	0	4	Sandhills	0	0	1	5
Keya Paha	0	0	2	92	Upper Platte	0	0	0	3
Loup East	0	0	9	198	Wahoo	0	0	27	673

Expected Harvest: 2,000 antlerless whitetail deer on 4,000 authorized permits.

NONRESIDENT PERMIT QUOTA

2025 Recommendations: A limit of 10,000 total Either Sex or Buck only permits of all types combined (November Firearm, Archery, Muzzleloader, and all Statewide Buck permits), Landowner and Youth would be exempt from this limit.

General Information: Nonresident permits have increased over the past 20 years and are to the point that resident access to private land and public land use are being impacted. Deer hunter survey data shows that nonresidents account for 37-70% of the public land use in the western half of the state and have accounted for 25-65% of permit sales in those units. The number of nonresident hunters is the most common critique from residents that we have received in recent years. The initial quota was 15,000 in 2022, that quota level was set to ensure that numbers did not increase while we worked to evaluate what an appropriate level would be. That quota was not reached. The average from 2014-18 was 10,869 and considering the declines in deer populations and cuts to other permits, a quota of 10,000 is appropriate. Quirks within the permit system allowed the quota to be exceeded slightly the last 2 years.

There have been 1,500-2,000 Nonresident Landowner and Youth permits sold each of the last 10 years. We do not want to limit landowner or youth opportunity, and those permits are exempt from this quota and are not included in the permit totals below.

Either Sex and Buck Only Permit Sales:

Year	Either Sex and Buck Only Permit Sales ¹			Total Individual Hunters ²		NR Quota
	NR	Resident	%NR	NR	Resident	
2005	7,225	76,623	9%			
2006	8,067	79,387	9%			
2007	9,009	81,347	10%			
2008	9,633	81,453	11%	10,192	85,783	
2009	9,691	77,470	11%	10,902	85,790	
2010	10,410	74,219	12%	13,130	89,049	
2011	11,333	74,201	13%	14,249	90,416	
2012	10,868	69,399	14%	13,281	81,957	
2013	9,427	67,958	12%	12,028	82,248	
2014	9,468	68,919	12%	11,830	82,657	
2015	10,450	70,448	13%	13,068	85,600	
2016	11,309	69,443	14%	13,852	84,426	
2017	11,011	67,457	14%	13,707	81,955	
2018	12,108	65,565	16%	14,797	78,726	
2019	13,222	68,244	16%	15,436	78,797	
2020	15,093	69,908	18%	18,103	82,814	
2021	15,817	67,189	19%	18,700	80,457	
2022	13,712	62,915	18%	16,536	76,794	15,000
2023	10,120	61,653	14%	13,280	72,622	10,000
2024	10,226	57,968	15%	12,461	69,212	10,000
2025*						10,000

* Proposed

¹ Excludes LO and Youth permits.

² All hunters statewide, includes ES/BO, Youth, LO and AOSC.

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ELK

INTRODUCTION

Statewide elk populations have reached cultural carrying capacity in recent years. We have been working with landowners closely over the last 5 years to understand their level of tolerance for elk in Nebraska and will continue doing so. We have used a deterministic model in recent years to help project elk populations to evaluate harvest structure and permit allocations.

General Information: Success for the 2024 season was 73% for bulls and 31% for antlerless permits. In 2024, 1133 hunters harvested 190 antlered bulls and 269 antlerless elk. Success and harvest were close to expected numbers. Elk annual survival estimates from collared elk are 0.70 for bulls and 0.79 for cows. The mortality rate from hunting was 0.20 for bulls and 0.14 for cows. Natural mortality made up the remainder and matched results from recent research in South Dakota at 0.10 for bulls and 0.07 for cows.

Population Strategy: Continue to stabilize and/or reduce population in all units and provide sufficient antlerless permits to respond to depredation. We restructured our management units in 2023 to help distribute hunters and harvest appropriately across elk range. This separated historic elk ranges into their own units and created units and permit quotas for peripheral areas where tolerance of elk varies greatly where we've had difficulty getting hunter effort and elk harvest when needed. This change also included all of Nebraska in a unit so elk in eastern Nebraska would be eligible for harvest. Tolerance for elk is lower in Units 8-14 and we will manage those units with different considerations and hunter expectations than Units 1-7. We expect hunter success for both bull and antlerless permits and bull quality to be lower Units 8-14. Units 1-7 will be managed for higher trophy and hunt quality.

The recommendations reflect the following goal:

- Stabilizing and reducing elk populations in all units.
- Providing quality bulls in elk units 1-7.

2024 Season Highlights:

- Average bull was 5.7 years (sample size down considerably).
- Main beam length average was 46.7 inches, an increase from 45.7 in 2023.
 - Units 1-7: 46.7
- Bull success was 73% compared to 75% in 2023, the historic average is 75%.
 - Units 1-7: 77%
- 90% of bulls were 6 point or greater, a slight increase from 88% last year.
 - Units 1-7: 93%
- Antlerless success was 31% which is the same as 2023, but below historic average of 41%.
- Antlered bull harvest of 190, down from 203 in 2023 which was the highest ever.
- Antlerless harvest was 269, down from 274 in 2023, 2024 is still the third highest antlerless harvest ever.
- 47 antlerless Landowner permits went unsold.

Bull standards: Bull harvest is once-in-a-lifetime and most hunters hope to harvest a quality bull. Harvest standards for each unit are designed to maintain older age bulls. Metrics may be adjusted by unit depending on unit overall goals.

- 70% success on bull permits
- Six (6) or more points (on 1 antler) of 90% of bulls harvested
- Average main beam length of 45 inches
- Average bull age of 5 years

2024 Overall Changes

Statewide, remove 8 bull permits (-3%).

Statewide, remove 44 antlerless permits (-5%).

Total permits recommended: 1,120 permits (243 bull and 877 antlerless)

ELK MANAGEMENT UNIT OBJECTIVES

Elk Mgmt Unit	Population Objective	Bull Quality Objectives and Metrics					Depredation Concerns
		Overall Quality	Avg MBL	% 48+	% 50+	Bull Success	
Unit 1	400	High	50		60%	High 85%	Low-Med. Stored feeds, remedied with stackyards. A handful of crop issues, winter wheat, little corn. Most LO concern focused in Cottonwood Creek and on Sowbelly Canyon.
Unit 2	130	High	50		60%	High 85%	Low. Stored feeds, remedied with stackyards. Few growing crop issues. Herd mostly focused around one property in western portion of unit.
Unit 3	600	High	50		60%	High 85%	Low-Med. Stored feeds, remedied with stackyards. A handful of crop issues, a few scattered cornfields within elk range, some purposeful for elk attraction.
Unit 4	350	Med	45	40%		Med 70%	High. Irrigated crops adjacent to primary elk ranges of Wildcat Hills (N & S), particularly the western Pumpkin Creek Drainage and South of Reddington. Some lesser issues along the North Platte River between Broadwater and Oshkosh.
Unit 5	450	Med to High	48		40%	High 85%	High. Core elk habitat (Loess Canyons) is surrounded by pivot irrigation, corn-bean rotation with crops interspersed throughout.
Unit 6	250	Med	45	40%		Med 70%	High. Irrigated crops surround primary elk habitat along Niobrara River breaks south of Nenzel.
Unit 7	150	Med	45			Med 70%	Med-High. Crop field issues around the Niobrara River breaks and tributaries.
Unit 8	Low	Not concerned					High. Low tolerance for elk in croplands of Box Butte County
Unit 9	Unk/ Seasonal Use	Moderate concern for bull quality, unit related to Unit 3 due to movements. Unit 3 impacts will influence Unit 9 quotas.					High. Low tolerance for elk in the flats. Few resident elk, mostly seasonal use from Unit 3.
Unit 10	200	Med	45	40%		Med 70%	Med. Little crop production. Stored feeds across the landscape, cannot be remedied with stackyards. LO tolerance good but could wane.
Unit 11	Unk/ Seasonal Use	Moderate concern for bull quality, unit related to Unit 4 due to movements. Unit 4 impacts will influence Unit 11 quotas.					Med-High. Varied tolerance for elk in croplands south of South Wildcat Hills. Mostly seasonal use from Unit 4 elk.
Unit 12	Low	Not concerned					High. Mostly irrigated croplands, little elk habitat where they could be tolerated.
Unit 131	Low	Not concerned					Moderate. More pasture and rangeland than 132, but some interspersed crops.
Unit 132	Low	Not concerned					High. A lot of cropland. Some elk habitat, but all has interspersed cropland.
Unit 14	Unk	Low	NA			Low 50%	Med-high. Predominantly cropland with some cedar rangeland that could support elk. Area potential still unknown.
Unit 15	Low	Not concerned					High. Little habitat to successfully support elk.

The objectives outlined here are derived from input from the Elk Management Plan along with continued input from landowners, hunters, staff and the public.

RECOMMENDED ELK SEASONS AND HARVEST

Season Dates:

Bull Season:	Archery: Sept. 1 – Oct. 31	Firearm: Sept. 21 – Oct. 31
Antlerless:	August 1 – January 31, 2026	Private Land Only: August 1 – Sept. 20
Early General Antlerless:	August 1 – October 31 (Private Land Only 8/1-9/20)	
Late General Antlerless:	November 1 – January 31, 2026	

<u>2025 Season Recommendations</u>					<u>2024 Season Results</u>											
<u>Permit Type</u>	<u>Gen</u>	<u>LO</u>	<u>Tot</u>	<u>Quota</u>			<u>Sold</u>			<u>Harvest</u>		<u>% Succ</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>			
				<u>Gen</u>	<u>LO</u>	<u>Tot</u>	<u>Gen</u>	<u>LO</u>	<u>Tot</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>AO</u>		<u>MBL</u>	<u>%6pt</u>		
Bull Permits	Unit 1	12	9	21	16	12	28	16	12	28	22	0	79%	48.2	95%	
	Unit 2	7	5	12	10	7	17	10	7	17	14	0	82%	47.4	86%	
	Unit 3	12	9	21	16	12	28	16	12	28	26	0	93%	47.1	96%	
	Unit 4	22	16	38	22	16	38	22	16	38	30	0	79%	45.6	90%	
	Unit 5	20	15	35	20	15	35	20	15	35	30	0	86%	47.1	93%	
	Unit 6	10	7	17	10	7	17	10	7	17	10	0	59%	45.8	80%	
	Unit 7	16	12	28	16	12	28	16	12	28	15	0	54%	44.7	100%	
	Unit 8	6	4	10	6	4	10	6	4	10	3	0	30%	43.0	67%	
	Unit 9	6	4	10	6	4	10	6	4	10	9	0	90%	49.0	89%	
	Unit 10	6	4	10	6	4	10	6	4	10	6	0	60%	51.2	100%	
	Unit 11	3	2	5	3	2	5	3	2	5	3	0	60%	42.7	33%	
	Unit 12	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	12	4	0	33%	41.7	75%	
	Unit 131	3	2	5												
	Unit 132	3	2	5	3	2	5	3	2	5	4	0	80%	41.8	75%	
Unit 14	8	6	14	5	3	8	5	3	8	7	0	88%	46.9	86%		
Total	141	102	243	146	105	251	146	105	251	183	0	73%	46.6	90%		
Antlerless Permits	Unit 1	25/35 ⁺	45	105	25/35	45	105	25/35	45	105	0	34	32%			
	Unit 2	15/25	30	70	15/25	30	70	15/25	24	64	0	20	31%			
	Unit 3	40/40	60	140	40/40	60	140	40/40	60	140	0	78	56%			
	Unit 4	50/30	60	140	70/30	75	175	70/30	75	175	0	40	23%			
	Unit 5	25/20	33	78	30/20	37	87	30/20	37	87	0	29	33%			
	Unit 6	25/15	30	70	25/15	30	70	25/15	30	70	0	18	26%			
	Unit 7	28	21	49	36	27	63	36	22	58	0	12	21%			
	Unit 8	30	10	40	30	10	40	30	7	37	0	0	0%			
	Unit 9	10	7	17	10	7	17	10	7	17	0	6	35%			
	Unit 10	20/15	26	61	35	26	61	35	7	42	0	18	43%			
	Unit 11	13	9	22	13	7	20	13	6	19	0	2	11%			
	Unit 12	16	12	28	16	12	28	16	5	21	0	2	10%			
	Unit 131	7	5	12												
	Unit 132	10	7	17	10	7	17	6	7	17	0	4	24%			
Unit 14	16	12	28	16	12	28	16	6	22	0	5	23%				
Total	510	367	877	536	385	921	594	338	874	0	268	31%				
Other	Auction		3				3				3	0	100%	50.0	100%	
	Super Tag		2				2				1	0	50%	56.0	100%	
	Earned LO		11*				4				3	1	100%	48.5	100%	
	Total		16				9				7	1	89%	50.5	100%	

+ Early and Late split season quotas (E/L)

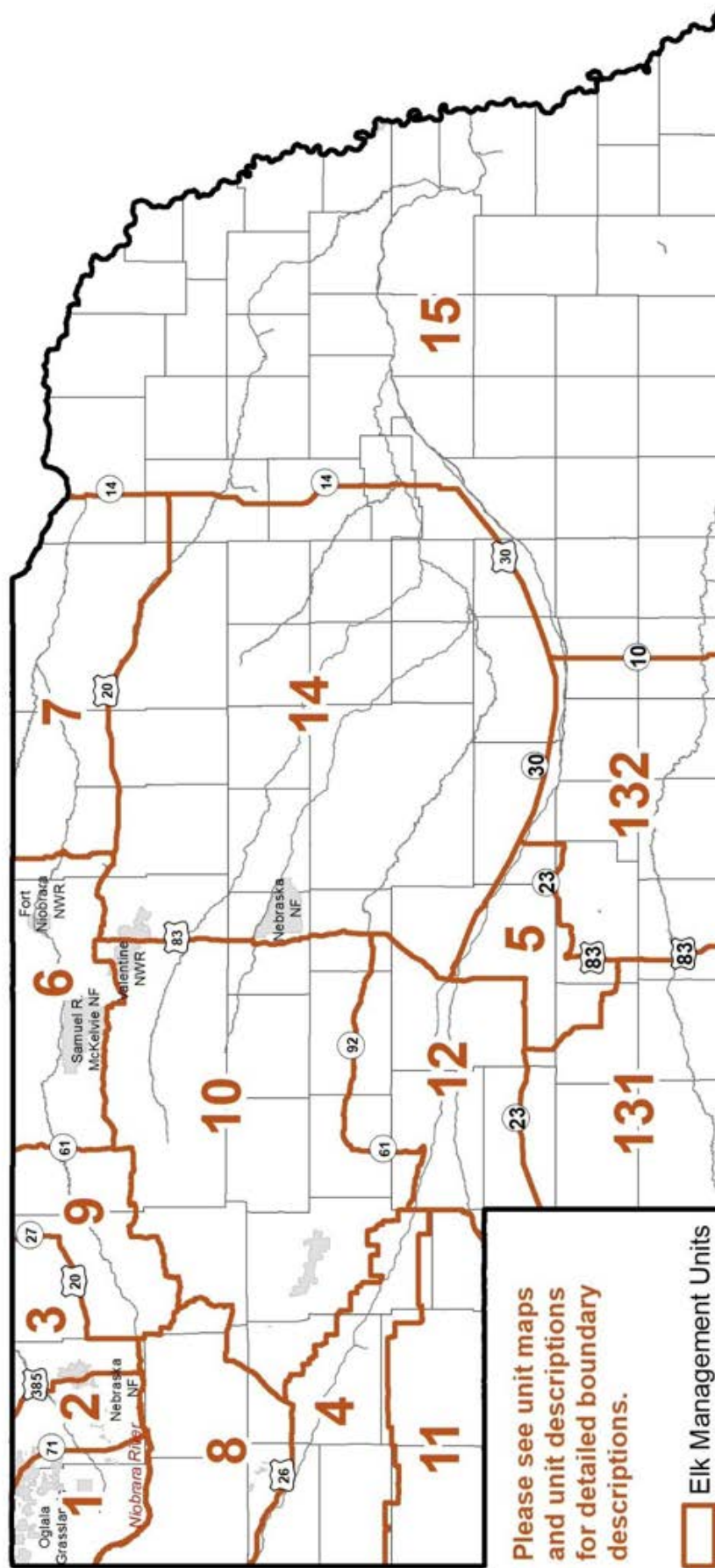
* 11 LO have qualified and applied for the ELO permit for the 2025 season. 22 LO reported from 2024 season, 71 currently have points towards their free permit.

Statewide Elk Permits, Harvest and Success since 1995

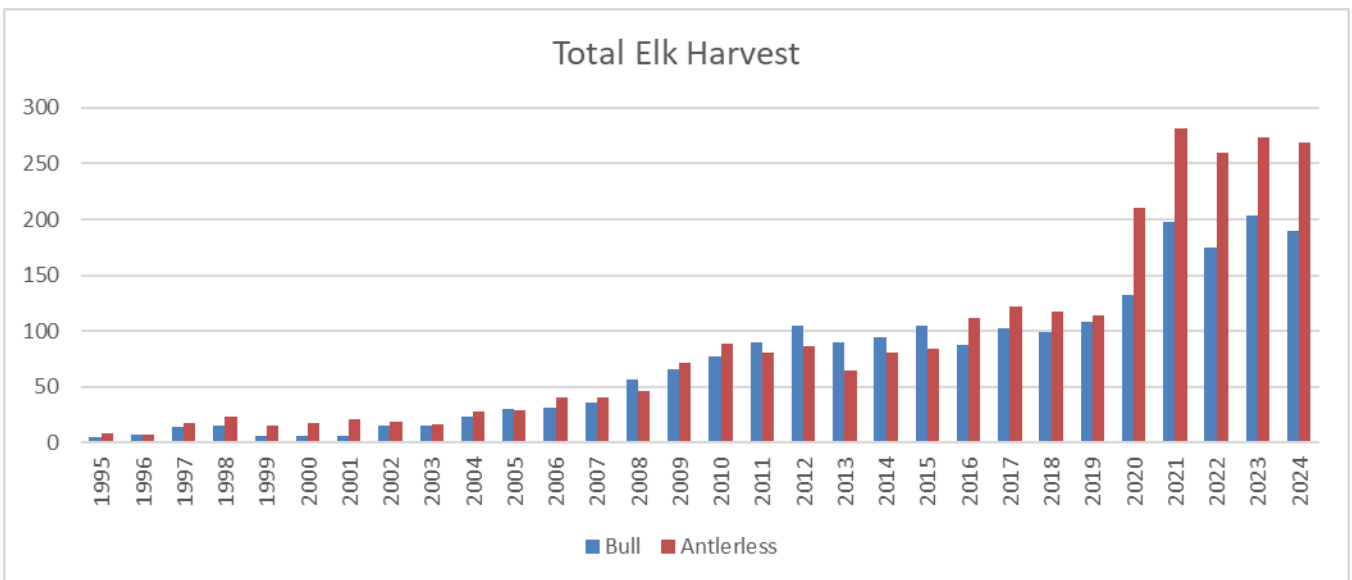
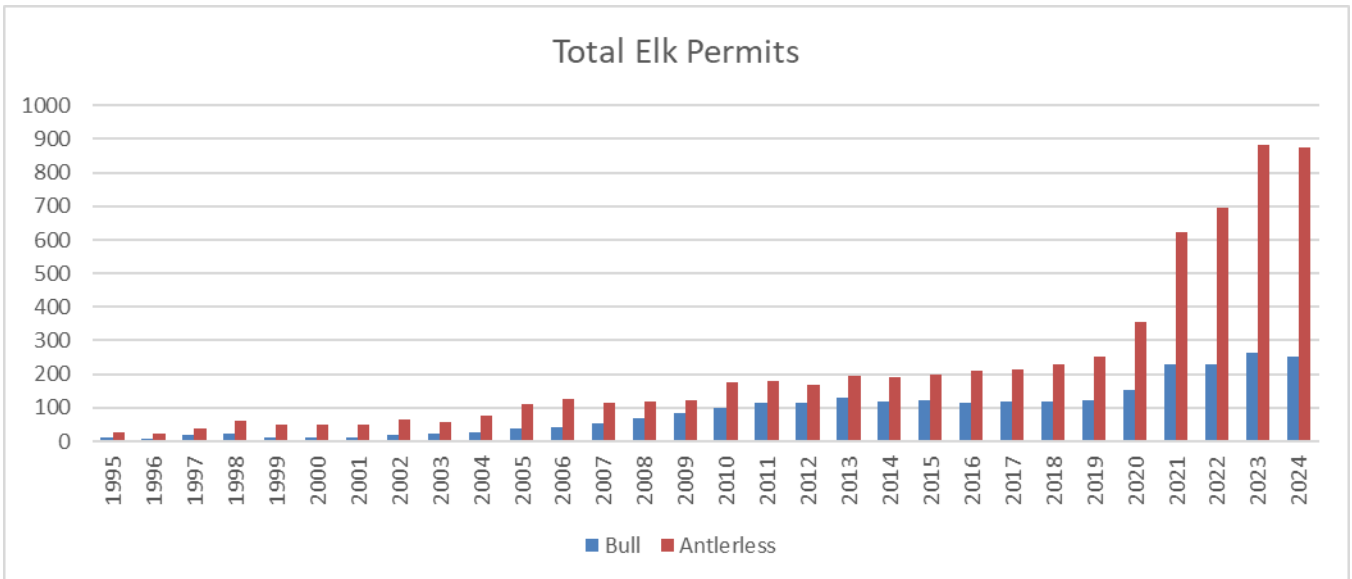
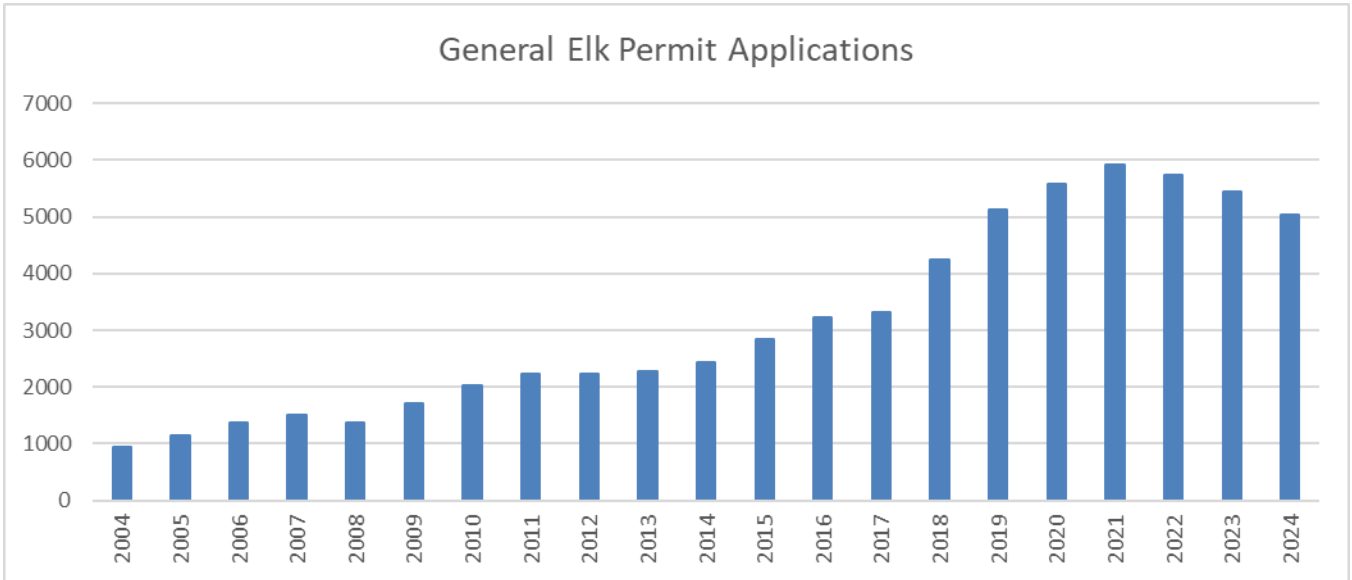
Permits Allocated				Harvest				% Success		Bull Criteria		
Year	Bull	AO	Total	Bull	Cow	Calf	Total	Bull	AO	%6 pt	Avg. MBL	Mean Age
1995	12	26	38	5	7	2	14	42	35			
1996	8	22	30	7	7	1	15	88	36			
1997	17	37	54	14	16	2	32	82	49			
1998	22	62	84	16	23	0	39	73	37			
1999	11	48	59	6	15	1	22	55	33			
2000	11	48	59	6	18	0	24	55	38			
2001	11	50	61	6	18	3	27	55	42			
2002	17	65	82	15	18	1	34	88	29			
2003	21	58	79	16	16	1	33	76	29			
2004	27	76	103	23	25	3	51	85	37			
2005	39	110	149	30	27	2	59	77	26			
2006	42	125	167	32	39	2	73	76	33			
2007	53	113	166	36	32	9	77	68	36			
2008	70	117	187	57	45	2	104	81	40	91	46.2	
2009	82	124	206	66	65	7	138	80	58	89	46.8	
2010	98	174	272	77	81	8	166	79	51	90	47.0	
2011	114	180	294	90	79	2	171	79	45	90	46.7	5.4
2012	116	168	284	105	79	7	191	88	51	80	45.5	5.0
2013	129	195	324	90	61	4	155	67	33	88	44.0	4.8
2014	117	192	309	95	73	8	176	79	42	85	44.0	4.6
2015	122	198	320	105	77	7	189	82	42	93	47.0	4.7
2016	116	210	326	88	104	8	200	72	53	91	46.4	4.9
2017	116	213	329	103	112	10	225	83	57	88	46.4	4.8
2018	119	231	350	99	111	6	216	79	48	91	46.7	5.1
2019	122	252	374	108	107	7	222	84	45	94	46.9	5.2
2020	152	354	506	134	194	15	343	86	59	93	48.2	5.2
2021	230	621	851	201	251	28	480	83	45	88	44.7	5.2
2022	228	745	973	177	227	31	435	74	37	88	46.4	5.0
2023	267	959	1226	205	245	27	477	75	31	88	45.7	5.4
2024	260	921	1181	191	243	25	459	73	31	90	46.7	5.7
2025*	259	877	1136									

* - recommended

2025 ELK MANAGEMENT UNITS



ELK TRENDS



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UNIT 1

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 1 Bull Permits: 12 General Either Sex and 9 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. A reduction of 7 Bull permits from 2024.

Unit 1 Antlerless Permits: No changes.

Early Antlerless: 25

Late Antlerless: 35

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 45

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 79%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 32%. Elk populations have been above tolerance for landowners when in large groups.

Depredation Complaints: 5 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Trend indicators would indicate a stable elk population in this unit. Objectives are to increase bull quality, while addressing depredation complaints with antlerless only permits. Antlerless permit quota will address depredation issues while improving landowner/hunter/agency relations and providing hunter opportunity. Bull quality goal is 60% of harvested bulls having a 50" or longer main beam length. 54% of bulls were greater than 50" MBL in 2024.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Gen Unit 1 Bull	15	15	-	-	-	16	94%	100%	48.9
LO Unit 1 Bull	7	7	-	-	-	12	58%	86%	47.0
Gen Unit 1 Early AO	16	-	15	1	16	25	64%	-	-
Gen Unit 1 Late AO	5	-	4	1	5	35	14%	-	-
LO Unit 1 AO	13	-	12	1	13	45	29%	-	-
Auction	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	100%	54.0
Supertag	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Harvest	59	25	31	3	34	-	-	96%	48.9

UNIT 1

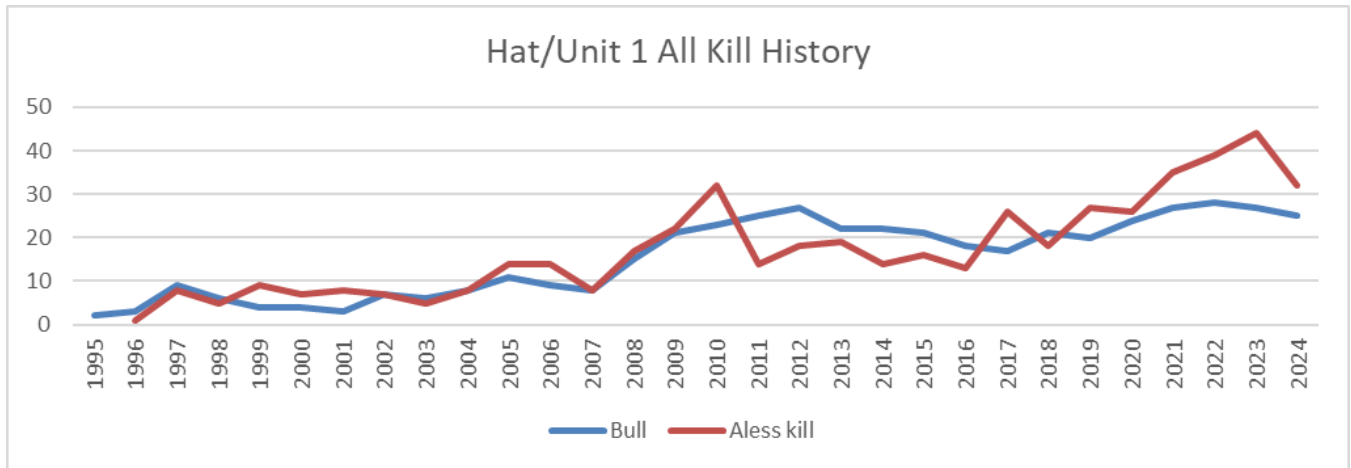
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Unit Harvest Comparisons By Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >50
2020	25	26	51	85%	43%	93	48.8	63%
2021	27	36	62	80%	47%	93	46.0	19%
2022	28	39	67	86%	45%	96	48.2	52%
2023	27	44	71	86%	42%	100	48.5	50%
2024	25	34	59	79%	32%	96	48.9	54%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.

- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



Unit History

Year	Permits Issued		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	18 General 9 Landowner	13 Early 27 Late 20 Landowner	3 (1/0)
2021	20 General 10 Landowner	20 Early 30 Late 25 Landowner	5
2022	16 General 12 Landowner	20 Early 30 Late 37 Landowner	8
2023	16 General 12 Landowner	25 Early 35 Late 45 Landowner	6 (0)
2024	16 General 12 Landowner	25 Early 35 Late 45 Landowner	5 (0)
2025*	12 General 9 Landowner	25 Early 35 Late 45 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 22 bulls and 35 antlerless elk.

UNIT 2

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 2 Bull Permits: 7 General Either Sex and 5 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. A reduction of 5 Bull permits from 2024.

Unit 2 Antlerless Permits: No changes.

Early Antlerless: 15

Late Antlerless: 25

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 30

General Information: Success for bull permits was 82%. Success on antlerless only permits was 31%. Elk populations have slightly been above tolerance for landowners, but most elk use within this unit are on one landowner. Bull quality and tag availability for some landowners will continue to be an important factor in improving or maintaining landowner tolerance.

Depredation Complaints:1 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: General observations and landowner contacts would indicate a stable elk population in this unit. Objectives are to increase bull quality through reducing permit quotas, while addressing depredation complaints and reducing the overall population with Antlerless Only permits. Bull quality goal is 60% of harvested bulls having a 50" or longer main beam length. 36% of bulls were greater than 50" MBL in 2024.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 2 Bull	9	9	-	-	-	10	90%	100%	48.6
LO Unit 2 Bull	5	5	-	-	-	7	71%	60%	45.2
Unit 2 Early AO	6	-	5	1	6	15	40%	-	-
Unit 2 Late AO	10	1	9	-	10	25	40%	-	-
LO Unit 2 AO	4	-	4	-	4	24	17%	-	-
Auction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Total Harvest	35	15¹	18	2	21	-	-	86	47.4

¹ Does not include antlerless bull (short spike) shot on an antlerless permit. It is recoded in the antlerless total.

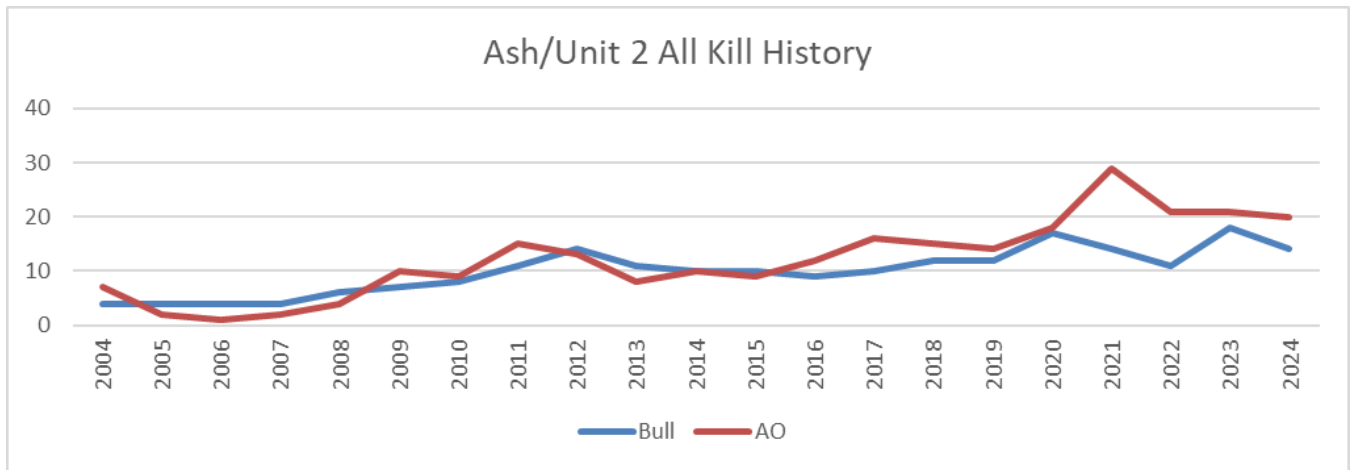
UNIT 2 (continued)

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >50
2020	17	18	35	94%	54%	94	47.0	44%
2021	14	29	43	72%	52%	100	47.2	36%
2022	11	21	32	65%	36%	100	48.8	64%
2023	18	21	39	94%	38%	100	47.9	43%
2024	14	21	35	82%	31%	86	47.4	36%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.

- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



Unit History

Year	Permits Issued		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	12 General 6 Landowner	9 Early 17 Late 13 Landowner	1
2021	12 General 6 Landowner	15 Early 25 Late 20 Landowner	2
2022	10 General 7 Landowner	15 Early 25 Late 30 Landowner (11)	2
2023	10 General 7 Landowner	15 Early 25 Late 30 Landowner (15)	1 (0)
2024	10 General 7 Landowner	15 Early 25 Late 30 Landowner (6)	1 (0)
2025*	7 General 5 Landowner	15 Early 25 Late 30 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 15 bulls and 25 cows.

UNIT 3

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 3 Bull Permits: 12 General Either Sex and 9 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. A reduction of 7 bull permits from 2024.

Unit 3 Antlerless Permits: No changes.

Early Antlerless: 40

Late Antlerless: 40

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 60

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 93%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 56%. Elk populations have slightly been above tolerance for landowners. The LO incentive program has proven to open access this season. Movement and harvest of elk between units 3 and 9 will need be monitored.

Depredation Complaints: 2, DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: General observations, landowner contacts, and harvest data indicate a stable elk population in this unit. Objectives are to increase bull quality while addressing depredation complaints with antlerless only permits. Bull quality goal is 60% of harvested bulls having a 50" or longer main beam length. 50% of bulls were greater than 50" MBL in 2024. Antlerless permits will address depredation issues while improving landowner/hunter/agency relations and providing hunter opportunity.

2024 Harvest Data

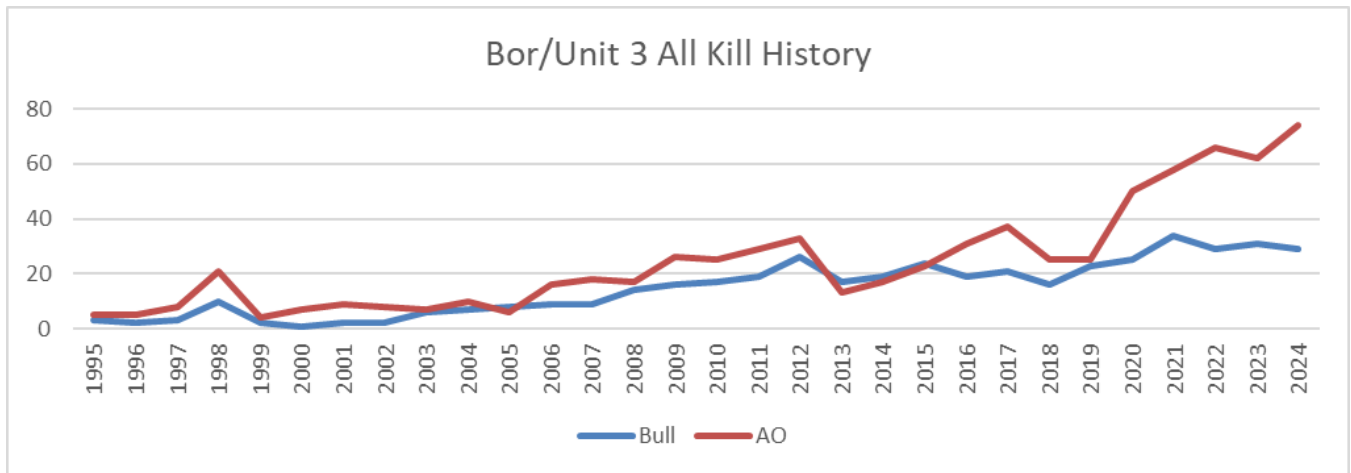
<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 3 Bull	15	15	-	-	-	16	94%	93%	47.7
LO Unit 3 Bull	11	11	-	-	-	12	92%	100%	46.1
Unit 3 Early AO	26	-	26	-	26	40	65%	-	-
Unit 3 Late AO	29	-	26	3	29	40	73%	-	-
LO Unit 3 AO	23	-	22	1	23	60	38%	-	-
Auction	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	100%	45.0
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	100%	48.5
Total Harvest	107	29	74	4	78	-	-	97%	47.1

UNIT 3
(continued)

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >50
2020	25	50	75	80%	67%	96%	49.5	62%
2021	34	58	92	85%	64%	88%	46.7	32%
2022	29	66	95	83%	63%	93%	46.8	43%
2023	31	63	93	86%	44%	85%	46.9	33%
2024	29	78	107	93%	56%	97%	47.1	50%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.
- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



Unit History

Year	Permits Issued		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	20 General 10 Landowner	20 Early 30 Late 25 Landowner	3
2021	20 General 10 Landowner	25 Early 35 Late 30 Landowner	10
2022	20 General 15 Landowner	25 Early 35 Late 45 Landowner	12
2023	20 General 15 Landowner	40 Early 40 Late 60 Landowner	3 (1/0)
2024	16 General 12 Landowner	40 Early 40 Late 60 Landowner	2 (0)
2025*	12 General 9 Landowner	40 Early 40 Late 60 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 22 bulls and 65 cows.

UNIT 4

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 4 Bull Permits: 22 General Either Sex and 16 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No change from 2024.

Unit 4 Antlerless Permits: A reduction of 35 antlerless permits from 2024.

Early Antlerless: 50

Late Antlerless: 30

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 60

General Information: In 2024, success for bull permits was 79%, success on antlerless only permits was 23%. Landowner tolerance is low for some landowners that experience high use from the Redington herd and Highway 88 herd. Other landowners are now concerned with hunt quality, particularly in the Redington area. Elk are still using the same general areas, but some have redistributed themselves during hunting season and expanded through the pumpkin creek drainage east.

Depredation Complaints: 5, DCP: 2 (4)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: General observations, landowner reports, and harvest data indicate a decreased and dispersed elk population in this unit. This unit contains several different elk herds throughout the area and landowner tolerance is variable in some areas. Objectives are to address depredation complaints with antlerless permits to reduce the population and maintain bull quality. Bull quality goal is 40% of harvested bulls having a 48" or longer main beam length. 48% of bulls were greater than 48" in 2024.

2024 Harvest Data

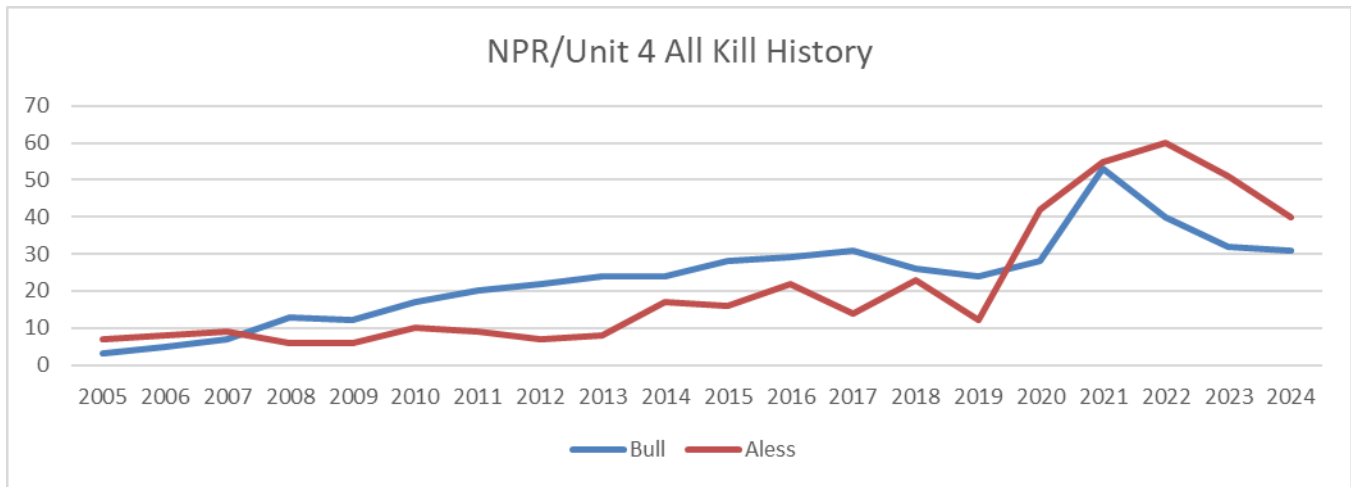
<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 4 Bull	20	20	-	-	-	22	91%	90%	45.1
LO Unit 4 Bull	10	10	-	-	-	16	63%	90%	46.5
Unit 4 Early AO	23	-	19	4	23	70	33%	-	-
Unit 4 Late AO	7	-	6	1	7	30	23%	-	-
LO Unit 4 AO	10	-	9	1	10	75	13%	-	-
Auction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	100%	-
Total Harvest	71	31	34	6	40	-	-	90%	45.6

UNIT 4
(continued)

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >48
2020	28	42	70	93%	70%	93%	48.1	56%
2021	53	55	108	87%	37%	87%	42.7	37%
2022	40	60	100	75%	40%	88%	45.4	42%
2023	32	51	83	74%	31%	79%	42.3	21%
2024	31	40	71	79%	23%	90%	45.6	48%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.
- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	20 General 10 Landowner	40 General 20 Landowner	3
2021	40 General 20 Landowner	70 Early 30 Late 50 Landowner	7 (3/2)
2022	30 General 22 Landowner	70 Early 30 Late 75 Landowner (25)	12 (5/2)
2023	25 General 18 Landowner	70 Early 30 Late 75 Landowner (13)	5 (3/4)
2024	22 General 16 Landowner	70 Early 30 Late 75 Landowner	5 (2/4)
2025*	22 General 16 Landowner	50 Early 30 Late 60 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 30 bulls and 40 cows.

UNIT 5

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 5 Bull Permits: 20 General Either Sex and 15 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 5 Antlerless Permits: Reduction of 9 permits.

Early Antlerless: 25

Late Antlerless: 20

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 33

General Information: In 2024, success was 86% for bull hunters and 33% for antlerless hunters. Antlerless success has decreased in recent years. Landowner and sportsmen support for elk in most parts of this unit is high, however depredation issues have caused support to wane in some areas.

Depredation Complaints: 7, DCP: 1 (0)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: We have been working to reduce this elk population the past few years. Landowner reports, staff observations, and harvest data of elk indicate a decreased population. Where elk and corn production overlap are primary sources of depredation issues. We will keep working with landowners in those areas to decrease elk populations and damage. The goal is to keep the population at its current level and proposed permits reflect that. Bull quality goal is 40% of harvested bulls having a 50" or longer main beam length.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 5 Bull	18	18	-	-	-	20	90%	94%	47.5
LO Unit 5 Bull	12	12	-	-	-	15	80%	92%	46.5
Unit 5 Early AO	9	-	8	1	9	30	30%	-	-
Unit 5 Late AO	8	-	6	2	8	20	40%	-	-
LO Unit 5 AO	12	-	12	-	12	37	32%	-	-
Auction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Harvest	59	30	26	3	29	-	-	93%	47.1

UNIT 5

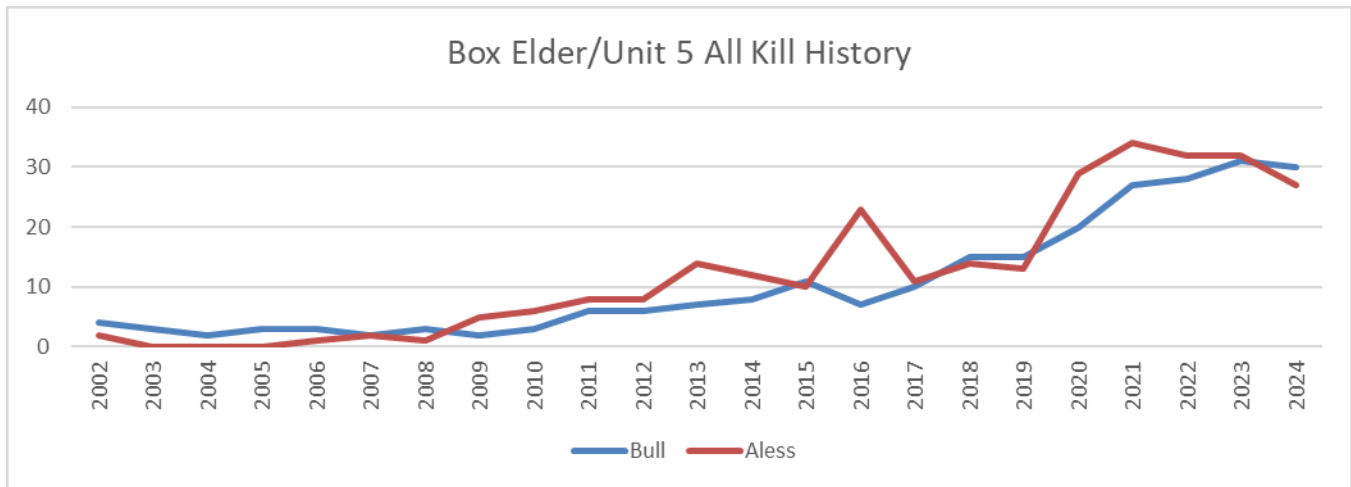
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Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >50
2020	20	28	48	95%	57%	90%	49.6	58%
2021	27	35	62	90%	47%	85%	43.3	30%
2022	28	32	60	80%	30%	96%	46.9	43%
2023	31	32	63	89%	30%	83%	48.0	45%
2024	30	29	59	86%	33%	93%	47.1	43%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.

- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	14 General 7 Landowner	17 Early 17 Late 17 Landowner	14 (14/8)
2021	20 General 10 Landowner	25 Early 25 Late 25 Landowner	17 (9/2)
2022	20 General 15 Landowner	30 Early 30 Late 45 Landowner	12 (1/1)
2023	20 General 15 Landowner	30 Early 30 Late 45 Landowner	8 (1/0)
2024	20 General 15 Landowner	30 Early 20 Late 37 Landowner	7 (1/0)
2025*	20 General 15 Landowner	25 Early 20 Late 33 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 30 bulls and 50 cows.

UNIT 6

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 6 Bull Permits: 10 General Either Sex and 7 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 6 Antlerless Permits: No changes.

Early Antlerless: 25

Late Antlerless: 15

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 30

General Information: Hunter success was 59% on bull permits. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 26%. Elk depredation in recent years has been a problem. Damage was minimal in comparison to recent years. Increased antlerless harvest starting in 2021 has helped to reduce damage. Collar data has also confirmed movements back and forth from South Dakota as well as individuals from the Whitman herd connecting with the Nenzel herd. Access to the herd east of Valentine can be difficult outside of a few landowners resulting in poor success. Access to the Nenzel herd has increased dramatically and appears will continue in areas of crop damage. Landowners in this unit who are not supportive of large elk herds allow access to hunters resulting in a more manageable herd in some areas.

Depredation Complaints: 3, DCP: 2 (4)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: General observations and harvest data indicate a reduced elk population scattered along the Niobrara River in several different herds. Maintaining current permit quotas of antlerless permits is recommended to improve hunter satisfaction, improve landowner/hunter relations, and react to some landowners concerns of less elk. Bull quality goal is 40% of harvested bulls having a 48" or longer main beam length. In 2024, 60% of bulls were greater than 48" MBL.

2024 Harvest Data

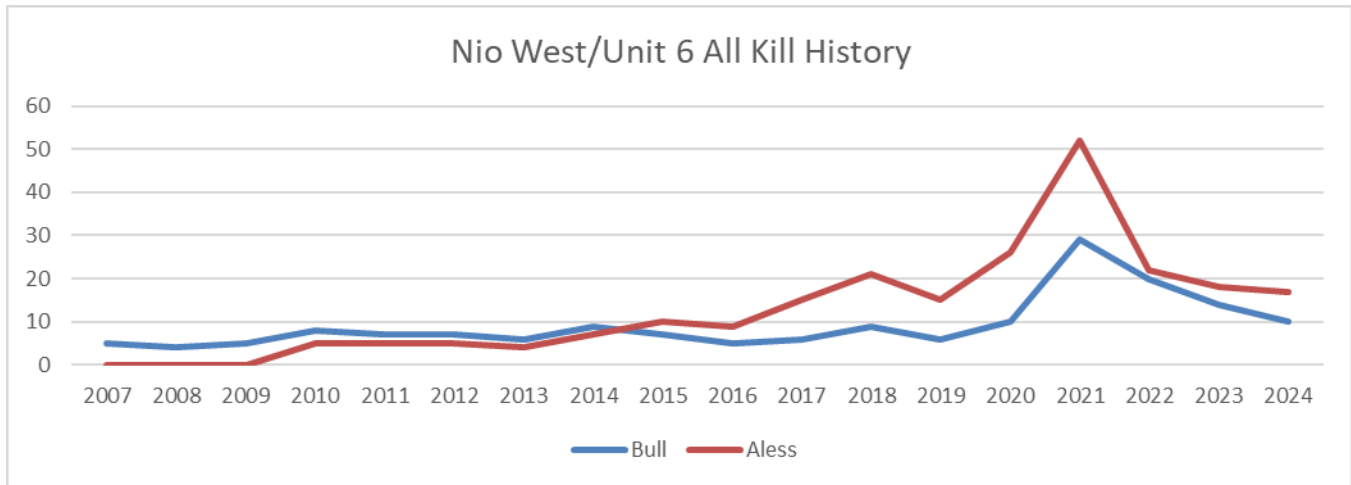
<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 6 Bull	8	8	-	-	-	10	80%	88%	45.5
LO Unit 6 Bull	2	2	-	-	-	7	29%	50%	47.0
Unit 6 Early AO	9	-	6	3	9	25	36%	-	-
Unit 6 Late AO	4	-	3	1	4	15	27%	-	-
LO Unit 6 AO	5	-	5	-	5	30	17%	-	-
Auction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Harvest	28	10	14	4	18	-	-	80%	45.8

UNIT 6
(continued)

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >48
2020	10	26	36	83%	67%	100%	47.2	30%
2021	29	52	81	97%	43%	93%	45.0	31%
2022	20	22	42	71%	17%	75%	44.5	25%
2023	14	18	32	58%	19%	82%	45.0	40%
2024	10	18	28	59%	26%	80%	45.8	60%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.
- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



¹ This includes Niobrara River Unit data prior to E/W split in 2019.

Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	8 General 4 Landowner	26 General 13 Landowner	10
2021	20 General 10 Landowner	50 Early 30 Late 40 Landowner	7 (2/6)
2022	16 General 12 Landowner	50 Early 30 Late 60 Landowner	7 (2/7)
2023	14 General 10 Landowner	40 Early 20 Late 45 Landowner (13 LO)	2 (1/6)
2024	10 General 7 Landowner	25 Early 15 Late 30 Landowner	3 (2/4)
2025*	10 General 7 Landowner	25 Early 15 Late 30 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 12 bulls and 20 cows.

UNIT 7

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 7 Bull Permits: 16 General Either Sex and 12 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 7 Antlerless Permits: A reduction of 14 antlerless permits.

General Antlerless: 28

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 21

General Information: This unit was formerly the primary portion of the Niobrara East unit. In 2024, success was 54% success for bull permits and 21% for antlerless. Hunting pressure appears to have distributed herds as well as dispersed larger herds into several smaller ones, which likely accounts for reduced antlerless harvest.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: General observations and reports would indicate a stable but expanding elk population in this unit. Objectives are to maintain bull hunting opportunity, while addressing depredation complaints and dispersing large herds through hunting. Bull quality measurements have increased and are near minimum criteria. Maintaining bull permits will help us to stay ahead of row crop depredation issues as elk continue to expand eastward while increasing hunter opportunity. Slightly reducing antlerless permits will still address depredation issues while and providing more hunter opportunity. We recommend maintaining bull and slightly reducing antlerless to meet objectives. Bull quality goal is 40% of harvested bulls having a 48" or longer main beam length.

Depredation complaints: 4 DCP: 0

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 7 Bull	11	11	-	-	-	16	69%	100%	44.6
LO Unit 7 Bull	4	4	-	-	-	12	33%	100%	44.8
Unit 7 AO	5	-	5	-	5	36	14%	-	-
LO Unit 7 AO	7	-	7	-	7	22	32%	-	-
Auction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supertag	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earned LO-Elk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Harvest	27	15	12	0	12	-	-	100%	44.7

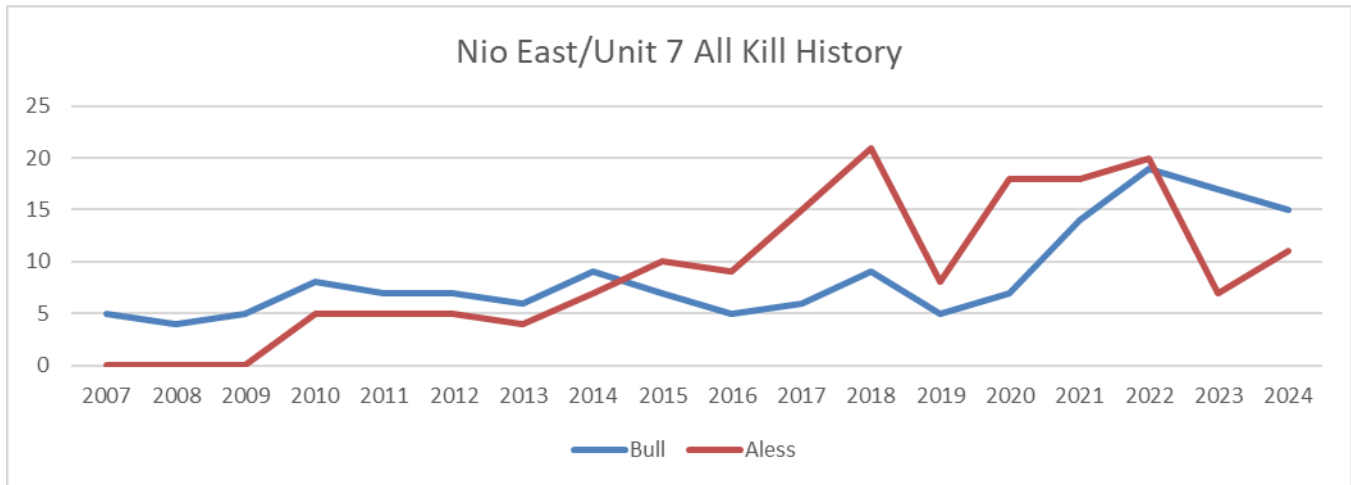
UNIT 7 (continued)

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest+			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >48
2020	7	18	25	78%	60%	57%	40.0	29%
2021	14	18	32	78%	35%	77%	43.4	38%
2022	19	20	39	68%	32%	68%	44.7	37%
2023	17	7	24	61%	11%	77%	44.5	46%
2024	15	12	27	54%	19%	100%	44.7	40%

+ Includes statewide auction and lottery permits.

- Age data no longer collected at a rate that provides unit estimates.



¹ This includes Niobrara River Unit data prior to E/W split in 2019.

Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2020	6 General 3 Landowner	20 General 10 Landowner	2
2021	12 General 6 Landowner	34 General 17 Landowner	2 (1/1)
2022	16 General 12 Landowner	36 General 27 Landowner	2 (1/0)
2023	16 General 12 Landowner	36 General 27 Landowner (1)	1 (0/0)
2024	16 General 12 Landowner	36 General 27 Landowner (5)	4 (0/0)
2025*	16 General 12 Landowner	28 General 21 Landowner	

* Recommended permit numbers

Expected Harvest: Expected harvest is 15 bulls and 15 cows.

UNIT 8

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 8 Bull Permits: 6 General Either Sex and 4 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes

Unit 8 Antlerless Permits: 30 General Antlerless and 10 Limited Landowner Antlerless, an increase of 5 permits overall. This distribution does not follow the 75% allocation for LO since there are not enough LO enrolled in the LO zone to purchase all the antlerless permits. If LO zone enrollees increase, the LO quota will increase.

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 30%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 0%. Some areas of this unit are getting consistent elk use throughout the year but seasonal elk use varies year to year. Seasonal use has been primarily during the growing season. Movement and harvest will need to be evaluated between units 2,3,8, and 9. Landowner tolerance is perceived to be low for areas of this unit composed primarily of row crop agriculture. Hunter success will likely continue to be low.

Depredation Complaints: 4, DCP: 2 (1)

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to maintain a low elk population and address depredation complaints with antlerless permits. Maintain the opportunity to hunt bulls with lower success rates and bull quality due to maintaining lower elk populations.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 8 Bull	1	1	-	-	-	6	17%	100%	38.0
LO Unit 8 Bull	2	2	-	-	-	4	50%	50%	45.5
Unit 8 AO	-	-	-	-	-	30	0%	-	-
LO Unit 8 AO	-	-	-	-	-	7	0%	-	-
Total Harvest	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	67%	43.0

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest</u>			<u>Permit Success</u>		<u>Bull Quality Metrics</u>	
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Total AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>% 6point</u>	<u>Avg. MBL</u>
2023	4	0	4	40%	0%	50%	36.5
2024	3	0	3	30%	0%	67%	43.0

Unit History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued (unsold)</u>		<u>Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)</u>
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	
2023	6 General 4 Landowner	20 General 15 Landowner (9)	6 (2/2)
2024	6 General 4 Landowner	30 General 10 Landowner (3)	4 (2/1)
2025*	6 General 4 Landowner	30 General 10 Landowner	

UNIT 9

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 9 Bull Permits: 6 General Either Sex and 4 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 9 Antlerless Permits: 10 General Antlerless and 7 Limited Landowner Antlerless. No changes.

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 90%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 35%. Some areas of this unit are getting consistent elk use throughout the year, but seasonal elk use has increased over recent years. Movement and harvest will need to be evaluated between units 3 and 9. Landowner tolerance is perceived to be low in the mirage flats area if numbers increase rapidly but other areas of elk use are varied by landowner. Hunter success will vary depending on access.

Depredation Complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to address depredation complaints with antlerless permits and have the opportunity to hunt quality bulls in areas of this unit. Bull quality in this unit will be monitored with unit as movement between units is consistent annually.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 9 Bull	6	6	-	-	-	6	100%	100%	49.2
LO Unit 9 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	4	75%	67%	48.7
Unit 9 AO	4	-	4	-	4	10	40%	-	-
LO Unit 9 AO	2	-	2	-	2	7	29%	-	-
Total Harvest	15	9	6	-	6	-	-	89%	49.0

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest</u>			<u>Permit Success</u>		<u>Bull Quality Metrics</u>	
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Total AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>% 6point</u>	<u>Avg. MBL</u>
2023	8	7	15	80%	44%	83%	46.9
2024	9	6	15	90%	35%	89%	49.0

Unit History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued (unsold)</u>		<u>Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)</u>
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	
2023	6 General 4 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner (1)	0
2024	6 General 4 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner	0
2025*	6 General 4 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner	

UNIT 10

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 10 Bull Permits: 6 General Either Sex and 4 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 10 Antlerless Permits: No changes to permit quota, but the general permits are split early/late.

Early Antlerless: 20

Late Antlerless: 15

Limited Landowner Antlerless: 26

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 60%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 43%. Observations of elk in the area where the only known herd is located date back to 2000. This herd is believed to have expanded to 200+ elk according to landowners in the area. No formal surveys have taken place. Hunter success was expected to be lower as a small number of landowners, owning large ranches control most of the access of areas with consistent elk use. Landowner tolerance in this area is good but population growth in this area will reduce that rapidly. Expansion of elk through the sandhills is possible and likely. Movement of elk does need to be monitored in-between units 4 and 9 in future years.

Depredation Complaints: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to reduce the population in the known herd and have the opportunity to hunt quality bulls. Bull quality goal is 40% of harvested bulls having a 48" or longer main beam length.

2024 Harvest Data

Permit	Total Harvest					Permits Issued	Success	Bull Metrics	
	Total	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Total AO			% 6 pt	MBL
Unit 10 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	6	50%	100%	50.7
LO Unit 10 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	4	75%	100%	52.0
Unit 10 AO	17	-	16	1	17	35	49%	-	-
LO Unit 10 AO	1	-	-	1	1	7	14%	-	-
Total Harvest	24	6	16	2	18	-	-	100%	51.2

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+		
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL	% MBL >48
2023	5	21	26	71%	40%	100%	47.0	60%
2024	6	18	24	60%	43%	100%	51.2	80%

Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2023	4 General 3 Landowner	35 General 26 Landowner (6)	1 (0)
2024	6 General 4 Landowner	35 General 26 Landowner (19)	0
2025*	6 General 4 Landowner	20 Early Antlerless 15 Late Antlerless 26 Landowner	

UNIT 11

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 11 Bull Permits: 3 General Either Sex and 2 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 11 Antlerless Permits: 13 General Antlerless and 9 Limited Landowner Antlerless, an increase of 2 LO permits. This distribution did not follow the 75% allocation for LO since there were not enough LO enrolled in the LO zone to purchase all the antlerless permits. However, those numbers have increased so it is recommended to return to the 75% allocation.

General Information: Hunter success for bull permits was 60%. Hunter success on antlerless only permits was 11%. This unit consists of few elk and most use appears to be seasonal. Two areas of this unit do get observations through the year. Near Potter south of Interstate 80 observations are getting consistent. Areas of this unit that are near traditional elk habitat in unit 4 are crop ground and landowner tolerance is low. Movement and bull harvest in units 4 and 11 will need to be monitored. Hunter success will likely remain low.

Depredation Complaints: 2, DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to address depredation complaints with antlerless permits and have the opportunity to hunt bulls in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 11 Bull	1	1	-	-	-	3	33%	0%	40.0
LO Unit 11 Bull	2	2	-	-	-	2	100%	50%	44.0
Unit 11 AO	2	-	2	-	2	13	15%	-	-
LO Unit 11 AO	0	-	-	-	-	6	0%	-	-
Total Harvest	5	3	2	-	2	-	-	33%	42.7

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest</u>			<u>Permit Success</u>		<u>Bull Quality Metrics+</u>	
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Total AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>% 6point</u>	<u>Avg. MBL</u>
2023	3	2	5	60%	18%	100%	45.0
2024	3	2	5	60%	11%	33%	42.7

Unit History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued (unsold)</u>		<u>Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)</u>
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	
2023	3 General 2 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner (6)	1 (0)
2024	3 General 2 Landowner	13 General 7 Landowner (1)	2 (0)
2025*	3 General 2 Landowner	13 General 9 Landowner	

UNIT 12

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 12 Bull Permits: 7 General Either Sex and 5 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. No changes.

Unit 12 Antlerless Permits: 16 General Antlerless and 12 Limited Landowner Antlerless. No changes.

General Information: In 2024, hunters killed four bulls and two cows during the regular season. Landowner support for elk in this unit is mixed but most wanted less elk. The habitat in most of this unit consists of crop fields and elk damage is inevitable. This unit was the location of the Special Depredation Season in 2022.

Depredation Complaints: 4 DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Most landowners in this unit want less elk, so our strategy is to reduce this population. This unit has movements in and out from other units. Depredation issues have decreased significantly but continued pressure in this unit is the goal to lessen future depredation issues. We will keep working with landowners in this unit to decrease elk populations and damage.

2024 Harvest Data

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 12 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	7	43%	67%	47.5
LO Unit 12 Bull	1	1	-	-	-	5	20%	100%	30.0
Unit 12 AO	1	-	1	-	1	16	6%	-	-
LO Unit 12 AO	1	-	1	-	1	5	20%	-	-
Total Harvest	6	4	2	-	2	-	-	75%	41.8

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest</u>			<u>Harvest Success</u>		<u>Bull Quality Metrics+</u>	
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Total AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>% 6point</u>	<u>Avg. MBL</u>
2023	6	4	10	86%	20%	60%	41.2
2024	4	2	6	33%	10%	75%	41.8

Unit History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued (unsold)</u>		<u>Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)</u>
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	
2023	4 General 3 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner (8)	1 (1/0)
2024	7 General 5 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner (7)	4 (0)
2025*	7 General 5 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner	

UNIT 131 - NEW

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 13 is being split into Units 131 and 132 because there are distinct elk use areas in the east and west sides of the unit.

Unit 131 Bull Permits: 3 General Either Sex and 2 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. New unit separation. Overall, an increase of 5 bull permits from the Unit 13 total for 2024 for 131/132 combined.

Unit 131 Antlerless Permits: 7 General Antlerless and 5 Limited Landowner Antlerless, an increase of 7 permits. New unit separation. Overall, an increase of 12 antlerless permits from the Unit 13 total for 2024 for 131/132 combined.

General Information: In 2024, one cow and one bull were harvested during the general season in the area of this new unit. Landowner and sportsmen support for elk in most parts of this unit is high, however depredation issues have caused support to wane in some areas. Hunter success is expected to be low, it will be a tough hunt in this unit.

Depredation Complaints: 2; DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Landowner reports, staff observations and harvest data of elk indicate an increasing and expanding population. Most landowners and sportsman in this unit support elk in this unit but staff want to focus hunters in areas that have depredation issues and maintain or allow slow growth. Where elk and corn production overlap are primary sources of depredation issues. We will keep working with landowners in those areas to decrease elk populations and damage.

2024 Harvest Data (Unit 13)

Permit	Total Harvest					Permits Issued	Success	Bull Metrics	
	Total	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Total AO			% 6 pt	MBL
Unit 13 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	3	100%	67%	44.0
LO Unit 13 Bull	1	1	-	-	-	2	50%	100%	33.0
Unit 13 AO	2	-	2	-	2	10	20%	-	-
LO Unit 13 AO	2	-	2	-	2	7	29%	-	-
Total Harvest	8	4	4	-	4	-	-	75%	41.8

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year (Unit 131)

Year	Harvest (Unit 131)			Permit Success (13)		Bull Quality Metrics (131)	
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL
2023	0	0	0	20%	10%	-	-
2024	1	1	2	80%	24%	100%	48.0

Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2023	Described in Unit 132 Unit History		0
2024			2 (0)
2025*	3 General 2 Landowner	7 General 5 Landowner	

UNIT 132 - NEW

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 13 is being split into Units 131 and 132 because there are distinct elk use areas in the east and west sides of the unit.

Unit 132 Bull Permits: 3 General Either Sex and 2 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits, no change. New unit separation. Overall, an increase of 5 bull permits from the Unit 13 total for 2024 for 131/132 combined.

Unit 132 Antlerless Permits: 10 General Antlerless and 7 Limited Landowner Antlerless, an increase of 7 permits. New unit separation. Overall, an increase of 12 antlerless permits from the Unit 13 total for 2024 for 131/132 combined.

General Information: In 2024, 3 cows and 3 bulls were harvested during the general season in the area of this new unit. Landowner and sportsmen support for elk in most parts of this unit is high, however depredation issues have caused support to wane in some areas. Hunter success is expected to be low, it will be a tough hunt in this unit.

Depredation Complaints: 2; DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Landowner reports, staff observations and harvest data of elk indicate an increasing and expanding population. Most landowners and sportsman in this unit support elk in this unit but staff want to focus hunters in areas that have depredation issues and maintain or allow slow growth. Where elk and corn production overlap are primary sources of depredation issues. We will keep working with landowners in those areas to decrease elk populations and damage.

2024 Harvest Data (Unit 13)

<u>Permit</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>					<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Bull Metrics</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Total AO</u>			<u>% 6 pt</u>	<u>MBL</u>
Unit 13 Bull	3	3	-	-	-	3	100%	67%	44.0
LO Unit 13 Bull	1	1	-	-	-	2	50%	100%	33.0
Unit 13 AO	2	-	2	-	2	10	20%	-	-
LO Unit 13 AO	2	-	2	-	2	7	29%	-	-
Total Harvest	8	4	4	-	4	-	-	75%	41.8

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest (Unit 132)</u>			<u>Harvest Success (13)</u>		<u>Bull Quality Metrics (132)</u>	
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Total AO</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	<u>% 6point</u>	<u>Avg. MBL</u>
2023	1	1	2	20%	10%	0%	30.0
2024	3	3	6	80%	24%	67%	39.7

Unit History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Permits Issued (unsold)</u>		<u>Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)</u>
	<u>Bull</u>	<u>Antlerless</u>	
2023	3 General 2 Landowner	6 General 4 Landowner	1 (1/0)
2024	3 General 2 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner	2 (0)
2025*	3 General 2 Landowner	10 General 7 Landowner	

UNIT 14

2025 Recommendations:

Unit 14 Bull Permits: 8 General Either Sex and 6 Limited Landowner Either Sex permits. An increase of 6 bull permits from 2024.

Unit 14 Antlerless Permits: 16 General Antlerless and 12 Limited Landowner Antlerless. No changes.

General Information: Some areas of this unit are getting consistent elk use throughout the year but seasonal elk use has increased over recent years. Harvest has been happening in areas of this unit fairly consistently in recent years. There have been bulls harvested near Taylor in each of the past 2 years and herds have been identified in multiple area of the unit. Landowner tolerance is variable but could be problematic in any areas with crops. Hunter success will vary depending on access and could be low. In 2024, bull success was 88% and antlerless success was 23%. 7 bulls and 5 antlerless elk were harvested in this unit.

Depredation complaints: 3; DCP: 0

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Objectives are to address any depredation complaints with antlerless permits and have the opportunity to hunt bulls in this unit.

2024 Harvest Data

Permit	Total Harvest					Permits Issued	Success	Bull Metrics	
	Total	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Total AO			% 6 pt	MBL
Unit 14 Bull	5	5	-	-	-	5	100%	80%	47.4
LO Unit 14 Bull	2	2	-	-	-	3	67%	100%	45.5
Unit 14 AO	3	-	2	1	3	16	19%	-	-
LO Unit 14 AO	2	-	2	-	2	6	33%	-	-
Total Harvest	12	7	4	1	5	-	-	86%	46.9

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest			Permit Success		Bull Quality Metrics+	
	Bull	Total AO	Total	Bull	Antlerless	% 6point	Avg. MBL
2023	5	3	8	63%	15%	100%	43.2
2024	7	5	12	88%	23%	86%	46.9

Unit History

Year	Permits Issued (unsold)		Depredation Complaints (DCP/Take)
	Bull	Antlerless	
2023	5 General 3 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner (8)	1 (0)
2024	5 General 3 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner (6)	3 (0)
2025*	8 General 6 Landowner	16 General 12 Landowner	

UNIT 15

2025 Recommendations:

No permit quota for this unit

General Information: No elk were harvested in Unit 15 in 2024. Elk use is sporadic in eastern Nebraska. However, we receive multiple reports of bulls in eastern Nebraska each year, with increasing reports of cows over the years. While there is public desire to see elk expand into eastern Nebraska, there is very little elk habitat where elk would be successful.

Population Status and Harvest Strategy: Due to the sporadic elk use in this unit, management unit boundaries have been described so that Unit 15 is included within the boundaries of Units 1-14. This will allow all permits from those units to also be valid in 15. The intent is to allow elk harvest in Unit 15 without setting permit quotas. This will provide opportunity to hunt elk in eastern Nebraska and reduce elk conflict issues while avoid the issues surrounding permit quotas, intermittent elk use and landowner management zones.

Unit Harvest Comparisons by Year

Year	Harvest		
	Bull	Total AO	Total
2023	1	0	1
2024	0	0	0

Unit Map:



NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION ORDER

Order C03: Antelope, Deer, and Elk Hunting

Last Approved Date: April 25, 2024

C03 Antelope, Deer, Elk

The following Commission Order is prescribed by the Game and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-301, 37-304, 37-314, 37-317, 37-404, 37-447, 37-449, 37-450, 37-453, 37-455, 37-455.01, 37-456, 37-701, 37-706, and 37-708. For purposes of this Order, unless context otherwise requires, the definitions found in Chapter 37, Sections 202 through 247 of the Game Law, are used. This Order is effective fifteen (15) days following enactment by the Commission and posting on the Commission’s web site.

C03.01 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 after sunset.

C03.02 Antelope Firearm

C03.02A Open Season:

C03.02A1 October Season: Sixteen (16) consecutive days beginning the second Saturday in October in all units not specified in C03.02A2, and within unit boundaries described in C03.02D.

C03.02A2 November Late Season: Beginning November 1 through January 31 in Banner North Late, Banner South Late, Banner South East Late, Box Butte East Late, Box Butte West Late, Cherry Late, Cheyenne Late, Garden Late and North Sioux Late units as described in C03.02D.

C03.02B Area and Permits: Management Unit boundaries are described in C03.02D.

C03.02B1 Permits Authorized:

<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Landowner</u>
Banner North Either Sex	50	37
Banner North Late Doe/Fawn	30	22
Banner South Either Sex	60	45
Banner South Late Doe/Fawn	60	45
Box Butte East Either Sex	20	15
Box Butte East Late Doe/Fawn	30	22
Box Butte West Either Sex	<u>50 40</u>	<u>37 30</u>

Box Butte West Late Doe/Fawn	50 40	37 30
Cherry Either Sex	60	45
Cherry Late Doe/Fawn	30	22
Cheyenne Either Sex	30	22
Cheyenne Late Doe/Fawn	30	22
Dismal Either Sex	30	22
<u>Dismal Late Doe/Fawn</u>	10	7
Eastern Sandhills Either Sex	20	15
Garden Either Sex	40	30
Garden Late Doe/Fawn	40 30	30 22
North Sioux Either Sex	100	75
North Sioux Late Doe/Fawn	80	60

C03.02B2 Landowner Permits:

C03.02B2a Open Season: Persons with October Firearm Landowner Antelope permits may hunt during the dates open for archery (C03.03A) with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Section 001, 001.01B2 and 001.01B3), or during the dates open for muzzleloader (C03.04A) with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) or during the October firearm (C03.02A1) or November late season (C03.02A2) with weapons legally prescribed for firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3).

C03.02B2b Permit Bag Limit: One (1) antelope of either sex and one (1) doe/fawn antelope, provided that a buck may not be taken with a firearm in the November Late Season (C03.02A2) for the October season. Permits issued for units with a doe/fawn allocation shall be a doe/fawn permit with a doe/fawn bonus tag.

C03.02B2c Area Open: October Firearm Management Unit boundary (C03.02D).

C03.02B3 Permit Bag Limit: One antelope with horns longer than ears on permits designated as Buck Only; one antelope of either sex on permits so designated Either Sex; one antelope with no horns or with horns shorter than the ears on permits designated Doe/Fawn Only.

C03.02C Area Open: Entire State except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.02D Management Unit Boundaries

C03.02D1 Banner North and Banner North Late

Banner County and those parts of Cheyenne, Kimball, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff counties west of NE Hwy. 19 and U.S. Hwy. 385, south of the North Platte River, and north of I-80.

C03.02D2 Banner South and Banner South Late

Those parts of Cheyenne and Kimball counties south of I-80 and west of NE Hwy. 19.

C03.02D3 Box Butte East and Box Butte East Late

Those parts of Box Butte, Dawes and Sheridan counties enclosed by a line commencing at the junction of the Pine Ridge escarpments and U.S. Hwy. 20 (10 miles SE of Chadron), then west along the Pine Ridge escarpment to U.S. Hwy. 385, then south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to State Link 7E, then east on State Link 7E to NE Hwy. 87, then south on NE Hwy. 87 to NE Hwy. 2, then east on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 250, then north on NE Hwy. 250 to U.S. Hwy. 20, then west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to the junction of the Pine Ridge escarpment and U.S. Hwy. 20 (10 miles SE of Chadron).

C03.02D4 Box Butte West and Box Butte West Late

Those parts of Box Butte, Dawes, Morrill, Scotts Bluff and Sioux counties included within the following boundaries: from the junction of U.S. Hwy. 20 with the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, then east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to U.S. Hwy. 385, then south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to State Link 7E, then east on State Link 7E to NE Hwy. 87, then south on NE Hwy. 87 to NE Hwy. 2, then west on NE Hwy. 2 to U.S. Hwy. 385, then south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to the North Platte River, then west along the North Platte River to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, except that part of Dawes County south of U.S. Hwy. 20, east of NE Hwy. 2, west of U.S. Hwy. 385, and north of the Pine Ridge escarpment.

C03.02D5 Box Butte West River Late

Those parts of the Box Butte West Unit (C03.02D5) within five (5) miles of the banks of the Niobrara River from NE Hwy. 29 west to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line.

C03.02D6 Cherry and Cherry Late

Those parts of Cherry, Grant, Hooker, Thomas, and Sheridan counties included within a line from the Nebraska-South Dakota state line at NE Hwy. 87, thence south on NE Hwy. 87 to U.S. Hwy. 20, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 250, thence south on NE Hwy. 250 and its connecting

road to NE Hwy. 2, thence east on NE Hwy. 2 to U.S. Hwy. 83, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 83 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line.

C03.02D7 Cheyenne and Cheyenne Late

Those parts of Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Morrill, and Keith counties east of U.S. Hwy. 385 and NE Hwy. 19, south of the North Platte River, and west of a line commencing at the junction of NE Hwy. 61 with the North Platte River, thence south on NE Hwy. 61 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to U.S. Hwy. 138, thence southwest on U.S. Hwy. 138 to the Nebraska-Colorado state line.

C03.02D8 Dismal and Dismal Late

McPherson County and those parts of Arthur, Custer, Dawson, Grant, Hooker, Keith, Lincoln, Logan, and Thomas counties enclosed within the following boundaries: from the junction of NE Hwy. 2 and NE Hwy. 61, thence south on NE Hwy. 61 to the North Platte River, thence east along the North Platte River and Platte River to NE Hwy. 47, thence north along NE Hwy. 47 and NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 92, thence west on NE Hwy. 92 to U.S. Hwy. 83, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 83 to NE Hwy. 2, thence west on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 61.

C03.02D9 Garden and Garden Late

Those parts of Arthur, Box Butte, Garden, Grant, Keith, Morrill, and Sheridan counties south of NE Hwy. 2, west of NE Hwy. 61, north of Lake McConaughy and the North Platte River, and east of U.S. Hwy. 385

C03.02D10 North Sioux

Those parts of Dawes, Sioux, and Sheridan counties north and west of a line beginning at the junction of U.S. Hwy. 20 and the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, then east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 2, then south on NE Hwy. 2 to the Pine Ridge escarpment, then east along the Pine Ridge escarpment to U.S. Hwy. 20 (10 miles SE of Chadron), then east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 87, then north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line. Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area are excluded from this unit.

C03.02D11 North Sioux Late

That portion of the North Sioux Unit (C03.02D12) within eight (8) miles north and south of U.S. Hwy. 20 to the Pine Ridge escarpment, between the Dawes-Sioux county line on the west and the Davenport County Road Dawes-Sheridan county line on the east. The Oglala National Grasslands (USFS), Fort Robinson State Park, Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area, and Bordeaux Creek Wildlife Management Area are excluded from this unit.

C03.02D12 Eastern Sandhills

Blaine, Brown, Keya Paha and Rock counties and those parts of Cherry, Thomas, Custer, Logan, Loup, Garfield and Holt counties enclosed within the following boundary: from the Nebraska-South Dakota state line at NE Hwy. 83, thence south on NE Hwy. 83 to NE Hwy. 92, thence east on NE Hwy. 92 to U.S. Hwy 2, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 70, thence east on NE Hwy. 70 to U.S. Hwy. 183, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 183 to NE Hwy. 91, thence east on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 11, thence north on NE Hwy. 11 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line. The Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest in Blaine and Thomas counties shall be closed to hunting.

C03.03 Antelope Archery

C03.03A Open Season: August 20 through December 31.

C03.03B Area Open: Entire State except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.03C Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: Residents: Unlimited. Nonresidents: 250. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.03D Permit Bag Limit: One antelope of either sex, except, on the Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest, the limit shall be one antelope with horns longer than ears.

C03.04 Antelope Muzzleloader

C03.04A Open Season: Sixteen (16) consecutive days beginning the third Saturday in September.

C03.04B Area Open:

C03.04B1 North Sioux Muzzleloader

C03.04B1a Management Unit boundary: Those parts of Dawes, Sioux, and Sheridan counties north and west of a line beginning at the junction of U.S. Hwy. 20 and the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, then east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 2, then south on NE Hwy. 2 to the Pine Ridge escarpment, then east along the Pine Ridge escarpment to U.S. Hwy. 20 (10 miles SE of Chadron), then east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 87, then north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.04B1b Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: 25 Either Sex. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.04B2 Prairie Muzzleloader

C03.04B2a Entire State excluding area as described in C03.04B1a except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized. The Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest in Blaine and Thomas counties shall be closed to hunting.

C03.04B2b Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: **90 87** Either Sex. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.04C Permit Bag Limit: One antelope with horns longer than ears, except that one antelope of either sex may be taken on permits so designated. Landowner permits shall be either sex.

C03.05 Deer Firearm

C03.05A Open Season: Nine (9) consecutive days beginning the Saturday closest to November 13.

C03.05B Areas and Permits: Management Unit and Season Choice Area boundaries are described in C03.05F. Statewide permits are valid for the entire state except Federal and State sanctuaries unless otherwise authorized. The abbreviations used in the permit table are defined as follows:

Abbreviation	Abbreviation Defined
Any Deer	Any mule deer or whitetail deer
Any Deer ²	Any deer except antlerless mule deer
AO	Antlerless Only
WT	Whitetail
MD	Mule Deer
Buck	See <u>C03.05D</u> for specific definition
SCA	Season Choice Area
NR	Nonresident
SW	Statewide

Permits Authorized:

<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>
Blue Northwest	2200	Any deer

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Blue Southeast	3500	Any deer
Buffalo Whitetail	1200	1 WT
Calamus East	1000	Any deer² One buck
Calamus West	1400	Any deer ²
Elkhorn	2700 2500	Any deer One buck
Frenchman Whitetail	800 600	1 WT buck
Keya Paha	2000	Any deer ² , 1 AOWT
Loup East	2700	Any deer ² , 1 AOWT
Loup West	700	Any deer ²
Loup West Whitetail	600	1 WT
Missouri	2900 2600	Any deer
Pine Ridge Whitetail	1000	1 WT
Plains	1000	Any deer ² , 1 AOWT
Plains Whitetail	200	1 WT, 1 AOWT
Platte Whitetail	700 600	1 WT
Republican Whitetail	2200	1 WT
Sandhills	1200	Any deer ² , 1 AOWT
Private Land Only Sandhills	200	Any deer ² , 1 AOWT
Sandhills WT	300	1 WT, 1 AOWT
Upper Platte	800	Any deer ²
Wahoo	3600	Any deer

Eighty-five (85) percent of the following permits will be allocated to residents: Calamus West, Loup West, Plains, Sandhills and Upper Platte.

C03.05C Season Choice Areas: These permits are for Antlerless Only deer. Persons with permits for the following areas may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting season (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A) and for fifteen (15) consecutive days beginning January 1. Shooting hours and application procedures are the same as those prescribed for the regular firearm season. An antlerless deer is one which has no antlers or with antlers less than six (6) inches in length. Federal or state sanctuaries and refuges are closed unless otherwise authorized.

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<u>Season Choice Area</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>
AO SCA Blue Northwest	1800	1 AOWT
AO SCA Blue Southeast	2000	1 AOWT
AO SCA Buffalo	500	2 1 AOWT
AO SCA Buffalo North	50	1AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA Calamus East	100	1 AOWT
AO SCA Calamus West	200	2 AOWT
AO SCA Elkhorn	200	1 AOWT
AO SCA Elkhorn West	200	1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Frenchman	400 200	1 AOWT
AO SCA Frenchman West	100	1AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA Southwest Reservoirs	50	1 AOWT
AO SCA Keya Paha	500	2 AOWT
AO SCA Loup East	1000	2 AOWT
AO SCA Loup West	100	1 AO
AO SCA WT Loup West	150	1 AOWT
AO SCA Missouri	100	1 AOWT
AO SCA Missouri West	300 100	1 AOWT
AO SCA Pine Ridge	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Pine Ridge	400 500	2 AOWT
AO SCA Plains	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Plains	200	2 AOWT
AO SCA Platte	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Platte	200	1 AOWT
AO SCA Republican	800	1 AOWT
AO SCA Sandhills	100	1 AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Sandhills	300	2 AOWT
AO SCA Upper Platte	50	1 AO, 1 AOWT
AO SCA WT Upper Platte	200	2 AOWT
AO SCA Wahoo	1900 1500	1 AOWT

C03.05D Permit Bag Limit: Any reference to "buck" is defined as a deer having at least one antler six (6) inches or more in length. Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.05E Statewide Buck Permits

C03.05E1 Statewide Buck Only:

C03.05E1a Open Season: Persons with Statewide Buck Only deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting season (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A).

C03.05E1b Area Open: Valid for the entire state except Federal and State sanctuaries unless otherwise authorized.

C03.05E1c Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: Resident: 70. Nonresident: 30. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.05E1d Permit Bag Limit: One Buck.

C03.05E2 Restricted Statewide Buck Only:

C03.05E2a Open Season: Persons with Restricted Statewide Buck Only deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting season (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A).

C03.05E2b Area Open: Valid for the entire state except that a Mule Deer Buck may not be taken in the Mule Deer Conservation Area (C03.11H) or Federal and State sanctuaries unless otherwise authorized.

C03.05E2c Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: 1,000. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.05E2d Permit Bag Limit: One Buck.

C03.05F Management Unit Boundaries. Federal and state sanctuaries and refuges are closed, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.05F1 Blue Northwest and AO SCA Blue Northwest

Saline County and those portions of Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Otoe, Seward, Thayer and York counties which are enclosed by a line commencing at the junction of NE Hwy. 4 with U.S. Hwy. 81, thence eastward on NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 136, thence eastward on U.S. Hwy. 136 to NE Hwy. 50, thence north on NE Hwy. 50 to U.S. Hwy. 34, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 34 to U.S. Hwy. 81, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 81 to NE Hwy. 4.

C03.05F2 Blue Southeast and AO SCA Blue Southeast

Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson counties and those parts of Cass, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Otoe, and Thayer counties which are south and east of a line commencing at U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Kansas-Nebraska state line, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 81 to NE Hwy. 4, thence eastward on NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 136, thence eastward on U.S. Hwy. 136 to NE Hwy. 50, thence north on NE Hwy. 50 to U.S. Hwy. 34, then east and north on U.S. Hwy. 34 to the Platte River, then east on the Platte River to the Nebraska-Iowa state line.

C03.05F3 Buffalo and AO SCA Buffalo

Those parts of Adams, Buffalo, Clay, Custer, Dawson, Frontier, Gosper, Hall, Hamilton, Kearney, Merrick, Phelps, and Sherman counties enclosed by the following boundaries: from the junction of NE Hwy. 40 with NE Hwy. 92, thence south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47, thence south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, thence east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 6, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 6 to NE Hwy. 14, thence north on NE Hwy. 14 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 2, thence west on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92, thence west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40.

C03.05F4 Calamus East and AO SCA Calamus East

Those parts of Antelope, Boone, Garfield, Greeley, Holt, and Wheeler counties south of U.S. Hwy. 20, east of NE Hwy. 11, north of NE Hwy. 91, and west of NE Hwy. 14.

C03.05F5 Calamus West and AO SCA Calamus West

Those parts of Blaine, Brown, Cherry, Garfield, Holt, Loup, Rock, and Thomas counties enclosed by the following boundaries: from the junction of U.S. Hwy. 83 with U.S. Hwy. 20, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 83 to the Dismal River, thence east along the north side of the Dismal River to NE Hwy. 2, thence north on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 91, thence east on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 11, thence north on NE Hwy. 11 to U.S. Hwy. 20, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to U.S. Hwy. 83, except that Valentine National Wildlife Refuge and Bessey Division of the Nebraska National Forest shall be closed to the use of bonus antlerless tags or bonus antlerless whitetail tags and Season Choice antlerless only permits and the harvest of mule deer does on November Firearm Calamus West permits.

C03.05F6 Elkhorn and AO SCA Elkhorn

Burt, Cuming, Madison, Stanton, Thurston, and Wayne counties and those parts of Antelope, Boone, Cedar, Colfax, Dakota, Dixon, Dodge, Pierce, Platte, and Washington counties included within the following boundaries: from the junction of NE Hwy. 14 with U.S. Hwy. 20, thence south on NE Hwy. 14 to NE Hwy. 91, thence east on NE Hwy. 91 to U.S. Hwy. 81, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 81 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 30 to the Nebraska-Iowa state line, thence north along said state line to U.S. Hwy. 20, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 14.

C03.05F7 Frenchman and AO SCA Frenchman

Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, and Red Willow counties and those parts of Dawson, Frontier, Furnas, Gosper, Lincoln, and Perkins counties south of NE Hwy. 23 and west of U.S. Hwy. 283, provided that Medicine Creek SRA/WMA, Red Willow SRA/WMA, Enders SRA/WMA and Swanson SRA/WMA shall be closed to the use of bonus antlerless tags or bonus antlerless whitetail tags and Frenchman Antlerless Only Season Choice permits.

C03.05F8 Keya Paha and AO SCA Keya Paha

Keya Paha County and those parts of Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, and Rock counties east of U.S. Hwy. 83, north of U.S. Hwy. 20, and west of U.S. Hwy. 281.

C03.05F9 Loup East and AO SCA Loup East

Howard and Nance counties and those parts of Boone, Buffalo, Garfield, Greeley, Hall, Merrick, Platte, Sherman, Valley, and Wheeler counties included within the following boundaries: from the junction of NE Hwy. 70 with NE Hwy. 91 west of Ericson, thence south on NE Hwy. 70 to NE Hwy. 58, thence south on NE Hwy. 58 to NE Hwy. 10, thence south and west on NE Hwy. 10 to NE Hwy. 2, thence east on NE Hwy. 2 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 30 to U.S. Hwy. 81, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 81 to NE Hwy. 91, thence west on NE Hwy. 91 to its junction with NE Hwy. 70 west of Ericson.

C03.05F10 Loup West and AO SCA Loup West

Those parts of Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Logan, Loup, Sherman, Thomas, and Valley counties enclosed by the following boundaries: from the junction of U.S. Hwy. 83 with the Dismal River, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 83 to NE Hwy. 92, thence east on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 2, thence east on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 10, thence east and north on NE Hwy. 10 to NE Hwy. 58, thence north on NE Hwy. 58 to NE Hwy. 70, thence north on NE Hwy. 70 to NE Hwy. 91, thence west on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2, thence south on NE Hwy. 2 to the Dismal River, thence west along the south side of the Dismal River to U.S. Hwy. 83.

C03.05F11 Missouri and AO SCA Missouri

Knox County and those parts of Antelope, Boyd, Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Holt, and Pierce counties north of U.S. Hwy. 20 and east of U.S. Hwy. 281.

C03.05F12 Pine Ridge and AO SCA Pine Ridge

Those parts of Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan, and Sioux counties north of the Niobrara River and west of NE Hwy. 27. Private Land Only Pine Ridge permit is not valid on any land open to public hunting access.

C03.05F13 Plains and AO SCA Plains

Those parts of Arthur, Box Butte, Dawes, Garden, Grant, Keith, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, and Sioux counties included within the following boundaries: from the junction of U.S. Hwy. 26 with Nebraska-Wyoming state line, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 26 to State Link 62A, thence east on State Link 62A to U.S. Hwy. 385, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to U.S. Hwy. 26, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 26 to NE Hwy. 92, thence east on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 61, thence north on NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 2, thence west on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 27, thence north on NE Hwy. 27 to the Niobrara River, thence west along the south side of the Niobrara River to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line.

C03.05F14 Platte and AO SCA Platte

Those parts of Arthur, Custer, Dawson, Deuel, Frontier, Garden, Keith, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, and Perkins counties south of NE Hwy. 92, west of NE Hwys. 40 and 47, north of NE Hwy. 23, and east of a line commencing at the junction of NE Hwy. 27 and NE Hwy. 92, thence south on NE Hwy. 27 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to U.S. Hwy. 385, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to the Nebraska- Colorado state line.

C03.05F15 Republican and AO SCA Republican

Franklin, Harlan, Nuckolls, and Webster counties and those parts of Adams, Clay, Fillmore, Furnas, Gosper, Hamilton, Kearney, Phelps, Thayer, and York counties east of U.S. Hwy. 283, west of U.S. Hwy. 81, and south of a line commencing at the junction of U.S. Hwy. 81 with U.S. Hwy. 34, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 34 to NE Hwy. 14, thence south on NE Hwy. 14 to U.S. Hwy. 6, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 6 to NE Hwy. 23, thence west on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283, provided that Harlan County Reservoir Corps of Engineers lands shall be closed to the use of Republican Season Choice antlerless permits.

C03.05F16 Sandhills and AO SCA Sandhills

Hooker County and those parts of Arthur, Cherry, Grant, Logan, McPherson, Sheridan, and Thomas counties included within the following boundaries: from the junction of NE Hwy. 27 with the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, thence south on NE Hwy. 27 to NE Hwy. 2, thence east on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 61, thence south on NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 92,

thence east on NE Hwy. 92 to U.S. Hwy. 83, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 83 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, except that Valentine National Wildlife Refuge and Samuel McKelvie National Forest shall be closed to the use of bonus antlerless tags or bonus antlerless whitetail tags and Season Choice antlerless only permits and to the harvest of mule deer does on November Firearm Sandhills permits. Private Land Only Sandhills permit is not valid on any land open to public hunting access.

C03.05F17 Upper Platte and AO SCA Upper Platte

Banner, Cheyenne, and Kimball counties and those parts of Deuel, Garden, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff counties south and west of a line commencing at the junction of U.S. Hwy. 26 with the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 26 to State Link 62A, thence east on State Link 62A to U.S. Hwy. 385, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to U.S. Hwy. 26, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 26 to NE Hwy. 27, thence south on NE Hwy. 27 to U.S. Hwy. 30, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to U.S. Hwy. 385, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 385 to the Nebraska-Colorado state line.

C03.05F18 Wahoo and AO SCA Wahoo

Butler, Douglas, Polk, Sarpy, and Saunders counties and those parts of Cass, Colfax, Dodge, Hamilton, Lancaster, Merrick, Platte, Seward, Washington, and York counties bounded by a line beginning at the junction of the Nebraska-Iowa state line and U.S. Hwy. 30, then west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 14, then south on NE Hwy. 14 to U.S. Hwy. 34, then east and north on U.S. Hwy. 34 to the Platte River, then east on the Platte River to the Nebraska-Iowa state line Missouri River.

C03.05F19 AO SCA Frenchman West: That portion of the Frenchman Unit (C03.05F7) those parts of Chase, Hayes, Frontier, Hitchcock and Red Willow Counties bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of the Frontier-Lincoln county line and U.S. HWY. 83, then south to NE Hwy. 23, then east on NE Hwy. 23 to Moorefield, NE, then south on the Moorefield-Stockville Rd., to Stockville, NE, then south on the Stockville-Indianola Rd to the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 6/34, then west on U.S. Hwy. 6/34 to the split of U.S. Hwy. 6/34, then west along U.S. Hwy. 34 to the intersection of NE Hwy. 61, then north on NE Hwy. 61 to the intersection of the Chase-Perkins County Line and east along county lines to the origin. Permits are not valid on the Medicine Creek SRA/WMA, Red Willow SRA/WMA, Swanson SRA/WMA or the Enders SRA/WMA.

C03.05F20 AO SCA Missouri West: That portion of the Missouri Unit (C03.05F11) West of U.S. Hwy 81.

C03.05F21 AO SCA Buffalo North: That portion of the Buffalo Unit (C03.05F3) north of U.S. Hwy. 30 and west of NE Hwy. 21.

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C03.05F22 AO SCA Southwest Reservoirs: entire areas open to hunting on Medicine Creek SRA/WMA, Red Willow SRA/WMA, Swanson SRA/WMA and the Enders SRA/WMA.

C03.5F23 AO SCA Elkhorn West: That portion of the Elkhorn Unit (C03.05F6) west of NE Hwy. 15.

C03.06 Deer Archery

C03.06A Open Season: September 1 through December 31 provided that special season dates apply to the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge (C03.11C).

C03.06B Area Open: Entire state except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.06C Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance:

Resident: Unlimited.

Nonresident: 3,000.

Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.06D Permit Bag Limit:

Resident: One deer of either sex.

Nonresident: one deer of either sex provided that a mule deer may not be taken in the Mule Deer Conservation Area (C03.11H).

Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.07 Deer Muzzleloader

C03.07A Open Season: December 1 through December 31, inclusive.

C03.07B Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance:

Resident: Unlimited.

Nonresident: 1,000.

Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.07C Permit Bag Limit: One deer of either sex provided that a mule deer may not be taken in the Mule Deer Conservation Area (C03.11H). Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.07D Area Open: Entire State except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges unless otherwise authorized.

C03.08 Youth Deer Season

C03.08A Open Season: Persons with youth deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A) and for fifteen (15) consecutive days beginning January 1.

C03.08A1 Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: Unlimited. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1. No person may obtain more than one Youth permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.08A1a Youth Whitetail Permit Bag Limit: One whitetail deer provided that a buck may not be taken in January. Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.08A1b Resident Youth Deer Permit Bag Limit: One deer of either sex provided that a buck may not be taken in January. Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.08A1c Nonresident Restricted Youth Deer Permit Bag Limit: One deer of either sex provided that a buck may not be taken in January. Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.08B Area Open: Entire state except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized. Bonus antlerless permits are not valid on Bessey National Forest, McKelvie National Forest, Valentine National Wildlife Refuge. Nonresident Restricted Youth Deer permits are not valid in the Frenchman, Platte or Pine Ridge Units as described in C03.05F.

C03.09 Landowner Deer Seasons:

C03.09A Landowner Deer Season: No person may apply for or obtain more than one limited landowner permit per year for deer.

C03.09A1 Open Season: Persons with landowner deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A) and for fifteen (15) consecutive days beginning January 1.

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C03.09A2 Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: Unlimited. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.09A3 Permit Bag Limit: One deer of either sex and one antlerless deer, provided that a buck may not be taken in January.

C03.09A4 Area Open: Entire state. Persons who obtain a limited landowner permit may hunt on lands described on their application.

C03.09B Special Landowner Deer Season: No person may apply for or obtain more than one special landowner permit per year for deer.

C03.09B1 Open Season: Persons with special landowner deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the Saturday, Sunday and Monday preceding the November firearm deer season (C03.05A).

C03.09B2 Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: Unlimited Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1 and Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-455.

C03.09B3 Permit Bag Limit: One deer of either sex.

C03.09B4 Area Open: Entire state. Persons who obtain a special landowner permit may hunt on lands described on their application.

C03.10 Statewide Whitetail Buck

C03.10A Open Season: Persons with Statewide Whitetail Buck deer permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting season (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A).

C03.10B Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: 8,000. Personal limits apply, see 001.01B1.

C03.10C Permit Bag Limit: One whitetail buck. Any reference to "antlerless" is defined as a deer having no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.10D Area Open: Entire state except Federal or State sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C03.11 Deer - Special Area Provisions

Restrictions pertaining to permit bag limits define a “buck” as a deer having at least one antler six (6) inches or more in length and an “antlerless” deer defined as a deer with no antlers or antlers no more than six (6) inches in length.

C03.11A The Dodge-Saunders County Game Refuge: described in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-706 and the North Platte River Refuge, described in section 37-706, shall be open to hunting deer during all established deer seasons.

C03.11B The Garden County Game Refuge: Archery hunting for deer shall be permitted on the Garden County Game Refuge, as described in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-706, from September 1 through October 31.

C03.11C DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge: Special deer hunting regulations shall be in effect on lands within and designated as open by the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. Special Access permit through refuge office is required.

C03.11D Gifford Wildlife Management Area: Special deer hunting regulations shall be in effect on the Gifford Wildlife Management Area in Sarpy County, which includes all land owned by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Educational Service Unit Number Three on Sec. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 in T14N R14E of the 6th P.M.

C03.11D1 Archery: Hunting is permitted in accordance with all applicable state regulations except that season dates shall be September 1 through December 31.

C03.11D2 Muzzleloader: Hunting is permitted in accordance with all applicable state regulations for muzzleloader (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) hunting during the statewide muzzleloader season (C03.07A) and the January portion of AO SCA Wahoo (C03.05F18). Except that muzzleloaders are not allowed during the November Firearm Deer season.

C03.11E Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge: Special deer hunting regulations shall be in effect on lands within and designated as open by the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge. Special Access permit through refuge office is required.

C03.11F Mule Deer Restrictions

C03.11F1 Special deer hunting regulations shall be in effect for lands open to public hunting.

C03.11F1a Harvest of antlerless mule deer is prohibited, private lands enrolled in the Open Fields and Waters program are exempt from this restriction.

C03.11F2 No person may obtain more than one Calamus West permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.11F3 No person may obtain more than one Loup West permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.11F4 No person may obtain more than one Plains permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.11F5 No person may obtain more than one Sandhills permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.11F6 No person may obtain more than one Upper Platte permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck.

C03.11G River Antlerless

C03.11G1 Open Season: Persons with River Antlerless permits may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and with weapons legally prescribed for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A, and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the November firearm deer season (C03.05A) and for fifteen (15) consecutive days beginning January 1 and for fifteen (15) consecutive days beginning October 1.

C03.11G2 Number of Permits Authorized for Issuance: ~~6,000~~ 4,000.

C03.11G3 Permit Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail deer. Any reference to an "antlerless" deer is one which has no antlers or with antlers less than six (6) inches in length.

C03.11G4 Areas Open:

Those areas of Nebraska within:

That portion of Nebraska east north of a boundary commencing with U.S. Hwy. 281 from the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy. 12, thence east on NE Hwy. 12 to U.S. Hwy. 20, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 20 to U.S. Hwy. 75, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 75 U.S. Hwy. 81, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 81 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line.

That portion of Nebraska east of a boundary commencing with U.S. Hwy. 30 from the Nebraska-Iowa state line, thence west on U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 133, thence south on NE Hwy. 133 to U.S. Hwy. 6, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 6 to Interstate 480, thence south on Interstate 480 to U.S. Hwy.

75, thence south on U.S. Hwy. 75 to NE Hwy. 67, thence east and south on NE Hwy. 67 to U.S. Hwy. 136, thence east on U.S. Hwy. 136 to NE Hwy. 67, thence south on NE Hwy. 67 to U.S. Hwy. 73, thence east and south on U.S. Hwy. 73 to the Nebraska-Kansas state line.

Three (3) miles of the landward banks of the Missouri River, Platte River, Loup, and the Keya Paha Rivers.

Three (3) miles of the landward banks of the following portions of Nebraska rivers:

From the mouth of the Platte River to NE Hwy 47.

From the mouth of Long Pine Creek to a point five (5) miles south of U.S. Hwy. 20 where Long Pine Creek crosses the west side of Section 19, T29N R20W.

The Republican River from the Nebraska-Kansas line to NE Hwy 89 the Harlan County Dam.

From the mouth of Plum Creek in Brown County to U.S. Hwy. 20.

The South Loup River from the mouth to U.S. Hwy. 83 NE Hwy 2.

The Niobrara River from the mouth to U.S. Hwy 83.

The Elkhorn River from mouth to the North Branch Elkhorn River in Holt County, The North Branch Elkhorn River in Holt County from mouth to Holt/Rock County line U.S. Hwy 30.

The South Fork of the Elkhorn River from the mouth to NE Hwy. 11.

The North Loup River from the mouth to U.S. Hwy 83 NE Hwy. 70.

The Cedar River from the mouth to NE Hwy. 14 91.

The Middle Loup River from the mouth to U.S. Hwy 83 NE Hwy. 10.

The White River between the intersection of the White River and NE Hwy. 71 northeasterly to the intersection of the White River and the Nebraska-South Dakota state line.

The Wood River from the mouth to NE Hwy. 21.

The Little Blue River from US Hwy. 81 to US Hwy. 281.

Eagle Creek in Holt County from the mouth to 483rd Ave.

Bazile Creek in Knox County from the mouth to the Antelope County line.

In Knox County, the main branch Verdigre Creek from the mouth to the Antelope county line, Middle Branch and North Branch Verdigre Creek in to the Holt County line.

All state and federal public lands are closed.

C03.11H Mule Deer Conservation Areas

Persons with permits for the following areas may hunt with weapons legally prescribed for archery hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.06A, and for muzzleloader hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.07A and with weapons legally prescribed for archery and firearm hunting (001.01B2 and 001.01B3) during the dates shown in C03.05A.

C03.11H1 Frenchman: Area as described for the Frenchman Unit (C03.05F7). One thousand two hundred (1,200) permits for one (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Frenchman permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck. The nonresident permit quota is fifteen percent (15%) of the total permit allocation.

C03.11H2 Platte: Area as described for the Platte Unit (C03.05F14). Seven hundred (700) permits for one (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Platte permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck. The nonresident permit quota is fifteen percent (15%) of the total permit allocation.

C03.11H3 Buffalo: Area as described for the Buffalo Unit (C03.05F3). Eight hundred (800) permits for one (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Buffalo permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck. The nonresident permit quota is fifteen percent (15%) of the total permit allocation.

C03.11H4 Republican: Area as described for the Republican Unit (C03.05F15). Fifty (50) permits for one (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Republican permit that allows the take of a mule deer buck. The nonresident permit quota is fifteen percent (15%) of the total permit allocation.

C03.11H5 Pine Ridge: Area as described for the Pine Ridge Unit (C03.05F12). Nine hundred (900) permits for (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Pine Ridge permit that allows for the take of a mule deer buck. The nonresident permit quota is fifteen percent (15%) of the total permit allocation.

C03.11H6 Private Land Only Pine Ridge: Area as described for the Pine Ridge Unit (C03.05F12). One hundred fifty (150) permits for (1) mule deer buck or one (1) whitetail deer. No person may obtain more than one Pine Ridge permit that allows for the take of a mule deer buck. Not valid on any land open to public hunting access.

C03.12 Elk

C03.12A Open Season: Bull

C03.12A1 Firearm season, all units: September 21 – October 31.

C03.12A2 Archery season, all units: Beginning September 1 – October 31, closing on the last day of firearm season for bulls (C03.12A1). Persons hunting from September 1 until the opening of the firearm season (C03.12A1) must hunt with archery equipment as specified in 001.01B2.

C03.12B Open Season: Antlerless

All units, beginning August 1 through January 31, except that State and Federal public lands are closed to antlerless elk hunting until September 21.

C03.12B1 Early season units: Beginning August 1 and closing on October 31, except that State and Federal public lands are closed to antlerless elk hunting until September 21. Units included: Unit 1 Early, Unit 2 Early, Unit 3 Early, Unit 4 Early, Unit 5 Early and Unit 6 Early.

C03.12B2 Late season units: Beginning November 1 and closing on January 31. Units included: Unit 1 Late, Unit 2 Late, Unit 3 Late, Unit 4 Late, Unit 5 Late and Unit 6 Late.

C03.12C Permits for Units described in C03.12E:

Management Unit	General	Limited Landowner
Unit 1 Bull	16 12	12 9
Unit 1 Antlerless	0	45
Unit 1 Early Antlerless	25	0
Unit 1 Late Antlerless	35	0
Unit 2 Bull	10 7	7 5
Unit 2 Antlerless	0	30

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Unit 2 Early Antlerless	15	0
Unit 2 Late Antlerless	25	0
Unit 3 Bull	<u>16 12</u>	<u>12 9</u>
Unit 3 Antlerless	0	60
Unit 3 Early Antlerless	40	0
Unit 3 Late Antlerless	40	0
Unit 4 Bull	22	16
Unit 4 Antlerless	0	<u>75 60</u>
Unit 4 Early Antlerless	<u>70 50</u>	0
Unit 4 Late Antlerless	30	0
Unit 5 Bull	20	15
Unit 5 Antlerless	0	<u>37 33</u>
Unit 5 Early Antlerless	<u>30 25</u>	0
Unit 5 Late Antlerless	20	0
Unit 6 Bull	10	7
Unit 6 Antlerless	0	30
Unit 6 Early Antlerless	25	0
Unit 6 Late Antlerless	15	0
Unit 7 Bull	16	12
Unit 7 Antlerless	<u>36 28</u>	<u>27 21</u>
Unit 8 Bull	6	4
Unit 8 Antlerless	30	10
Unit 9 Bull	6	4
Unit 9 Antlerless	10	7
Unit 10 Bull	6	4
Unit 10 Antlerless	<u>35 0</u>	26
<u>Unit 10 Early Antlerless</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Unit 10 Late Antlerless</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>
Unit 11 Bull	3	2
Unit 11 Antlerless	13	<u>7 9</u>
Unit 12 Bull	7	5
Unit 12 Antlerless	16	12
<u>Unit 13 Bull</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Unit 13 Antlerless</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Unit 131 Bull</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

<u>Unit 131 Antlerless</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Unit 132 Bull</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Unit 132 Antlerless</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
Unit 14 Bull	<u>58</u>	<u>36</u>
Unit 14 Antlerless	16	12

C03.12D Permit Bag Limit: One elk as specified on permit. “Antlerless” shall mean an elk with no antlers or with antlers less than six (6) inches in length. Bull permits shall be valid for an elk of either-sex.

C03.12E Elk Management Unit Boundaries

C03.12E1 Unit 1 – Area included within a line commencing with the Niobrara River from the Nebraska-Wyoming state line east to NE Hwy. 2, thence north on NE Hwy. 2 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, thence west along the Nebraska-South Dakota line to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line, thence south along the Nebraska-Wyoming state line to the Niobrara River and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E2 Unit 2 – Area included within a line commencing with NE Hwy. 2 from the Nebraska-South Dakota state line south and east to the Niobrara River, thence east to U.S. Hwy. 385, thence north on U.S. Hwy. 385 to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, thence west along the Nebraska-South Dakota state line to NE Hwy. 2 and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E3 Unit 3 – Area included within a line commencing with U.S. Hwy. 385 from the Nebraska-South Dakota state line south to the Niobrara River, thence east to the Dawes-Sheridan County line, north to 570 Rd, thence east to US Hwy 20, thence east to NE Hwy. 27, thence north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, thence west along the Nebraska-South Dakota state line to U.S. Hwy. 385 and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E4 Unit 4 – Area included within a line commencing with U.S. Hwy. 26 and the Nebraska-Wyoming state line east to U.S. Hwy. 385; north to County Rd 118; east to County Rd 107; south to County Rd 116; east to County Rd 109; south to County Rd 114; east to County Rd 111; south to 108; east to County Rd 117; south to County Rd 104; east to County Rd 121; south to County Rd 102; east to County Rd 123; south to County Rd 100, east to Rd125; north to County Rd 100; east to County Rd 129; south to County Rd 94; east to County Rd 135; south to County Rd 88; east to County Rd 147; south to County Rd 88; southeast to County Rd 86; east to County Rd 151; south to County Rd 80; east to County Rd 161; south to County Rd 76; east to County Rd 165; south to County Rd 167 ; south to U.S. Hwy. 26; east to County Rd 171; north to County Rd 68; east to County Rd 183; south to County Rd 64; east to County Rd 189; north to County Rd

70; east to County Rd 201; south to County Rd 60A; east to County Rd 203; south to County Rd 52; east to the Garden-Keith County line; south to US Hwy 26; west to County Rd 34; west to County Rd 195; north to County Rd 40; west to County Rd 153; south to County Rd 38; west to County Rd 143; north to County Rd 54; west to County Rd 135; north to County Rd 56; west to County Rd 133; north to County Rd 58; west to County Rd 81; south to County Rd 56; west to County Rd 71; south to County Rd 54N; west to County Rd 59E; south to County Rd 52N; west to County Rd 37W; north to County Rd 39; north to County Rd 6; west 7 miles; south 1 mile; west one mile; north one mile to County Rd 6; west to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line; north to the origin at U.S. Hwy 26 and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E5 Unit 5 – Area of Nebraska included within a line commencing at the junction of U.S. Hwy 83 and U.S. Hwy 30; east to NE Hwy 21; south to NE Hwy 23; west to U.S. Hwy 83; south to County Rd 732; west to County Rd 732A; northwest to Avenue 374A; northwest to Avenue 374; north to County Rd 736A; west to County Rd 737; west to NE Hwy 25; north to NE Hwy 23; east to U.S. Hwy 83; north to the origin at U.S. Hwy 30 and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E6 Unit 6 – Area in Nebraska included within a line commencing with NE Hwy 61 and the Nebraska-South Dakota state line; south to the Snake River; east to Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area boundary; south to Snake River Road; south and east to NE Hwy 97; south to Kennedy Rd; east to NE Spur 16B; north and east to U.S. Hwy 83; south to West Wood Lake Road; east to U.S. Hwy 20; east to Norden Road; north to NE Hwy. 12; west to Norden Road; north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line; west to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E7 Unit 7 – Area in Nebraska included within a line commencing with the Niobrara River and the Nebraska-South Dakota state line; south to NE Hwy 12; east to NE Hwy 14; south to U.S. Hwy 20; west to Norden Road; north to NE Hwy. 12; west to Norden Road; north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line; east to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E8 Unit 8 – Area in Nebraska included within a line commencing with the Niobrara River and the Nebraska-Wyoming state line; east along the Niobrara River to the Dawes-Sheridan County line; south to the Dawes-Box Butte county line; east and south to 310 Trail; east to 396 Trail; south to NE Hwy 2; west to U.S. Hwy 385; south to U.S. Hwy 26; west to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E9 Unit 9 – Area in Nebraska included within a line commencing with NE Hwy 27 and the Nebraska-South Dakota State line, South on Hwy 27 to U.S. Hwy 20; west to County Road 570; west to the Sheridan-Dawes

county line; south to the south to the Dawes-Box Butte county line; east and south to 310 Trail; east to 298 Trail; east to NE Hwy 250; north to 358 Trail; east to NE Hwy 27; north to 448 Trail; south and east to 423 Trail; east to Anderson Road; east to Fawn Lake Road; east to Clifford Creek Road; east to NE Hwy 61; north to the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, west to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E10 Unit 10 – Area in Nebraska included within a line commencing at NE Hwy 2 and U.S. Hwy 385; south on U.S 385 to County Rd 118; east to County Rd 107; south to County Rd 116; east to County Rd 109; south to County Rd 114; east to County Rd 111; south to 108; east to County Rd 117; south to County Rd 104; east to County Rd 121; south to County Rd 102; east to County Rd 123; south to County Rd 100, east to Rd125; north to County Rd 100; east to County Rd 129; south to County Rd 94; east to County Rd 135; south to County Rd 88; east to County Rd 147; south to County Rd 88; southeast to County Rd 86; east to County Rd 151; south to County Rd 80; east to County Rd 161; south to County Rd 76; east to County Rd 165; south to County Rd 167 ; south to U.S. Hwy. 26; east to County Rd 171; north to County Rd 68; east to County Rd 183; south to County Rd 64; east to County Rd 189; north to County Rd 70; east to County Rd 201; south to County Rd 60A; east to County Rd 203; south to County Rd 52; east to the Garden-Keith County line; south to NE Hwy 92; east to NE Hwy 61; north to NE Hwy 92; east to U.S. Hwy 83; north to Snake River Road; west and north to the Merritt Reservoir State Recreation Area; west and north to the Snake River; west to NE Hwy 61; south to Clifford Creek Road; west to Fawn Lake Road; west to Anderson Road; south and west to 423 Trail; west and north to 448 Trail; west to NE Hwy 27; south to 358 Trail; west to NE Hwy 250; south to 298 Trail; east to 396 Trail; south to NE Hwy 2; west to the origin at U.S. Hwy 385 and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E11 Unit 11 – That portion of Nebraska south and west of a line starting at the Nebraska-Colorado state line and U.S. Hwy 138; northeast on U.S. 138 to U.S. Hwy 30; east to the Keith-Deuel county line; north to U.S. 26; west to County Rd 34; west to County Rd 195; north to County Rd 40; west to County Rd 153; south to County Rd 38; west to County Rd 143; north to County Rd 54; west to County Rd 135; north to County Rd 56; west to County Rd 133; north to County Rd 58; west to County Rd 81; south to County Rd 56; west to County Rd 71; south to County Rd 54N; west to County Rd 59E; south to County Rd 52N; west to County Rd 37W; north to County Rd 39; north to County Rd 6; west 7 miles; south 1 mile; west one mile; north one mile to County Rd 6; west to the Nebraska-Wyoming state line and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E12 Unit 12 – Area in Nebraska included in a line starting at the Nebraska-Colorado state line and U.S. Hwy 138; northeast on U.S. 138 to U.S. Hwy 30; east to the Keith-Deuel County line; north to NE Hwy 92; east

to NE Hwy 61; north to NE Hwy 92; east to U.S. Hwy 83; south to NE Hwy 23; west to the Nebraska-Colorado state line; north and west to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E13 Unit 13¹ – That portion of Nebraska south and west of a line commencing at the Nebraska-Kansas state line and NE Hwy 10; north to Keystone Road; north to U.S. Hwy 30; west to NE Hwy 21; south to NE Hwy 23; west to U.S. Hwy 83; south north to County Rd 732; west to County Rd 732A; northwest to Avenue 374A; northwest to Avenue 374; north to County Rd 736A; west to County Rd 737; west to NE Hwy 25; north to NE Hwy 23; west to the Nebraska-Colorado state line and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E14 Unit 14 – The area in Nebraska within a line starting at the junction of U.S. Hwy 20 and NE Hwy 14; west to West Wood Lake Rd; west to U.S. 83; south to U.S. Hwy 30; east to NE Hwy 14; north to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12E15 Unit 15 – That portion of Nebraska east of a line commencing at the Nebraska-South Dakota state line, south along the Niobrara River to NE Hwy 12; east to NE Hwy 14; south to U.S. Hwy 30; west to Keystone Road; south to NE Hwy 10; south to the Nebraska-Kansas state line.

C03.12E16 Statewide Unit - Any portion of Nebraska open to elk hunting as described in C03.12E1 through C03.12E15.

C03.12E17 Unit 132 – That area of Nebraska within a line starting at the Nebraska-Kansas state line and NE Hwy 10; north to Keystone Road; north to U.S. Hwy 30; west to NE Hwy 21; south to NE Hwy 23; west to U.S. Hwy 83; south to the Nebraska-Kansas state line; east to the origin and as described in Unit 15 (C03.12E15).

C03.12F Elk Management Zones

C03.12F1 Unit 1 – The following lands in Dawes and Sioux counties, except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T34N R57W: Sec. 21, 28, 36

T33N R57W: Sec. 1-4, 10-13, 14-16, 22-23, 25-26, 35-36

T33N R56W: Sec. 6-8, 17-19; W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 28-29, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 33

T33N R54W: Sec. 12-14, 24-25, 36

T33N R53W: Sec. 18, 32; S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 19 and S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 20 and N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 30. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 33,

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T33N R52W: Sec. 15-17, 20-22
T32N R57W: Sec. 1-2, 11-12; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 9, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 10, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 14
T32N R56W: Sec. 5-18, 23-25, 36
T32N R55W: Sec. 1-3, 7-36
T32N R54W: Sec. 1-36
T32N R53W: Sec. 1-24, 28-31
T32N R52W: Sec. 5-8, 15-22
T31N R55W: W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 1, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 2, Sec. 24
T31N R54W: Sec. 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 12, 16-19, **3231**-35; N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 10 and that portion of Sec. 13 north of U.S. Hwy. 20, N $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 20, 21-22, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 25
T31N R53W: Sec. 6-7, 20, 28-31; E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 19, and that part of Sec. 18 north of U.S. Hwy. 20
T31N R52W: Sec. 32-33
T30N R54W: Sec. 1-9, 11, 16-18, 19-23, 25; E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 26, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 27, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 28, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 29
T30N R53W: Sec. 1-4, 7-8, 10-12, 15, 17-23, 25-26, 34-35; N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 9, S $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 14, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 24, E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 28
T30N R52W: Sec. 4-5, 31-32; NE $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 27, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 26, portions of the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 23 and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 26 that lies west of U.S. Hwy. 2/71, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 33
T29N R52W: E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Sec. 14, and parts of Sec. 1 that are east of NE Hwy. 2/71
T29N R53W: Sec. 12

C03.12F2 Unit 2 – The following lands in Dawes county, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T30N R52W: Sec. 1, 12-13, 24 and those parts of Sec. 2, 11, 14, 23, 25-26 and 36 east of NE Hwy. 2.
T29N R52W: **Sec. 3, 4, 9, 15, 23, and** that part of Sec. 1 that lies east of NE Hwy. 2.
T31N R51W: Sec. 13-17, 20-29, 32-36
T30N R51W: Sec. 1-36
T29N R51W: Sec. 1-5, **8-12, 14-15 8-15**, 17, 26-27, and those parts of Sec. 6 and 7 that lie east of NE Hwy. 2
T31N R50W: Sec. 11-36
T30N R50W: Sec. 1-11, 14-22, 27-34
T29N R50W: Sec. 3-7, 14, 22
T32N R49W: Sec. 9-16, 21-23, 26-28, 31-35, and those parts of Sec. 24, 25, and 36 west of U.S. Hwy. 385
T31N R49W: Sec. 1-24, 28-**3335**, and those parts of Sec. 26 and 27 north of Table Road
T30N R49W: Sec. 4-6

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T31N R48W: Sec. 18-20, and those parts of Sec. 6-8 and 17 west of U.S. Hwy. 385

C03.12F3 Unit 3 – The following lands in Dawes and Sheridan counties, except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T35N R47W: Sec. 25, 33-36
T35N R46W: Sec. 20, 21, 26, 28-33, 35; N½ of Sec. 27
T35N R44W: Sec. 25-26, 32-35; E½ of Sec. 27,
T35N R43W: Sec. 20-23, 26-~~33~~34
T34N R47W: Sec. 1-3, 10-12, 21, 27-28, 34-35
T34N R46W: Sec. 1-2, 5-9, 11-18, 20, W ½ of Sec. 21, 23-26, W ½ of Sec. 28, E ½ 29, 31-36
T34N R45W: Sec. 2, 7-11, 13-24, 25, 27-33
T34N R44W: Sec. 1-4, 9-31, 34-36; NE¼ and S½ of Sec. 5, NE¼ and the S½ of Sec. 8, W½ of Sec. 32, E½ of Sec. 33
T34N R43W: Sec. 3-8, 18, 30
T33N R48W: Sec. 35-36
T33N R47W: Sec. 1-4, 12-13, 21-36
T33N R46W: Sec. 1-2, 5-35; S½ of Sec. 4
T33N R45W: Sec. 1, 4-10, 12, 14, 17-20, 23, 25-34; S½ of Sec. 3, N½ of Sec. 13, E½ of Sec. 15, NE¼ of Sec. 22, E½ of Sec. 24
T33N R44W: Sec. 1-3, 6-9, ~~11-12, 14~~11-14, 16-20, 22, ~~23~~23, 30-31
T32N R48W: Sec. 1-3, 9-14, 22-26, 30-33, 36
T32N R47W: Sec. 1-32
T32N R46W: Sec. 2-11, 15, 17-20, 29-30
T31N R48W: Sec. 1-3, 5, 10-12, 15; all of Sec. 6 east of U.S. Hwy. 385, N½ of Sec. 13, W½ of Sec. 16, those parts of Sec. 17 that lie east of U.S. Hwy. 385
T31N R47W: Sec. 5-7; 11, S½ of Sec. 18, 29, 28, E½ of Sec. 29, 31-36, S½ of Sec. 14, NW¼ and the N½ of the NE¼ of Sec. 27
T30N R48W: Sec. 9-12, 15, 23
T30N R47W: Sec. 7-8
T29N R47W: Sec. 10, 15, 22

C03.12F4 Unit 4 – The following lands in Banner, Cheyenne, Morrill, Garden and Scotts Bluff counties, except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone:

T21N R57W: Sec. 33-35
T20N R57W: Sec. 4-5, 8-9, 34; ~~N½ of Sec.~~ N½ of Sec. 35
T20N R56W: Sec. 9-10, 13-17, 20-29, 33-36; SE ¼ of Sec. 19
T20N R55W: Sec. 22; E½ of Sec. 21, W½ of Sec. 23, 30
T19N R57W: N½ of Sec. 1, NE¼ of Sec. 2

T19N R56W: Sec. 4-6, 16-17
T19N R54W: Sec. 6-7
T19N R48W: Sec. 13; S½ of Sec. 11, S½ of Sec. 12, 35-36
T18N R57W: Sec. 1, 18-20, 24; W½ of Sec. 17
T18N R56W: Sec. 16, 19, 24, 25
T18N R55W: Sec. S ½ 17, 20, 21, 29, 30
T18N R54W: Sec. 8-9, 13-15, 17-24, 27-29
T18N R53W: Sec. 13-29, 32-36
T18N R52W: Sec. 1, 10, 12-36
T18N R51W: Sec. 15-21, 28-33; S½ of Sec. 9
T18N R49W: Sec. 14, 15, 22, 23
T18N R48W: Sec. 1-3, 109-11, 22, 26-27, 33; NE¼ and S½ of Sec. 9, N½ of Sec. 15, W½ of Sec. 23
T18N R47W: Sec. 30-31
T17N R57W: Sec. 10, 22, 24-25; S½ and NW¼ of Sec. 3, **W ½ of 14**, N½ of Sec. 15
T17N R53W: Sec. 1-6, 8-17
T17N R52W: Sec. 1-12, 14-18, 22; N ½ Sec. 23, 27
T17N R51W: Sec. 4-10
T17N R50W: Sec. 26
T17N R48W: Sec. 1-3, 11-13, N½ of Sec. 14
T17N R47W: Sec. 7-8, 15, 16, 22, 28
T17N R45W: **E½ of Sec. 8, those portions of Sec. 9 south of NE Hwy. 26, those portions of Sec. 13 south of Hwy 26, those portions of the N½ of Sec. 16 north of the North Platte River, N½ of Sec. 15, 24, 27 Sec. 8, 15, 16, 24 and those portions of Sec. 9 south of NE Hwy. 26, portions of section 10 south of NE Hwy. 26, portions of Sec. 13 south of NE Hwy 26 and portions of Sec. 14 south of Hwy 26.**
T17N R44W: Sec. 30, 32, 33 and Sec. 19 south of NE Hwy 26.
T16N R47W: Sec. 22, 28
T16N R44W: Sec. 18, 19, 26
T16N R43W: Sec. 3, 7, 10-11, 14-15, 14-18, 22-23, 25-27, 34-36; Sec. 14 south of U.S. Hwy. 26
T16N R42W: Sec. 29-32; SW¼ of Sec. 28
T15N R43W: Sec. 1
T15N R42W: Sec. 5-6, N½ of Sec. 7, 8

C03.12F5 Unit 5 – The following lands in Dawson, Frontier, Hayes and Lincoln counties, except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone:

T13N R26W Sec. 5
T12N R30W: Sec. 24-25, 35-36
T12N R29W: Sec. 9-16, 21-29, 32-36
T12N R28W: Sec. 17-21, 26-36
T11N R30W: Sec. 1-2, 11-15, 24-25, 36

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T11N R29W: Sec. 1-5, 8-36
T11N R28W: Sec. 1-36
T11N R27W: Sec. 36
T10N R31W Sec. 33,34,36
T10N R29W: Sec. 1-6, 9-17, 21-2821-29, 32, 36 32-36
T10N R28W: Sec. 1-36
T10N R27W: Sec. 1-2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 23-3524-35
T10N R26W: Sec. 5-6 8, 15-16-17, 22-27, 34-36
T10N R25W: Sec. 16, 19-20, 29-31, 34
T9N R31W: Sec. 2-31-4, 10-14, 21-28, 35-36
T9N R30W: Sec. 1, 12-13
T9N R29W: Sec. 1-7, 8-18, 20-27, 34-36
T9N R28W: Sec. 3-10, 15-22, 27-34
T9N R27W: Sec. 3-4, 6-10, 17-22, 25-26, 28-29, 35-36
T9N R26W: Sec. 1-3
T9N R25W: Sec. 2-3, 9
T8N R31W: Sec. 1-34, 10-15, 22-26, 35-36
T8N R30W: Sec. 5-8, 15-22, 25-26, 29-36
T8N R29W: Sec. 2, 11
T7N R31W: Sec. 1
T7N R30W: Sec. 2-6, 8-16

C03.12F6 Unit 6 – The following lands in Cherry and Keya Paha counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T34N R35W: Sec. 35-36
T34N R34W: Sec. 31-32
T34N R32W: Sec. 13-36
T34N R31W: Sec. 14-23, 25-36
T34N R26W: Sec. 1-6; 8-16, 21-24; N½ of Sec. 7
T34N R25W: Sec. 2-11, 14-21, 23-26, 28, 33-35; N½ & SE¼ of Sec. 22, E½ of Sec. 27, 28, and Sec. 29 west of Sparks River Road and north of the Niobrara River
T34N R24W: Sec. 33-34
T34N R30W: Sec. 26-35
T33N R35W: Sec. 1-2, 11-12
T33N R34W: Sec. 4-10, 13-25
T33N R33W: Sec. 19-21, 25-36
T33N R32W: Sec. 1-36
T33N R31W: Sec. 1-36
T33N R25W: Sec. 1, 2
T33N R24W: Sec. 3-4, 9-10, 15
T33N R30W: Sec. 2-11, 14-23, 26-35
T32N R31W: those portions of Sec. 1-6 north of Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest

T32N R30W: those portions of Sec. 6 north of Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest

C03.12F7 Unit 7 – The following lands in Keya Paha, Brown and Boyd counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T35N R12W: Sec. 22-27, 35-36
T35N R11W: Sec. 19-36
T35N R10W: Sec. 19-21, 28-34
T34N R11W: Sec. 1-2, 12-13
T34N R10W: Sec. 3-11, 14-18
T33N R23W: Sec. 13-14, 23-26, 35-36
T33N R22W: Sec. 18-19, 28-34
T33N R20W: Sec. 26, 34-35
T33N R19W: Sec. 14, 19, 21-23, 30-34
T33N R18W: Sec. 28-29, 32-33
T33N R17W: Sec. 28, 33 North of Niobrara River
T32N R23W: Sec. 1-2 North of Niobrara River
T32N R22W: Sec. 4-6 all North of Niobrara River, 26-28, 34-35
T32N R20W: Sec. 1-3, 10-15, 20-24 north of the Niobrara River
T32N R19W: Sec. 1- 22
T32N R18W: Sec. 5-8, 14, 23-25
T32N R17W: Sec. 30, 31
T31N R23W: Sec. 1, 12
T31N R22W: Sec. 3, 10
T30N R21W: Sec. 3, 10-11, 15

C03.12F8 Unit 8 – The following lands in Box Butte, Morrill and Sioux counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T28N R52W: Sec. 25-26, 35
T28N R51W: Sec. 30-31
T28N R48W: Sec. 33-34
T27N R52W: Sec. 1-2, 10-11, 36
T27N R51W: Sec. 6, 30-31
T27 R50: Sec. 2, 3, 10
T27N R49W: Sec 11,12
T26N R52W: Sec. 1-4, 11-12
T26N R51W: Sec. 6-7
T25N R50W: Sec. 22, 27
T24N R51W: Sec. S½ 31
T23N R51W: Sec. 5-8, 17-18

C03.12F9 Unit 9 – The following lands in Sheridan and Cherry counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T31N R46W: Sec. S½ of Sec. 10, 32, 35

T31N R42W: Sec 2, 11, 14, 23

T30N R46W: Sec. 1-21-3, 11-12, 24-25

T30N R45W: Sec. 7, 16-18, 19-21, 29-30

T30N R44W: Sec. S½ of 26, 27-28, 31-34; N½ of Sec. 35

T30N R43W: Sec. 15-1615-19, 22, 32-3330-33

T29N R46W: Sec. 20, 29

T29N R44W: Sec 1-4,9,10

T29N R43W: Sec. 3-5

T28N R45W: Sec. 22-23

C03.12F10 Unit 10 – The following lands in Cherry county, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T27N R37W: Sec. 9

T27N R36W: Sec. 17, 20, 23-24, 25-27

T26N R37W: Sec. 12-13

T26N R36W: Sec. 4-6, 12-14

T26N R35W: Sec. 8-10, 14, 32-36

T25N R37W: Sec. 1-2,12

C03.12F11 Unit 11 – The following lands in Banner, Kimball and Cheyenne counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T17N R56W: Sec. 32-33

T16N R57W: Sec. 17-18

T16N R56W: Sec. 6, 34

T16N R52W: Sec. 4, 11

T16N R51W: Sec. 4-5

T14N R53W: Sec. 11, W½ of Sec. 15, N½ of Sec. 22

C03.12F12 Unit 12 – The following lands in Lincoln, Perkins and Keith counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T13N R37W: Sec. 13, 25, 28, 35, 36

T13N R36W: Sec. 10, 23, 28-29, 30-33

T13N R35W Sec. 22, 27

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T13N R34W: Sec. 2-4, 7-10, 15-18
T12N R38W: Sec. 11-12
T12N R37W: Sec. 1-4, 9-24
T12N R36W: Sec. 1, 4, 15, 31
T12N R35W: Sec. 12-13
T12N R34W: Sec. 10-11
T12N R33W: Sec. 7-8, 17-20
T11N R36W: Sec. 6

C03.12F13 Unit 13¹ – The following lands in Gosper, Dundy, Furnas and Frontier counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T6N R25W: Sec. 13, 23-26, 35
T6N R24W: Sec. 17-22, 25, 29-34
T6N R23W: Sec. 17, 20-21, 25, 30-33
T5N R24W: Sec. 3-5, 9
T5N R23W: Sec. 2-5, 8, 10-12
T3N R40W: Sec. 36
T2N R36W: Sec. 23, 26, 27, 32
T3N R25W: Sec. 10, 14-16, 21-27, 35-36
T3N R24W: Sec. 30-31

C03.12F14 Unit 14 – The following lands in Garfield, Nance, Boone and Custer counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T22N R15W: Sec. 10-15, 2221-24, 34
T21N R15W: Sec. 3,4, 8,9,10, 17
T20N R17W: Sec. 17, 20-22, 29, 32
T18N R7W: Sec. 26,27,34-36
T17N R7W: Sec. 3,11,14
T17N R6W: Sec. 3,6-10

C03.12F15 Unit 132 – The following lands in Gosper, Dawson, Furnas and Frontier counties, except any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

T9N R22W: Sec. 24,36
T8N R22W: Sec. 1,2,12
T8N R21W: Sec. 6,8-10,15-17
T7N R22W: Sec. 9,10,15,22,23,26,28,34,35
T6N R25W: Sec. 13, 23-26, 35
T6N R24W: Sec. 11, 14, 17-22, 25, 29-34

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T6N R23W: Sec. 17, 20-21, 25, 30-33
T5N R24W: Sec. 3-5, 9
T5N R23W: Sec. 2-5, 8, 10-12
T3N R25W: Sec. 10, 14-16, 21-27, 35-36
T3N R24W: Sec. 30-31
T3N R18W: Sec. 33-35
T2N R18W: Sec. 2, 11

C03.13 Elk – Special Area Provisions

C03.13A The Garden County Game Refuge: Hunting for elk shall be permitted on the Garden County Game Refuge, as described in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-706, from August 1 through October 31.

C03.1314 Nonresident Deer Permit Quota

C03.1314A The sales of Nonresident Either Sex and Buck Only deer permits shall not exceed 10,000 total permits combined. Youth and Landowner deer permits are exempt from this quota.