



2024-2025 Mule Deer Quota Recommendation Forms
(Accompanies Commission Regulation 24-12)

Mule Deer Quota Recommendation Form

Unit Group: 101-109

Date Prepared: 4/5/2024

Herd Results

Year	Fall Survey			Total	Spring Survey		Total	Postseason Ratios (observed)			Spring Ratio (obs)	Modeled Buck Ratio		Pop Est (Sept)
	Buck	Doe	Fawn		Adult	Fawn		Buck	Fawn	F:Ad		F:Ad	Postseas	
2021-2022				0	4,616	1,596	6,212	--	--	--	35	36	48	13,500
2022-2023	1,084	3,309	1,934	6,327	5,015	1,185	6,200	33	58	44	24	36	38	10,800
2023-2024	412	1,056	623	2,091	3,353	990	4,343	39	59	42	30	38	48	10,700

Harvest Results

Year	Archery Success (%)		Muzzleloader Success (%)	Any-Legal-Weapon Success (%)			Avg. Age	4-Pt or Greater (%)	Total Antlerless Harvest	NR Guided Success (%)	Junior Success (%)	Comp Tag Success (%)
	E	L		E	M	L						
2021-2022	13%	25%	15%	28%	30%	59%		32%	156	49%	48	78%
2022-2023	10%	20%	26%	25%	27%	43%		26%	111	64%	51	93%
2023-2024	10%	14%	13%	18%	18%	31%		27%	56	50%	33	65%

Approved (Previous Year) and Recommended (Current Year) Tag Quota

Year	Archery Hunt		Muzzleloader Hunt		Early ALW Hunt		Mid ALW Hunt		Late ALW Hunt		Antlerless Hunt	Junior Hunt	NR Guided Hunt	Comp Tags
	RES	NR	RES	NR	RES	NR	RES	NR	RES	NR				
2022-2023	690, 30	70, 3	220	16	1,050	75	1,050	65	180	10	50	600	28,35,6	19
2023-2024	460, 45	50, 2	75	8	450	25	450	7	100	4	15	400	41,38,6	20
2024-2025	400, 15	45, 2	200	20	450	42	450	35	111	7	0	230	10,16,4	16
Tag Trend	DEC	DEC	INC	INC	=	INC	=	INC	INC	INC	DEC	DEC	DEC	DEC

Quota Rationale

Conservative quotas last year in response to the extreme winter of 2022-2023, led to the harvest of 407 deer, consisting of 351 antlered and 56 antlerless deer, which was significantly lower than the previous 10-year mean of 1,132 deer. The 2023 buck harvest was the lowest ever, representing only 58% of the previous low annual harvest. The extremely conservative quota in 2023 of 1,580 resident buck tags was the second lowest quota on record since the inception of the quota process in 1976. The buck ratio took a considerable jump during post-season aerial survey which is well above management objective. This can be attributed to the very conservative tag quota in 2023, the low hunter success, and above average fawn recruitment. Modeling adjustments were made following the conclusion of last winter after understanding its full effects to the deer herd. Because of this, the population was modeled up slightly and the published population estimate in 2023 does not reflect those modeling adjustments. Quota recommendations are similar in total buck tags from last year with the exception of muzzleloader and junior tags. The recommended total buck tags is still significantly lower than historical tag quotas. This recommendation is based on a post-season objective of 40 bucks:100 does which is well above the management objective of 30 bucks:100 does. With another extremely conservative quota recommendation and an anticipated large fawn crop this year, a significant tag increase may be warranted next year. This hunting season will also be the first to eliminate antlerless hunts in multiple decades in Area 10.

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