

2015 - JCR Evaluation Form

SPECIES: White tailed Deer

PERIOD: 6/1/2015 - 5/31/2016

HERD: WD201 - BIGHORN BASIN

HUNT AREAS: 35, 37, 39-41, 46-47, 50-53, 105-106, 109-125, 127, 164-165

PREPARED BY: LESLIE SCHREIBER

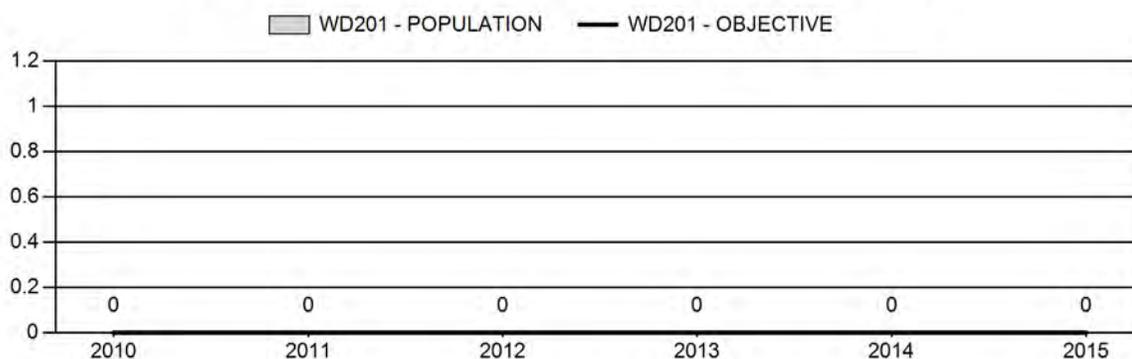
	<u>2010 - 2014 Average</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016 Proposed</u>
Population:	0	N/A	N/A
Harvest:	2,196	1,725	2,000
Hunters:	4,614	3,964	4,100
Hunter Success:	48%	44%	49 %
Active Licenses:	5,575	4,650	5,000
Active License Success:	39%	37%	40 %
Recreation Days:	21,588	17,585	20,000
Days Per Animal:	9.8	10.2	10
Males per 100 Females	34	0	
Juveniles per 100 Females	73	0	

Population Objective (\pm 20%) :	0 (0 - 0)
Management Strategy:	Recreational
Percent population is above (+) or below (-) objective:	N/A%
Number of years population has been + or - objective in recent trend:	0
Model Date:	03/10/2016

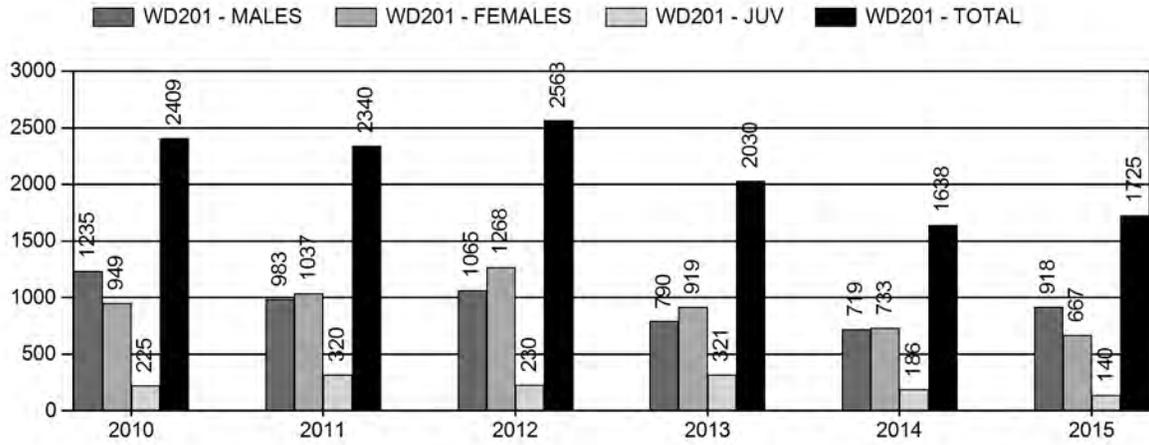
Proposed harvest rates (percent of pre-season estimate for each sex/age group):

	<u>JCR Year</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Females \geq 1 year old:	na%	na%
Males \geq 1 year old:	na%	na%
Juveniles (< 1 year old):	na%	na%
Total:	na%	na%
Proposed change in post-season population:	na%	na%

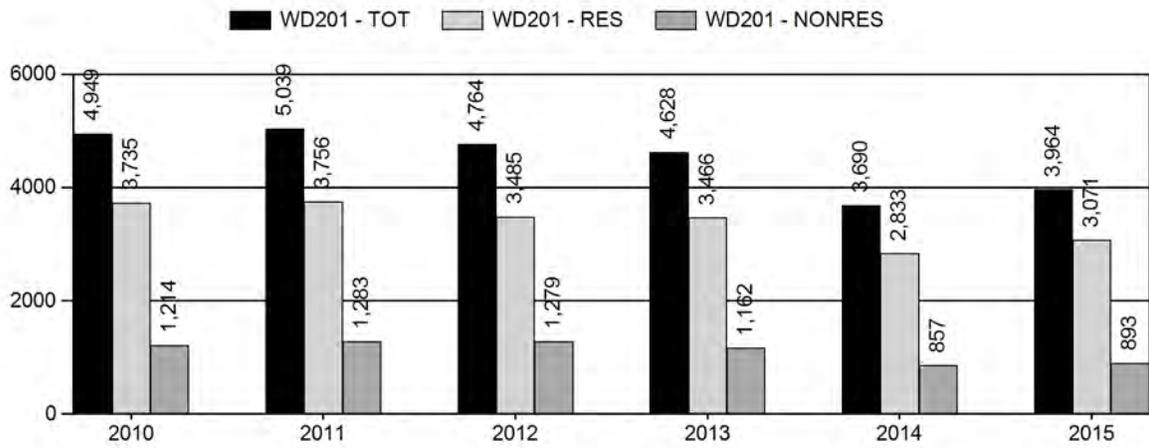
Population Size - Postseason



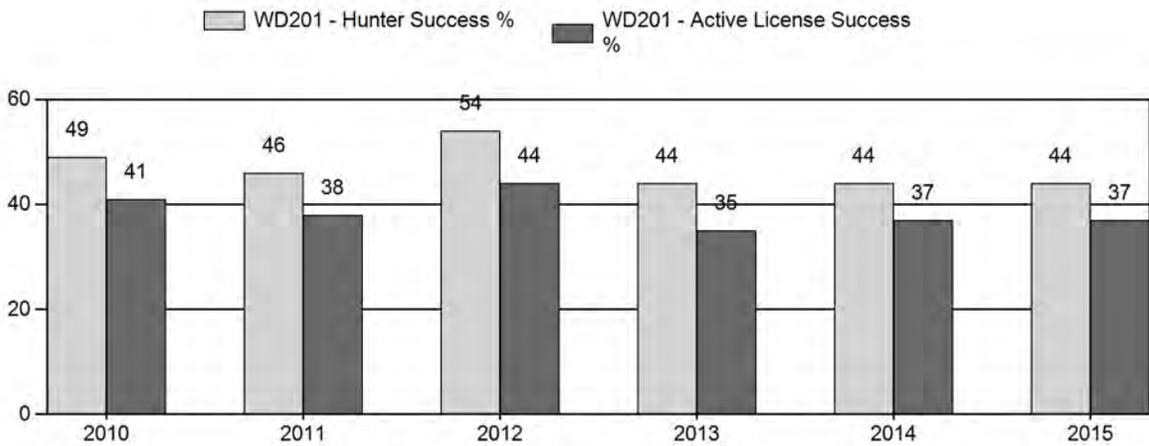
Harvest



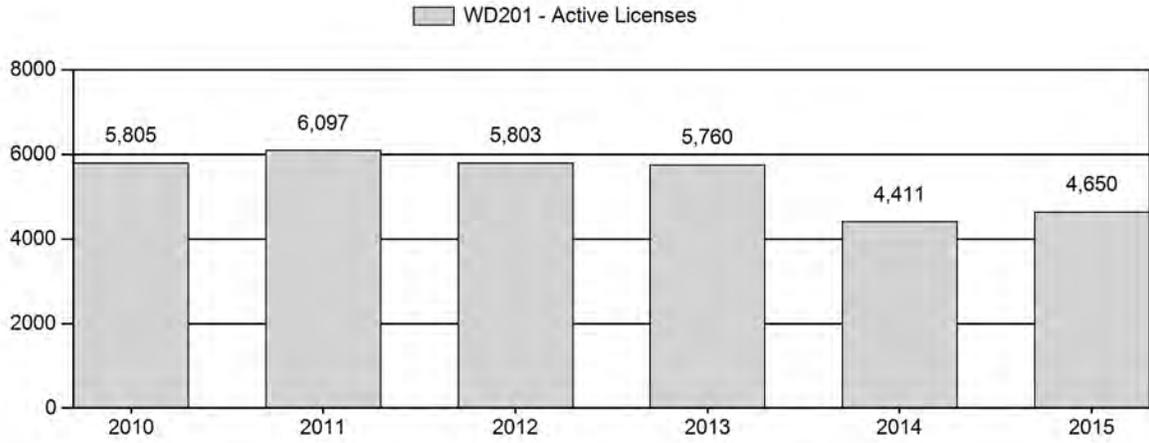
Number of Hunters



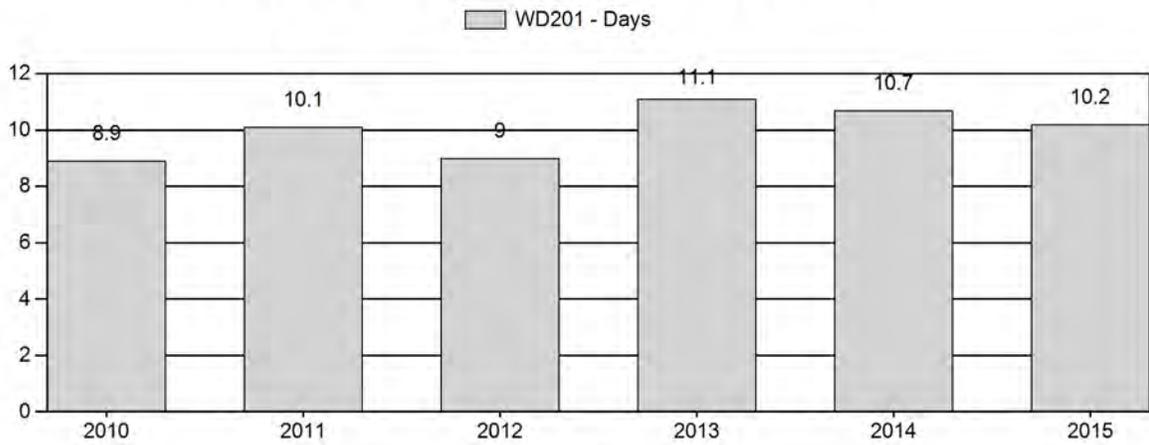
Harvest Success



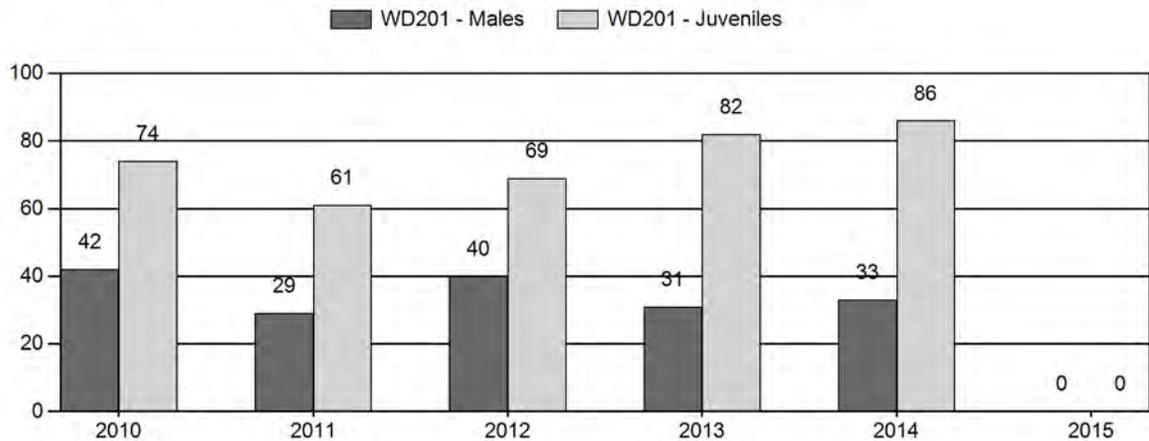
Active Licenses



Days per Animal Harvested



Postseason Animals per 100 Females



2010 - 2015 Postseason Classification Summary

for White tailed Deer Herd WD201 - BIGHORN BASIN

Year	Post Pop	MALES				FEMALES		JUVENILES		Tot Cls	Cls Obj	Males to 100 Females				Young to		
		Ylg	Adult	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%			Ylng	Adult	Total	Conf Int	100 Fem	Conf Int	100 Adult
2010	0	34	49	126	19%	300	46%	221	34%	647	0	11	16	42	±0	74	±0	52
2011	0	45	120	165	15%	571	53%	346	32%	1,082	0	8	21	29	±0	61	±0	47
2012	0	35	58	93	19%	234	48%	162	33%	489	1,109	15	25	40	±0	69	±0	50
2013	0	40	63	103	15%	330	47%	270	38%	703	0	12	19	31	±0	82	±0	62
2014	0	45	72	117	15%	359	46%	309	39%	785	0	13	20	33	±0	86	±0	65
2015	0	35	62	97	17%	279	49%	195	34%	571	0	13	22	35	±0	70	±0	52

**2016 HUNTING SEASONS
BIGHORN BASIN WHITE-TAILED DEER (WD201)**

Hunt Area	Type	Season Dates		Quota	License	Limitations
		Opens	Closes			
36	8	Oct. 15	Oct. 31	25	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
37	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
40	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
41	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	75	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
41	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	75	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
47, 51	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
47	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
51	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
110, 111	8	Oct. 15	Dec. 31	100	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
112, 113	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
112, 113	8	Oct. 15	Dec. 31	100	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
116, 117, 118	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	100	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
116	7	Sep. 1	Oct. 14	100	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer valid on private land in the Wood River drainage
116, 117, 118	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	100	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
119, 120	3	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
120	8	Sep. 1	Dec. 15	150	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
121	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
122	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
124	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
124	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer
127	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
164	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
165	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota	Any white-tailed deer
165	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	100	Limited quota	Doe or fawn white-tailed deer

Hunt Area	License Type	Quota change from 2015
37	3	+10
41	3	+25
41	8	+25
116, 117, 118	8	+25
120	8	+50
122	3	-25
127	3	+10
Herd Unit	3	+20
Total	8	+100

Management Evaluation

Current Postseason Population Management Objective: none

Management Strategy: Recreational

2015 Postseason Population Estimate: none

2016 Proposed Postseason Population Estimate: none

2015 Hunter Satisfaction: 66% Satisfied, 19% Neutral, 15% Dissatisfied

Herd Unit Issues

All white-tailed deer within the Bighorn Basin are managed as one herd unit consisting of 33 hunt areas. Hunting seasons for white-tailed deer are typically set in conjunction with mule deer hunting seasons by Hunt Area. Some opportunity exists for licenses exclusive to white-tailed bucks such as Type 3 licenses. White-tailed deer in the Basin are managed to minimize crop depredation using Type 8 licenses. The herd is managed for recreational hunting. Blue tongue and epizootic hemorrhagic disease occurred in 2001, 2007, and 2011, sometimes severely reducing white-tailed deer numbers. With no population estimate of white-tailed deer, however, estimating the percent of population affected by mortality was never attempted. Anecdotally, white-tailed deer populations quickly rebounded from disease outbreaks.

Weather

Despite drought conditions occurring across Wyoming in 2000-04 and again in 2012, white-tailed deer in the Bighorn Basin are only marginally affected, because they occur along riparian areas and irrigated crop lands. The main influence of weather on this herd is probably realized through impacts on gnat populations that carry diseases.

Habitat

White-tailed deer are limited to riparian and agricultural lands along major streams. Some white-tailed deer have been observed in forested and other non-typical habitats. Urban development in riparian areas or on retired farm land, especially along the Shoshone River, may impact the amount of habitat available for white-tailed deer. However, white-tailed deer seem to be adaptable to human activity.

Field Data and Harvest Data

Not enough data is collected to draw conclusions from classification data. White-tailed deer classification data is collected incidentally to mule deer classification data. Harvest data typically follows number of licenses issued and does not provide an index to population level.

Population

Too little data is collected on white-tailed deer in the Bighorn Basin to justify creation of a population model. With no population model, there is no population estimate or objective.

Management Summary

White-tailed deer hunting seasons will continue to be set to address landowner concerns. White-tailed deer specific licenses are needed to obtain adequate harvest. Harvest rates probably do not greatly affect the overall population. More licenses for bucks and does will be issued for 2016, because the white-tailed deer population in the Bighorn Basin is recovering from disease, and landowners are expressing concerns over white-tailed deer numbers on croplands.