

2013 - JCR Evaluation Form

SPECIES: White tailed Deer

PERIOD: 6/1/2013 - 5/31/2014

HERD: WD504 - SOUTHEAST WYOMING

HUNT AREAS: 16, 55, 57, 59-64, 70, 73-81, 83, 161

PREPARED BY: MARTIN HICKS

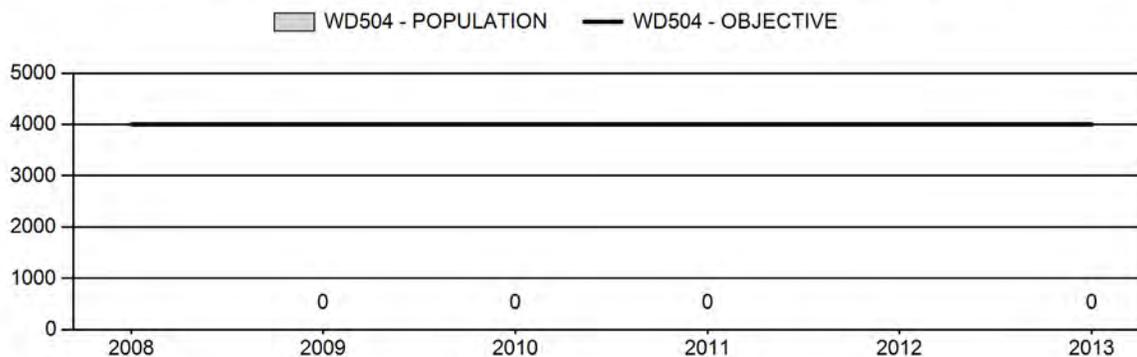
	<u>2008 - 2012 Average</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014 Proposed</u>
Population:	0	N/A	N/A
Harvest:	708	722	800
Hunters:	1,962	1,792	1,925
Hunter Success:	36%	40%	42 %
Active Licenses:	2,102	2,014	2,125
Active License Percent:	34%	36%	38 %
Recreation Days:	7,575	7,711	7,900
Days Per Animal:	10.7	10.7	9.9
Males per 100 Females	42	32	
Juveniles per 100 Females	67	62	

Population Objective:	4,000
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:	None

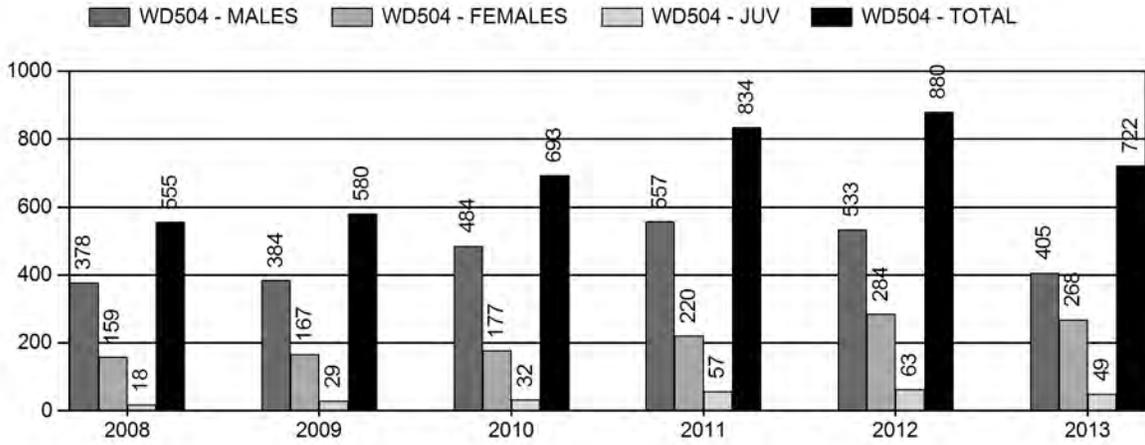
Proposed harvest rates (percent of pre-season estimate for each sex/age group):

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

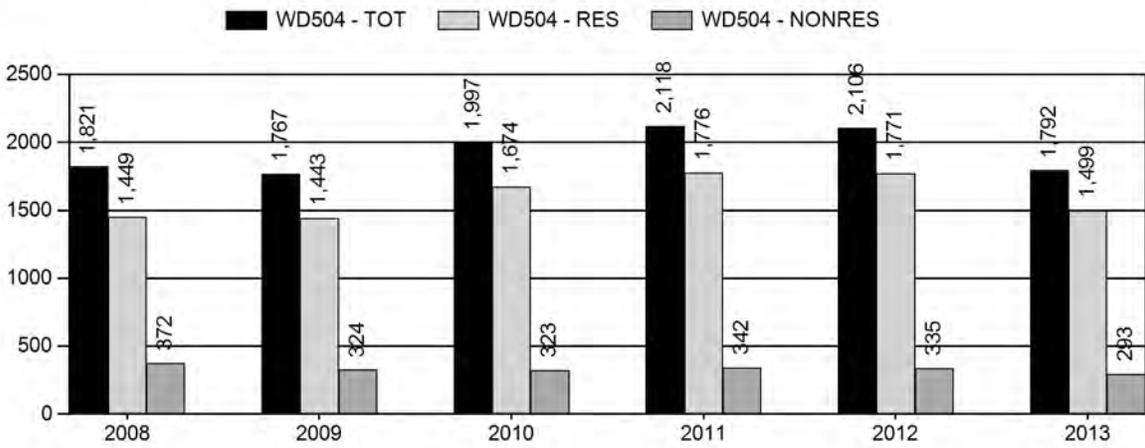
Population Size - Postseason



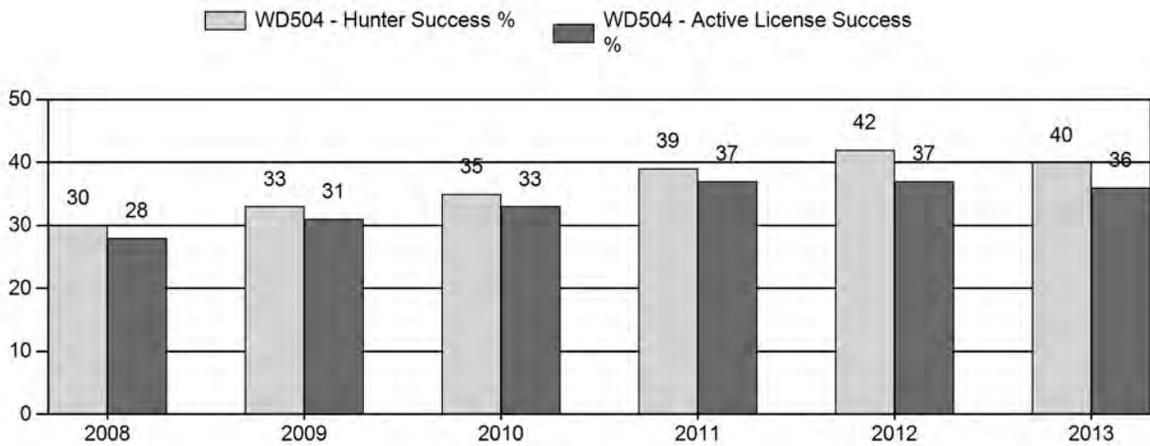
Harvest



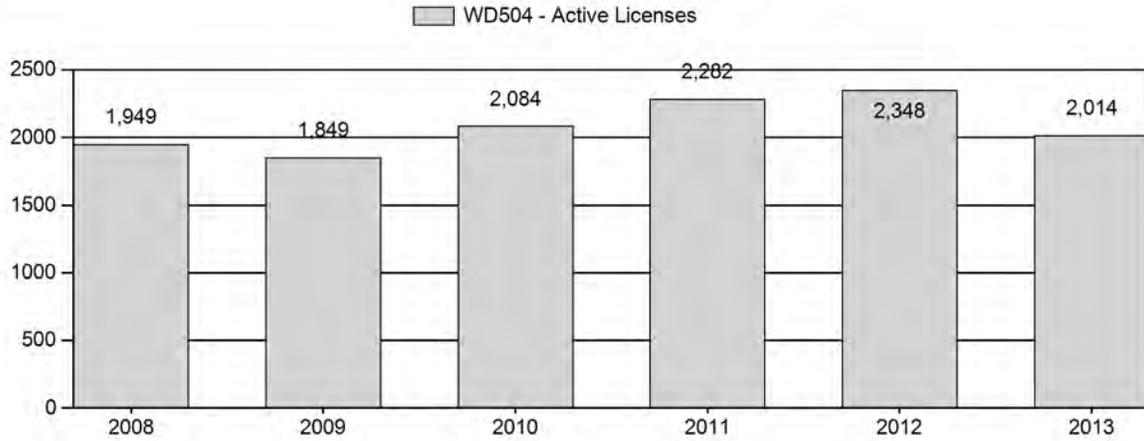
Number of Hunters



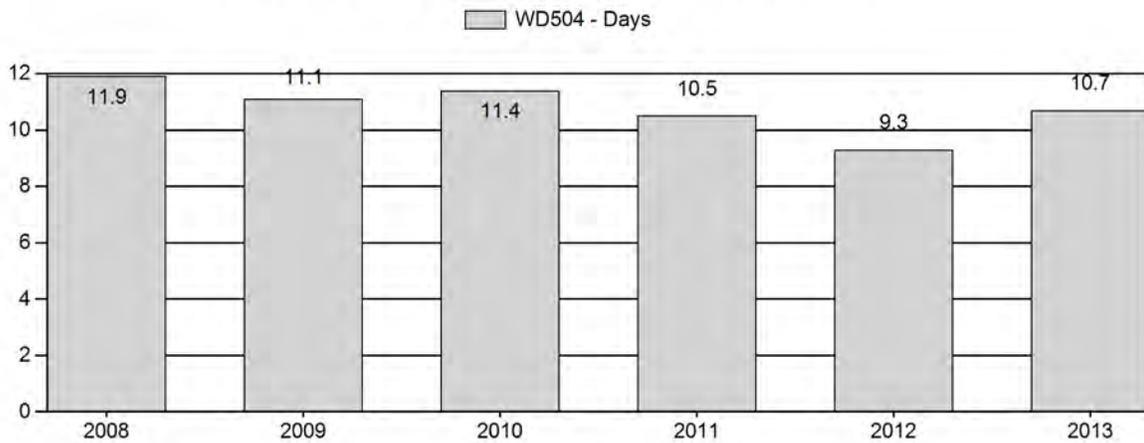
Harvest Success



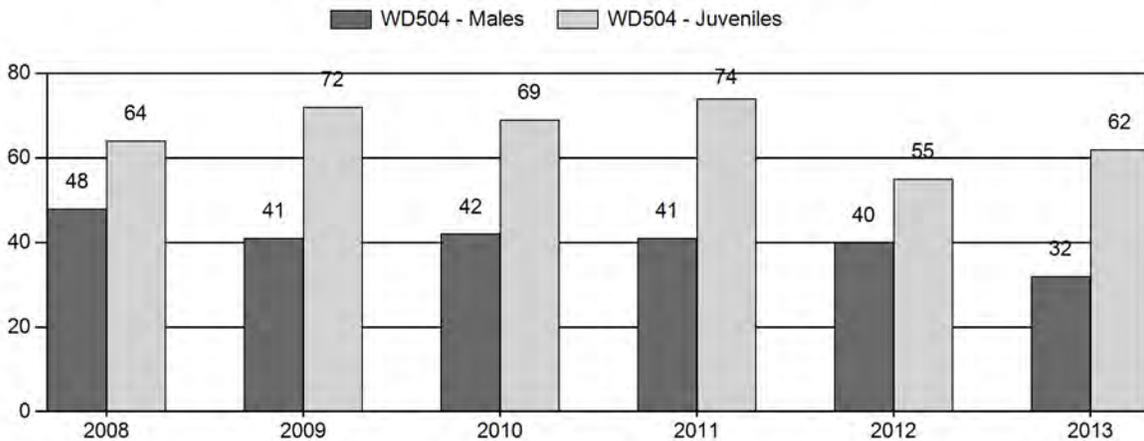
Active Licenses



Days per Animal Harvested



Postseason Animals per 100 Females



2008 - 2013 Postseason Classification Summary

for White tailed Deer Herd WD504 - SOUTHEAST WYOMING

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
2008	0	65	105	170	23%	351	47%	224	30%	745	0	19	30	48	± 0	64	± 0	43
2009	0	50	96	146	19%	358	47%	257	34%	761	0	14	27	41	± 0	72	± 0	51
2010	0	38	72	110	20%	265	47%	183	33%	558	1,165	14	27	42	± 0	69	± 0	49
2011	0	54	148	202	19%	497	47%	367	34%	1,066	1,070	11	30	41	± 0	74	± 0	53
2012	0	38	93	131	21%	324	51%	179	28%	634	1,088	12	29	40	± 0	55	± 0	39
2013	0	34	75	109	17%	336	51%	208	32%	653	0	10	22	32	± 0	62	± 0	47

2014 HUNTING SEASONS
SOUTHEAST WYOMING WHITE-TAILED DEER HERD (WTD504)

Hunt Area	Type	Dates of Seasons		Quota	Limitations
		Opens	Closes		
15	3	Nov. 1 Dec. 1	Nov. 30 Dec. 31	275	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer Unused Type 3 licenses valid for doe or fawn white-tailed deer
	8	-Oct. 1	Dec. 31	250	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
59,60,62,63 64	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	150	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer, all lands within Curt Gowdy State Park, archery only; the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission's Tom Thorne/Beth Williams Wildlife Research Center at Sybille (Sybille Wildlife Research Unit) south of Wyoming Highway 34 shall be closed
		Dec. 1	Dec.-31		Unused Area 59, 60, 62, 63, 64 Type 3 licenses valid for doe or fawn white-tailed deer in Area 63 and Area 64
59,60,62,63, 64	8	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	125	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer, except the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission's Tom Thorne/Beth Williams Wildlife Research Center at Sybille (Sybille Wildlife Research Unit) south of Wyoming Highway 34 shall be closed; all lands within Curt Gowdy State Park, archery only
70, 74	3	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
75,76,77	3	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
78,79,80, 81, 161	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
	8	Sept. 1	Dec. 15	25	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
Archery		Sept. 1	Sept. 30		Refer to Section 3 of this Chapter.

Hunt Area	Type	Quota change from 2013
16,55 15	3	+125
16,55 15	8	+100
57	3	-75
57	8	-75
59,60,62-64	3	0
59,60,62-64	8	+50
70, 74	3	+25
75,76,77	3	0
78-81,161	3	0
78-81, 161	8	0
Total	3	+75
	8	+75

Management Evaluation

Current Management Objective: 4,000

Management Strategy: Recreational

2013 Post-season Population Estimate: Unknown

2014 Post-season Population Estimate: Unknown

The management objective for the Southeast Wyoming Herd Unit is a post-season population objective of 4,000 white-tailed deer. The management strategy is recreational management. The objective and management strategy were last revisited in 1999 and is planned to be reviewed in 2015.

There is not a reliable post-season population estimate for white-tailed deer in the Laramie region. This is an open herd with Colorado and Nebraska so trying to model this herd would violate the assumption that this herd has less than 10% interchange. Given nature of watersheds for movement this does not seem plausible with more than 10% exchange within southeast Wyoming. Seasons are designed to provide opportunity during the mating period when male deer are more vulnerable to harvest. Management is driven primarily by local Department personnel field observations of population trend, harvest data, and landowner tolerance for this species.

Weather

Weather during 2013 and into 2014 was wetter and colder than normal. Post-season fawn ratios of 62 Juveniles:100 Females were higher than 2012 (55J:100F) but lower than the ten-year average (69J:100F). The mild winter conditions and above average summer/fall moisture likely contributed to the increase in fawn production. Winter conditions were somewhat mild with low snowpack but with periods of extreme cold temperatures, followed up with above freezing periods. Refer to the following websites for weather data: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/time-series/> and <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/research/prelim/drought/pdiimage.html>.

Habitat

There are no established habitat transects developed for this herd since their main source of diet comes from native rangelands that have been converted to croplands.

Field/Harvest Data

This herd will grow rapidly until densities become too high, then seasons are adjusted to try and bring the population down or an EHD outbreak occurs that reduces densities. Hunter success is typically around 30% with hunter effort running about 12 days per harvest. Hunting opportunity is limited to private land. Low success rates and increased hunter effort are likely a result of hunters trying to find a white-tailed deer on public land, or trying to harvest a deer during the general season when they are less vulnerable to harvest. Chronic wasting disease is found throughout the herd unit but how it impacts this herd unit is unknown. The long-term prevalence rate average is around 20%, but with a small sample size. Results from a study in Hunt Area 65 evaluating CWD impacts on white-tailed deer are scheduled to be published in the near future. There are a limited number of tooth samples so a reliable inference into population performance is not available.

The hunter satisfaction survey showed that 59% of the hunters were either satisfied or very satisfied, which is plausible given the late season opportunity for male deer.

Population

There is not a reliable post-season population estimate. This is an open herd with Colorado and Nebraska so trying to model this herd would violate the assumption that it is closed. Seasons are

designed to provide opportunity during the mating period when male deer are more vulnerable to harvest.

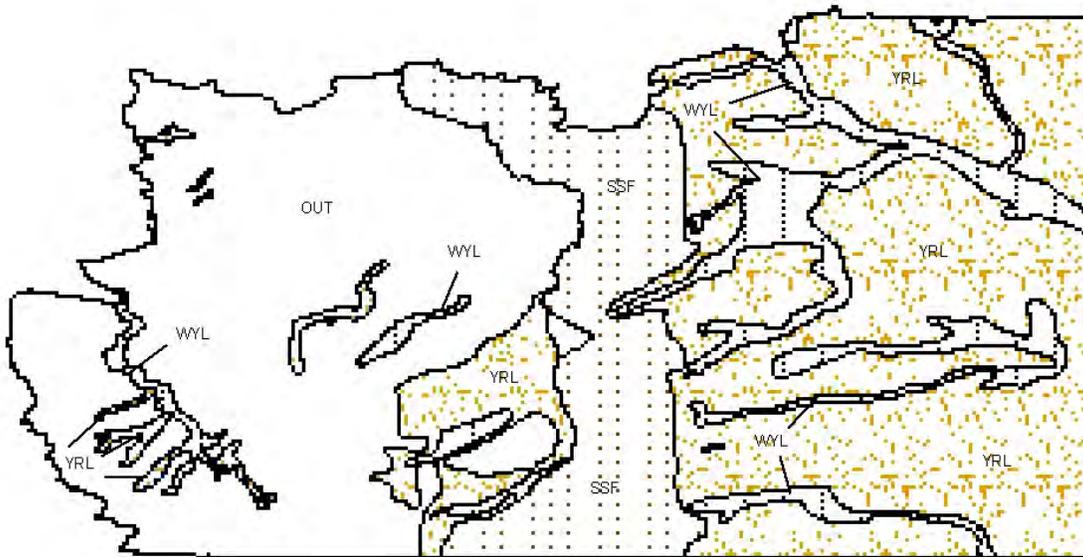
Management is driven primarily by local Department personnel field observations of population trend, harvest data, and landowner tolerance for this species.

There are not enough tooth samples collected in the field to infer any population dynamics.

Management Summary

Population trend varies on weather conditions and disease outbreaks. As densities become too high, the population will typically crash from an EHD outbreak. Severe winter conditions will also reduce white-tailed deer numbers if they go into the winter in poor condition. There have been no reports of winter mortalities. There was an EHD outbreak in 2012 that prompted a decrease in Type 8 licenses. However, given the ability of white-tailed deer to rebound quickly from an EHD outbreak the Type 3 licenses in Hunt Area 15 increased by 50. The Type 8 licenses in Hunt Areas 15 increased by 25 and the season length increased one month on the front end (Oct. 1). The Type 8 licenses in Hunt Areas 59, 60,62,63,64 increased by 50. Hunt areas 70,74 are split off from hunt areas 75-77 and added 25 Type 3 licenses.

For the 2014 season we will try to attain a harvest of approximately 800 white-tailed deer. Our objective is to provide opportunity and minimize damage.



White-tailed Deer (WT504) - Southeast Wyoming
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 Revised 10/99

