

CITY OF RAPID CITY

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
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RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

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To: Mayor Alan Hanks and City Council Members

From: Jerry W. Cole, Parks and Recreation Director

Subject: 2008/2009 Deer Harvest Program

Date: November 17, 2008

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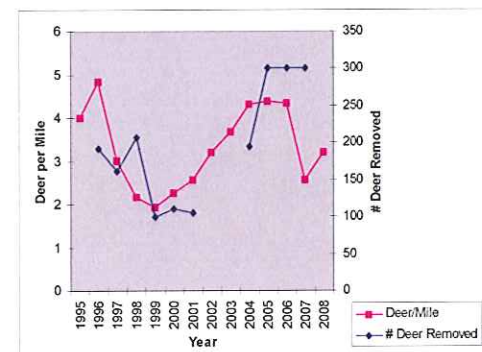
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The State Game, Fish & Parks Department conducted the annual deer survey in Rapid City from October 20-22, 2008. The total deer counted during the survey was 325. The attached summary gives specific information on locations, time of day, breed, and gender of the animals counted in the survey.

As illustrated in the graph, there was an increase in the number of deer counted during the 2008 Survey. The deer per mile count increased from 2.6 in 2007 to 3.22 in 2008.



These results were submitted to The City's Urban Wildlife Committee and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. After review, both the Committee and Advisory Board approved a recommendation that the City continue the deer harvest program and apply for 300 licenses in 2008.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Deer Program Summary 1996-2008

Deer Survey Summary

Season	North Route	Central Route	South Route	Total
1996	130	77	251	458
1997	75	52	161	288
1998	22	82	116	220
1999	68	36	84	188
2000	79	27	112	218
2001	98	33	121	252
2002	134	59	144	337
2003	139	73	191	403
2004	120	72	215	407
2005	173	111	194	478
2006	234	133	147	514
2007	132	109	76	317
2008	169	22	134	325

Deer Harvest Summary

Season	Expenses	Pounds Meat	Number of Deer Harvested	Number of Carcasses given away
1996-97	23,272.82	6088	192	
1997-98	21,825.39	7339	162	
1998-99	25,242.88	10,231	207	
99-2000	12,383.86	3978	100	
2000-01	12,952.08	2994	111	
2001-02	12,255.32	2893	106	
2002-03	0	0	0	0
2003-04	0	0	0	0
2004-05	21,554.63	0	200	199
2005-06	30,753.03	0	301	300
2006-07	31,093.39	0	300	299
2007-08	30,962.86	0	300	300
Totals	222,296.26	33,523	1979	1098

The 2008 Deer Survey was conducted between October 20th and October 22nd; twice in the evening and once in the morning.

Recommendation: Apply for 300 licenses for December and January deer management and if numbers stay steady or fall below an average of 100 in each area in 2009 survey, decrease licenses in 2009 to maintain manageable numbers at or below the 100 level.

Summary of Rapid City Deer Routes, 2008

Each of the three Rapid City deer routes were surveyed once per day for three consecutive days, October 20-22, 2008. On the 20th and 22nd routes were run during the evening with start times of approximately 5pm. On the 21st routes were run in the morning starting at approximately 7am. Routes were run from North to South.

Due to potential traffic problems during these time periods a driver and observer were used for each route. GFP Participants in the survey were: Luke Meduna, John Broeher, Steve Griffin, and Dennis Mann and 2 volunteers with the City Parks Dept.

Weather conditions:

Oct. 20: Daytime high temperature was 57, partly cloudy and winds 15-20mph.
 Oct. 21: Daytime high temperature was 55, clear and winds 10-15mph.
 Oct. 22: Daytime high temperature was 49, partly cloudy, windy during day, light winds during survey.

Moon phase: Last quarter

Length of Routes: North - Approximately 18 miles
 Central - Approximately 13 miles
 South - Approximately 14 miles

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Lin. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/20/2008 PM	North	0	14	9		64	7	7	9		129	46	2.56
	Central	0	2	2		100	0	1	2		200	7	0.54
	South	16	22	13		59	0	0	0		#DIV/0!	51	3.64
Totals		16	38	24	0	63	7	8	11	0	138	104	2.31

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Lin. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/21/2008 AM	North	3	2	2		100	1	24	15		63	47	2.61
	Central	1	1	2		200	2	1	0		0	7	0.54
	South	3	9	10		111	0	0	0		0	22	1.57
Totals		7	12	14	0	117	3	25	15	0	60	76	1.69

Date	Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Lin. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe		
10/22/2008 PM	North	4	10	7	5	70	5	22	23		105	76	4.22
	Central	2	3	3		100	0	0	0		#DIV/0!	8	0.62
	South	13	30	18		60	0	0	0		#DIV/0!	61	4.36
Totals		19	43	28	5	65	5	22	23	0	105	145	3.22

Route	Mule Deer					Whitetail Deer					Total Deer Counted	Deer per Lin. Mile	
	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Unk	Fawns/100Doe			
North	7	26	18	5	69	13	53	47	0	89	169	3.13	
Central	3	6	7	0	117	2	2	2	0	100	22	0.56	
South	32	61	41	0	67	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	134	3.19	
Totals		42	93	66	5	71	15	55	49	0	89	325	2.41

