

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
Publications

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

January 2008

2008 Nebraska Big Game Guide and Applications

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebgamepubs>



Part of the [Environmental Sciences Commons](#)

"2008 Nebraska Big Game Guide and Applications" (2008). *Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Publications*. 3.

<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebgamepubs/3>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

2008 Nebraska Big Game Guide and applications

- Bighorn Sheep • Deer
- Elk • Antelope



Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
2200 N. 33rd St. / P.O. Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503 (402) 471-0641

View all guides and get your permits online at
www.OutdoorNebraska.org

2008 Big Game Outlook

Record harvests occurred again during 2007 deer and elk seasons. Increasing populations will result in more opportunities for hunters in 2008.

Deer herds continue to grow, with increasing numbers of deer and older bucks in most areas. Hunters will see increased either-sex permits in some eastern units and record numbers of antlerless-only permits and bonus antlerless-only tags statewide.

Elk herds continue to grow. The Box Elder unit is expanded to include all of south central Nebraska.

Antelope numbers remain low, but buck quality and hunter success improved in most units. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will continue restrictive seasons until herd numbers, hunter success and age of bucks reach desired objectives.

The outlook for bighorn sheep is very good. The hunting season is again open as herds continue to recover from disease losses in 2005. The translocation of 51 Montana bighorn sheep to the Wildcat Hills in February 2007 brought the statewide population to approximately 220 animals.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Big Game Permits, Eligibility and Requirements | 3 |
| Big Game Permit Types | 4 |
| General Big Game Hunting Rules and Requirements | 7 |
| Deer | 12 |
| Bighorn Sheep | 32 |
| Elk | 33 |
| Antelope | 42 |

2008 BIG GAME SEASONS

Big Game Permit Required

| Species | Inclusive Dates |
|---|--|
| Antelope (archery) <small>(except closed in firearm units during firearm seasons)</small> | Aug. 20 - Nov. 14 & Nov. 24 - Dec. 31 |
| Antelope (muzzleloader) | Sept. 20 - Oct. 5 |
| Antelope (firearm) | Oct. 11 - 26 |
| Deer (archery) | Sept. 15 - Nov. 14 & Nov. 24 - Dec. 31 |
| Deer (November firearm) | Nov. 15 - 23 |
| Deer (muzzleloader) | Dec. 1 - 31 |
| Landowner Deer | Sept. 15 - Jan. 15 |
| Youth Deer | Sept. 15 - Jan. 15 |
| Season Choice Area (SCA) Deer | Sept. 15 - Jan. 15 |
| Elk (Boyd Unit) | Aug. 15 - Nov. 14 & Nov. 24 - Dec. 31 |
| Bull Elk (All Units except the Boyd Unit) | Sept. 27 - Oct. 26 |
| Antlerless Elk (All Units except the Boyd Unit) | Sept. 27 - Oct. 28 and Dec. 1 - 31 |
| Bighorn Sheep | Dec. 2 - 22 |

Big Game Permits, Eligibility and Requirements

NOTICE

This is a guide only. For sources, consult Nebraska statutes and official regulations.

In Nebraska, special permits are required to hunt big game. Additionally, a valid Nebraska Habitat Stamp is required to hunt all big game, except for hunters with landowner permits and resident youth under age 16. Big game hunters are not required to have a small game hunting permit in addition to the special big game permit. **A big game permit is valid only for the season, weapon and unit or area for which it is issued and may not be exchanged for another permit.**

Permits are not transferable or refundable.

RESIDENT PERMITS

All residents who hunt big game in Nebraska must have a valid big game permit. A valid Habitat Stamp is required for all hunters age 16 and older. A resident is a person who has resided in Nebraska continuously for 30 days or more prior to making application for a permit and who intends to become a resident of Nebraska. Nebraska residents attending school in another state, or stationed outside the state of Nebraska as part of a military assignment, may hunt big game with a resident big game permit only if they have maintained Nebraska as their state of legal residency. Military personnel and full-time students stationed or attending school in Nebraska for a period exceeding 30 days are eligible to obtain a resident permit. A new

resident should be prepared to provide documentation of residency (driver's license, voter registration, etc.) to an officer when in possession of a resident permit.

NONRESIDENT PERMITS

Nonresidents, regardless of age, must have a valid big game permit and a Habitat Stamp to hunt big game in Nebraska.

RESIDENT LANDOWNER PERMITS

All resident and nonresident hunters are limited to one landowner permit per species per year. To qualify for a limited permit to hunt deer or antelope, the applicant shall be a Nebraska resident who owns or leases 80 acres or more of farm or ranch land for agricultural purposes. The permit restricts hunting activities to the land owned/operated by the holder and described on the application. A Habitat Stamp is not required when hunting with a landowner permit. Landowner elk permits also are available, but different restrictions apply.

Members of a resident landowner's immediate family (husband, wife and their children) residing in the same household are eligible, but only one permit can be issued per person. Eligible family members may hunt together on all portions of the same farm or ranch property. The maximum number of landowner permits allowed for one farm or ranch is determined by the size of the property in acres divided by 80. For example, a farm of 240 acres could have a maximum of three landowner permits issued, but each

person may hold no more than one permit per species. Landowners must complete a Landowner Big Game Application, found in this brochure or available from Commission offices and permit agents.

RESIDENCY AND ELIGIBILITY

Bighorn Sheep: Only Nebraska residents. (See Bighorn section, page 32, for more information.)

Deer: Residents and nonresidents age 10 and older are eligible for deer permits.

Elk: Only Nebraska residents age 12 and older are eligible for elk permits, and only one bull elk permit may be obtained in a lifetime, except that a qualifying landowner elk permit may be obtained every third year. For example, if a landowner elk permit is obtained for

2007, the same hunter may not obtain another landowner elk permit until 2010. (See Elk section, page 33.) Residents may obtain an antlerless-only elk permit every third year.

Antelope: Residents and nonresidents age 12 and older are eligible for antelope permits.

NONRESIDENT LANDOWNER DEER PERMITS

Nonresidents who own 320 acres or more of land dedicated to agricultural production may receive a limited landowner permit for deer. Only one permit can be issued per 320 acres. Immediate family members residing in the owner's household are eligible. Permits cost one-half the nonresident deer permit price. Habitat Stamps are not required.

Big Game Permit Types

Most big game permits in Nebraska are issued based on the type of weapon to be used. Weapon types include archery, muzzleloader and firearm. (See Legal Weapons section for more information, page 10.)

ANTELOPE PERMITS

The following permits are available:

- Firearm permits for eight specific management units (buck-only).
- Statewide Archery (either-sex).
- Prairie Muzzleloader (buck-only).
- North Sioux Muzzleloader (buck-only).

BIGHORN SHEEP PERMITS

One bighorn sheep lottery permit is authorized for 2008.

DEER PERMITS

In Nebraska, the following permits are available:

- November firearm management unit permits.
- Statewide November buck-only firearm permits.

- Statewide Archery permits.
- Statewide Muzzleloader permits.
- Statewide Youth Deer permits.
- Landowner Permits.
- Season Choice Permits (SCA).
- Special Deer Permits.

November Firearm Permits: With the exception of Statewide Buck-only permits, these permits limit hunting to the specific management unit for which they are issued. Individual units may have restrictions regarding sex or species of deer (i.e., mule deer and white-tailed deer).

Statewide Archery Permits: Valid statewide with no restrictions on sex or species of deer except for a bonus tag.

Statewide Muzzleloader Permits: Valid statewide with no restrictions on sex or species of deer except for a bonus tag.

Statewide Youth Deer Permits: Youth Deer permits are available to residents and nonresidents ages 10 through 15. Youth deer permits are valid statewide and allow taking a deer

of either sex with any legal weapon during the season dates for that weapon except for bonus tags. A person may apply for a Youth Deer permit only if they will be 10 through 15 on the beginning day of the archery deer season (Sept. 15).

Season Choice Area (SCA) Permits: Valid only in the area for which they are issued. SCA permits allow the taking of antlerless deer with any legal weapon during the season dates for that weapon.

Special Season Permits: A number of Special Deer permits are available. The permits are issued for a specific area of land, generally sanctuaries or federal property, and have varying season dates, weapons allowed, and sex restrictions on take. (See the Special Deer Seasons section on page 26 for more information.)

ELK PERMITS

Elk permits are issued as bull permits or antlerless-only permits in seven hunting units.

DRAW UNITS AND BUY UNITS

Nebraska issues big game permits for deer and antelope as Draw Units or Buy Units. All elk units are Draw Units. Following is a description of each:

DRAW UNITS are determined by overall demand hunters place on the permits. Those units that are most sought after are established as Draw Units to provide equal opportunity to obtain a permit in these units. To be eligible for a Draw Unit permit, you must apply for the specific unit you wish to receive during the Draw Unit application period. (See When to Apply section on page 8, and the How and Where to Apply section on page 6.)

BUY UNITS are those units that don't typically sell out quickly or those with an unlimited number of permits available, i.e., statewide archery deer. Buy Unit permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. In the deer section in this guide, you will find a

table indicating which units are Draw Units and which are Buy Units.

Buy Unit permits may be purchased online during applicable periods. (See When to Apply section on page 8), or over the counter. NOTE: Over the counter purchases can be made only at Commission permitting offices. See page 14 for a listing of offices. Commission agents, such as Wal-Mart, cannot sell big game permits.

NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESS FOR DRAW UNITS

Prior to June 9, all applicants for permits in Draw Units will be notified of the results of the drawing. This will give all applicants who do not receive their permit of choice sufficient time to obtain a permit in an unfilled unit. Please do NOT call Commission offices to inquire about your success. Applicants can find out if they are successful by visiting the Commission Web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

DRAW UNIT PREFERENCE POINTS

Deer: Applicants who did not receive a deer permit in a Draw Unit in the previous year will be given preference in the current year permit drawing.

Antelope: Any person who properly applies for and is denied a firearm or muzzleloader antelope permit during the first application period will receive one preference point each year they are unsuccessful. Accumulated points shall be used to determine priority in the permit drawing. In buddy applications, priority will be given based on the lowest number of points possessed by either applicant. Any person who is issued a firearm or muzzleloader permit shall lose all preference points, and any person who does not apply during a 5-year period shall lose accumulated points.

Elk: No preference points are awarded. Drawings are random events affording all applicants an equal opportunity to draw a permit.

HOW AND WHERE TO APPLY

Big game permits may be applied for in the following three manners:

Online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org during the applicable periods.

By Mailing a completed application form to the Commission's Lincoln office at 2200 N. 33rd St., Lincoln, NE, 68503.

Over the counter at Commission permitting offices listed on page 14.

APPLYING FOR A PERMIT

Application: All hunters must fill out a Nebraska Big Game Application to obtain a big game permit. These applications are included in this brochure. They also are available at Commission offices from permit agents throughout Nebraska and can be downloaded from the Commission's Web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

Please print legibly on your application, include all information requested and make sure the information you provide is correct. Failure to do so can delay the processing of your application and may cause you to miss the drawing. Except for buddy applications, a separate application and a separate payment must be submitted for each permit requested.

Social Security Numbers: Federal and state laws require the State of Nebraska to collect Social Security numbers of anyone applying for professional and recreational licenses, including hunting and fishing permits. The information will be treated with strict confidentiality. Non U.S. citizens are exempt.

Buddy Application: Applies only during the first application period for draw units. Later applications are treated on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters who want to ensure that both or neither will draw a permit in the same unit can apply as "Buddy" applicants. If one person fails to draw a permit, both will be excluded. Preference (see deer and antelope sections for more) will be based on the individual with the fewest prefer-

ence points. Only two persons may submit applications together as buddy applicants. If applying by mail, both applications must be submitted in the same envelope. One check is allowed for payment. A buddy permit does not allow party hunting. Each permit holder must harvest his or her own animal.

Payment: Visa, MasterCard, checks and money orders are acceptable as payment for all permit, application and lottery fees.

Habitat Stamp: A current Nebraska Habitat Stamp is required for all resident antelope, deer and elk hunters 16 years of age and older and for all nonresidents regardless of age. Only one stamp is necessary for all hunting in any calendar year (except that those hunting deer on Season Choice permits in January may hunt with the previous years stamp). If a Habitat Stamp is issued electronically, it will reprint on all subsequent permits issued electronically in that calendar year. Farmers and ranchers who hunt with a limited landowner permit on land they own or lease for agricultural purposes are exempt from the Habitat Stamp requirement.

PURCHASING ONLINE

Hunters can purchase deer and antelope permits from the Commission's Web site during specified application periods. When purchasing a permit online, have the following information in front of you:

- Full name, birthdate, current address.
- The last four digits of your Social Security number (required by law, permits cannot be issued without providing these numbers).
- Visa or MasterCard (Discover cards not accepted). Credit cards will be verified at the time of purchase.

Getting Started: Log onto the Commission Web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

On the left side of the page, locate the "Quick Links" options in the green field. Click on the "Buy Permits Online" link.

At the first screen, you will be asked to click on Purchase 2008 Permits. The

next screen will ask you to click on the type of permit you want to purchase.

Complete all items and be sure to double check them for accuracy. If you are purchasing a permit for another person, make sure you enter THEIR information in the fields. For new hunters or first-time electronic purchasers, you will not be found as a user in our database. You will create a new record by filling in the blank fields and clicking the Submit Button.

On the next screen, select the type of permit you want to purchase from the options you are given. At this point, you must be aware of what unit you wish to hunt. If you are unclear where you will be hunting, see the map on pages 18-19 for more information. **Once a permit is issued or an application for a drawing is submitted, by state statute it can't be changed or refunded.**

After you have selected the items you wish to purchase or the drawings you wish to apply for, click on the Check Out Button. This will take you to the payment screens. If you are paying with another person's credit card, check the box to clear the fields of the applicant's information. Type in the cardholder information, the credit card

number, expiration date and the 3 digit verification number on the back of the card. If you are applying for a future drawing, make sure the credit card being used is valid for at least 60 days after the drawing. The credit card must be valid AT THE TIME OF THE DRAWING. Double check the information BEFORE clicking "Pay Now" to make sure everything is accurate. If this information is entered incorrectly, you may receive error messages because the charge can not be processed. You will also be unsuccessful in the drawing if the card cannot be processed.

After submitting the credit card information, you will be given a confirmation that the transaction was completed. Click any View Links at this time to view the permits/receipts for printing. If you have problems completing this step, you can contact our office for assistance by using the "Problem Reporting" link at the bottom of the page. Please include all pertinent information on the permit holder in the email you send so we can answer your questions in a timely manner.

Please do not call our offices to check on drawing status as we will make the results public as soon as possible.

General Big Game Hunting Rules and Requirements

HUNTING ACCESS

Obtain Permission: Most hunting in Nebraska takes place on private property. Permission is required to hunt, trail game or retrieve downed game on private land, whether posted or not (including railroad rights of way). Respect the landowner's rights – don't trespass. If you do not already have a place to hunt, it is recommended you get permission before applying for a permit.

Hunting without permission can result in a fine of up to \$500, three months in jail and the loss of hunting privileges for up to three years. Hunters may also have to pay restitution for any animals taken illegally, including those taken while hunting without permission. The Commission and local law enforcement officials will aggressively pursue violators and will seek prosecution.

WHEN TO APPLY FOR BIG GAME PERMITS

All opportunities to purchase a deer permit are subject to availability. All application periods begin at 1 p.m. Central Time.

NOTE: Hunters can have no more than two permits that allow the harvest of a buck. There is no limit to the number of antlerless-only permits a hunter may buy.

Where to apply: From April 21 - May 2, all applications must be made online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org or received by mail or over the counter at the Commission's Lincoln office. During all other application periods, permits can be purchased online, by mail or from any Commission permitting offices (see page 14 for a list of offices.)

APPLICATION/PURCHASE PERIODS DEER ONLY

Jan. 3 - April 18 — Open to residents and nonresidents to purchase one November Firearm Statewide Buck.

ANTELOPE, ELK AND DEER

April 21 - May 2 — Open to residents only to apply for "draw" units (DeSoto December Muzzleloader and Republican). One application allowed per person.

June 9 - Close of Season — Open to residents and nonresidents to purchase "buy" unit and any other remaining firearm, youth, season choice, archery or muzzleloader permits.

(All application / purchase periods begin at 1 p.m. Central Time)

AWARDING PERMITS

Individuals applying for draw permits (deer, elk, antelope or bighorn sheep) will be able to determine draw status and print their permits online shortly after the draw (around May 13). A hot link will be established on the agency's permit Web page (<https://ngpc-permits.ne.gov/NGPC-PS/faces/public/welcome>) that will direct applicants to a site where they can "Check Draw Status." After providing last name, date of birth, and last four digits of their Social Security number, applicants will be linked to their status. If successful, an applicant will be able to print his or her permit at that time. The draw status information will be made available for approximately 10 days after the draw. Those applicants who do not print their permit from this link will receive their permits in the mail in early June. Applicants are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to get their permits early.

Also, applicants are encouraged to provide a viable e-mail address when applying for permits. The e-mail addresses will be used to notify draw applicants when the drawing is complete and the draw status link is available. Individuals who supply e-mail addresses also have an opportunity to provide input on periodic program evaluations and harvest surveys.

Landowner permit applicants are encouraged to go online early and enter their legal descriptions. In an effort to improve identification of qualified landowners, Parcel identifications no longer will be acceptable online. As with paper applications, legal descriptions that include the section, township, range, quarter of section, ownership and relationship will be required. Assistance for online enrollment is available from staff at each district office.

HUNTER MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENTS

- Deer: Age 10 or older
- Antelope, Bighorn Sheep and Elk Age 12 or older

Those under the minimum age may apply for a permit only if they will reach the minimum age by the date the season opens. Those under age 16 must be accompanied by a person 19 years of age or older who has a valid Nebraska hunting permit.

HUNTER EDUCATION

Hunters ages 12 through 29 must have on their person proof of successful completion of Firearm Hunter Education while hunting with either a firearm or crossbow. Hunters ages 12 through 29 hunting deer, antelope, elk or mountain (bighorn) sheep with bow and arrow must carry proof of successful completion of Bowhunter Education.

Hunters ages 12 through 29 who have not completed a Firearm Hunter and/or Bowhunter Education course and want to give hunting a try may obtain an Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate from the Commission. This exemption provides the novice hunter an opportunity to try hunting and receive training from an experienced hunter prior to completing Hunter Education. A hunter using this certificate must be accompanied at all times while hunting. This certificate may be obtained once in each person's lifetime, expires on Dec. 31 and may be renewed once. The fee is \$5.

In Nebraska, any deer, elk, antelope or bighorn sheep hunter ages 12 through 15; any firearm or crossbow hunter under age 12; or those hunters ages 12 through 29 using an Apprentice Hunter Education Exemption Certificate; must be accompanied at all times while hunting. Accompanied is defined as: in the presence of a licensed "experienced" hunter age 19 or older. There may be no more than two hunters using the certificate accompanied by the "experienced" hunter at any time and

the "experienced" hunter must at all times be in unaided visual and verbal communication with the child under age 12 and/or the "apprentice" hunter ages 12 through 29.

Contact any Commission office or visit the Commission's Web site for Hunter Education class information.

SHOOTING HOURS

Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset for antelope, deer, elk and bighorn sheep. Consult the Nebraska Guide to Hunting and Public Lands (available in September) for sunrise and sunset times.

DISABLED PERSONS PERMIT PROVISION

Nebraska law allows hunters with certified disabilities to obtain a permit to hunt antelope, deer or elk. Such permits must be either-sex permits. This provision does not apply to units with bag restrictions that are 100 percent buck-only or 100 percent antlerless-only. Special application forms may be obtained at one of the Commission's permitting offices, and applications must be signed by the applicant's physician. Obtain a big game permit first, then call or write the Commission for a disabled application.

HUNTER ORANGE

Nebraska State Law requires hunters to wear and visibly display at least 400 square inches of hunter orange on their head, back and chest AT ALL TIMES when hunting antelope, deer, elk or bighorn sheep with a firearm or muzzleloader during firearm or muzzleloader seasons. Camouflage hunter orange patterns are legal. Archers need not meet this requirement during muzzleloader seasons, but are encouraged to do so. If hunting in a blind it is advisable to display hunter orange on the outside of the blind.

ROAD HUNTING

It is illegal to shoot from any bridge or public road, including the traveled surface and the right of way.

CHECK STATIONS

Deer, elk and antelope hunters are required to check in animals by specific dates and before leaving the state. Keep the check station information sheet included with your permit. If you buy online, print the sheet when printing your permit.

MISCELLANEOUS

Guiding for a fee on Wildlife Management Areas is illegal.

The use of tracking dogs is legal for the recovery of deer.

HUNTING OVER BAIT

It is illegal to take or attempt to take bighorn sheep, elk, deer and antelope within 200 yards of an area that has been baited. A baited area is any area where feed, feed supplement, or bait has been placed within the last 60 days, except for those instances where said food, supplement or bait has been placed in the active operation of husbandry for domesticated livestock other than domesticated cervidae. The regulation applies only to land under the same ownership as the land that has been baited.

LEGAL WEAPONS FOR DEER AND ANTELOPE

Firearm Permits: Legal weapons include:

1. Rifles* that deliver at least 900 ft.-lbs. of energy at 100 yards;
2. Handguns* that deliver at least 400 ft.-lbs. of energy at 50 yards;
3. Muzzleloading rifles .44 or larger;
4. Muzzleloading muskets .62 or larger, firing a single slug;
5. Shotguns* of 20 gauge or larger that fire a single slug;
6. Archery equipment is not allowed, except crossbows that have a draw weight of 125 pounds or more.

* Semi-automatic firearms capable of holding more than six cartridges are not allowed.

Muzzleloader Permits: As provided in (3) and (4) under Firearm Permits.

Archery Permits: Legal weapons include longbows or compound bows that have a pull of 40 pounds or more at or before 28-inch draw. Arrows must be released by hand or hand-held release. Devices that maintain the bow at full draw or in firing position are prohibited. Crossbows and draw locking devices are permitted ONLY for those who are incapable of drawing a longbow due to a permanent physical impairment. A required authorization will be issued by the Commission after written verification of the disability is received from the individual's physician.

Season Choice Areas (deer only): Persons with permits for these areas may hunt Antlerless deer with:

1. Legal archery equipment, Sept. 15-Nov. 14 and Nov. 24-Dec. 31
2. Legal muzzleloaders, Dec. 1-31
3. Legal firearms, Nov. 15-23, 2008 and Jan. 1-15, 2009

LEGAL WEAPONS FOR ELK AND BIGHORN SHEEP

1. Rifles, .26 or larger, which fire a 100-grain or larger bullet delivering at least 2,000 ft.-lbs. of energy at 100 yards. Semi-automatic firearms capable of holding more than six cartridges are not allowed.
2. Muzzleloading rifles, .50 or larger.
3. Conventional longbows or compound bows with a pull of 50 pounds or more at or before 28-inch draw.

FIREARM RESTRICTIONS

During the November firearm deer season only hunters with a valid unfilled deer permit may hunt animals other than deer with rifles using center-fire cartridges. During this time, animals other than deer may be hunted only with a shotgun, .22 rimfire rifle, .22 rimfire handgun, or a smaller caliber rimfire handgun or rifle. Hunters with an unfilled deer permit may hunt animals other than deer with a center-fire rifle or center-fire handgun during the firearm deer season.

WEAPON SIGHTS

It is unlawful to use any electrical device to amplify natural light or to project a light beam or image to a target, including "night vision" or infrared scopes and laser sights. "Red dot" and illuminated reticle sights and scopes are permitted. **Magnifying** and **variable-power** scopes are allowed on muzzleloaders.

REFUGES

Unless otherwise authorized, federal and state sanctuaries are closed to hunting.

HUNTING PUBLIC LANDS

The Guide to Hunting and Public Lands lists 300 publicly-owned areas which cover more than 800,000 acres. Please refer to that guide for area-specific regulations. In general: Unless otherwise posted, big game hunting is allowed on all wildlife management areas (WMA). Beginning the Tuesday after Labor Day, hunting also is allowed on most state recreation areas (SRA). Some areas have weapon restrictions.

- State parks (SP), wayside areas, hatcheries and reserves and state and federal refuges are closed to all hunting unless otherwise posted. Indian Cave, Niobrara and Ponca SPs are open to archery deer hunting during the last half of the season. A free permit is required. Contact the park superintendent for more information.
- Portable tree stands and steps may be used on WMAs, but must be removed within 15 days following the close of the season. They can be used on SRAs open to hunting, but must be removed at the end of each day. It is unlawful to build or use any permanent tree stand or steps that attach to any tree with nails, screws, bolts or wire. Screw-in steps may be used on WMAs, but may not be used on SRAs.
- On state-owned lands, all motorized vehicles are restricted to roadways and

parking areas. No ATVs are permitted.

- Target shooting is permitted on most WMAs, but the activity is prohibited on certain areas, which are posted.
- Most National Wildlife Refuges managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Forests and Grasslands managed by the U.S. Forest Service also are open to hunting, unless otherwise posted. Check with those agencies for any special regulations that may apply.

CRP-MAP

The Conservation Reserve Program – Management Access Program (CRP-MAP) opens more than 180,000 acres of private land enrolled in the Federal CRP to walk-in hunting. An atlas of areas enrolled in the 2008/2009 program will be available from Commission offices and permit agents in September. An online version will also be available in the fall.



Deer

SEASON DATES:

Refer to Page 2 or pages 18-19.

2008 FORECAST

Record harvests of whitetail are expected as many herds are at record highs and as many as 87,000 bonus antlerless-only tags are available. Record numbers of older mule deer and whitetail bucks should be harvested as the age of bucks in 2007 was the oldest we have ever seen.

CHANGES IN 2008

Bonus "free" antlerless-only tags will be added on 87,000 permits in 27 different units, including Archery, Muzzleloader, Youth and Landowner. Most bonus tags will be whitetail antlerless-only. A youth whitetail antlerless only season is added in January. Landowner permits will be valid Sept. 15 – Jan. 15, with the January season being antlerless-only.

SCA antlerless-only permits are added in the Calamus and Loup units. Boyer Chute antlerless-only hunts are added. Youth age 10 and older may hunt deer. Fort Robinson, Peterson WMA and Soldier Creek Wilderness Area in the Pine Ridge units are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest to allow for population increases.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HUNT DEER

Is your unit a Buy or Draw unit?

- Consult the Deer Unit Charts on pages 16-17 to determine if the unit you wish to hunt in is a draw unit or buy unit. See page 5 for definitions of draw and buy units and how to apply for draw units.

PERMIT SELLOUT DATES

Republican and DeSoto either sex muzzleloader units are expected to sell out prior to June 9, 2008. Specific sell-out dates for each deer unit in 2007 are listed in the deer permit infor-

mation table of this booklet on page 15. Information on current permit availability is available on our web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

Last year, the sell-out dates for deer permits in various units were as follows:

April: Republican, DeSoto December Muzzleloader

June: Elkhorn

August: Republican Whitetail, Blue NW, Blue SE

September: Frenchman, SCA 13

October: Buffalo, Wahoo, Missouri

November or later: All others

Didn't sell out: Keya Paha, Calamus West, Clear Creek WMA, Platte WT, Sandhills, SCAs 1, 2, 8, 9, 18, 21, 22

SEASON CHOICE AREA PERMITS

These areas were created to allow for the additional harvest of antlerless deer.

These permits allow hunters the choice of hunting with archery equipment during the archery season, muzzleloaders during the muzzleloader season or with a firearm during the November firearm season or the late firearm season in January. A hunter may use a Season Choice permit to hunt in any or all of the seasons until the permit is filled.

YOUTH DEER PERMITS

Youth deer permits provide additional hunting opportunities to youths in an effort to foster interest in deer hunting. These permits allow resident and non-resident youths ages 10 through 15 to hunt anywhere in the state with any legal weapon, provided that the season is open for that weapon type (see pages 18-19 for season dates). Youths age 16 may hunt with youth deer permits provided they are age 15 when they apply and provided they are not more than 15 on Sept. 15.

When applying for a youth permit, enter "YOUTH" on the Nebraska Big

Game Application form in the space that asks for a "Unit Choice."

The January season is Antlerless-only.

LANDOWNER DEER PERMITS:

New for 2008: There will be two types of Landowner permits: Resident and Nonresident. Each permit is valid for one deer of either-sex and one antlerless deer. The season dates are Sept. 15 – Jan. 15 with any legal weapon, provided that the seasons is open for that weapon type (see pages 18-19 for season dates).

The January season is Antlerless-only.

ANTLERLESS DEER MANAGEMENT

The deer population is higher than desired in some areas. SCA antlerless-only permits and bonus antlerless-only tags will be used to increase antlerless harvest. If you hunt on private land, ask the owner if the deer population is too high and act accordingly. Doe harvest is the only method of reducing populations. If you can't use the extra deer, look in your community (family, friends, church, charity, bar) for someone that would want your deer. Avoid buck fawns and consider taking a doe instead of a small buck. The yearling buck you pass up may become the buck of your lifetime in a few years.

HOW MANY DEER PERMITS CAN A HUNTER HAVE?

Hunters can obtain no more than two permits that allow them to harvest a buck. There is no limit to the number of antlerless-only permits you can have.

Important: Resident hunters may obtain no more than one deer permit of any type prior to June 9. Resident and nonresident hunters may purchase additional permits, within permit limits, beginning June 9.

We recommend you first buy permits in units where the number of

permits are limited.

Notification of Success: Prior to June 9, all applicants for permits in Draw Units will be notified of their success in the drawing. This will give all applicants who do not receive their permit of choice sufficient time to obtain a permit in an unfilled unit or area. Please do NOT call Commission offices to inquire about your success. Applicants can find out if they are successful by visiting the Commission Web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

Landowner: Resident deer permits may be obtained at any Commission permitting office from June 9 through the close of the season, or online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org. One landowner permit is allowed per person each year, regardless of weapon choice. Qualifying nonresident landowners may purchase landowner permits beginning June 9.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A DEER PERMIT

1. Study the maps of Firearm Deer Units, Season Choice Areas, Deer Permit Information charts, dates and special restrictions for the various seasons offered to determine your options.
2. On a Big Game Application, list the Unit Name of your first choice. Applications with Unit Names other than those listed in the chart will be returned.
3. If you are applying for a permit in a Draw Unit and would accept a permit in a different unit, list it as a second choice.
4. Using the information in the How and Where to Apply section on page 6, determine how you will apply for or purchase your permit.
5. Please print legibly. Include all information requested. Failure to provide correct information may cause your application to be rejected. Submit the proper fee with your application. Check, money order, and Visa or Mastercard are acceptable. Do not send cash.

Permit Fees

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Resident Deer, Statewide Buck |\$68.50 |
| Resident Deer |\$28.00 |
| Resident Landowner Deer |\$14.50 |
| Resident Antelope |\$28.00 |
| Resident Landowner Antelope |\$14.50 |
| Elk Application Fee (resident only) |\$8.50 |
| Resident Elk Permit |\$132.00 |
| Resident Landowner Elk Permit |\$26.40 |
| Nonresident Deer, Statewide Buck |\$443.50 |
| Nonresident Deer |\$178.00 |
| Nonresident Deer, Season Choice, Antlerless only |\$55.00 |
| Nonresident Landowner Deer |\$89.50 |
| Nonresident Landowner Season Choice, Antlerless Deer |\$28.00 |
| Nonresident Antelope (archery only) |\$133.00 |
| Habitat Stamp* |\$16.00 |

All permit prices include a \$1 issuing fee.

*A current Nebraska Habitat Stamp is required for all resident deer hunters 16 years of age and older and for all nonresidents regardless of age (except landowner permits). A Habitat Stamp is valid for all hunting during the calendar year as dated. Farmers and ranchers who hunt on their own land with a landowner permit do not need a Habitat Stamp.

Commission Permitting Offices

These offices sell all permits available over the counter, including landowner permits.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium |(402) 332-3901 |
| Alliance |(308) 763-2940 |
| Bassett |(402) 684-2921 |
| Chadron State Park |(308) 432-6167 |
| Fort Robinson State Park |(308) 665-2900 |
| Kearney |(308) 865-5310 |
| Niobrara State Park |(402) 857-3373 |
| Norfolk |(402) 370-3374 |
| North Platte |(308) 535-8025 |
| Omaha |(402) 595-2144 |
| Lincoln |(402) 471-0641 |
| Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area |(308) 436-3777 |
| Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370 | |

2007 DEER HARVEST INFORMATION NOVEMBER FIREARM SEASON

| UNIT NAME | 2007 Harvested in | | Percent Harvested* Bucks Age 2 or Older | | Permit Sell-Out Dates |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|--|----|-----------------------|
| | MD | WT | MD | WT | |
| | Blue Northwest | 1 | 1,797 | NA | 62 |
| Blue Southeast | 1 | 2,566 | NA | 62 | Aug. 15 |
| Buffalo | 423 | 824 | 69 | 64 | Oct. 1 |
| Buffalo Whitetail | 0 | 628 | NA | 58 | Nov. 8 |
| Calamus East | 75 | 671 | 60 | 51 | DSO** |
| Calamus West | 418 | 505 | 67 | 69 | Nov. 14 |
| Elkhorn | 6 | 2,405 | NA | 47 | June 27 |
| Frenchman | 939 | 613 | 74 | 78 | Sept. 19 |
| Frenchman Whitetail | 0 | 352 | NA | 67 | DSO** |
| Keya Paha | 346 | 959 | 74 | 72 | DSO** |
| Loup East | 72 | 1,389 | 47 | 55 | Nov. 1 |
| Loup West | 474 | 514 | 70 | 69 | Nov. 11 |
| Missouri | 130 | 1,838 | 56 | 60 | Oct. 9 |
| Pine Ridge | 805 | 657 | 82 | 82 | Nov. 11 |
| Plains | 637 | 230 | 79 | 77 | Nov. 11 |
| Platte | 568 | 530 | 69 | 63 | Nov. 7 |
| Platte Whitetail | 0 | 208 | NA | 60 | DSO** |
| Republican | 58 | 797 | 82 | 77 | April Draw |
| Republican Whitetail | 0 | 1,203 | NA | 78 | Aug. 2 |
| Sandhills | 1070 | 505 | 88 | 82 | Nov. 16 |
| Upper Platte | 410 | 155 | 81 | 70 | Nov. 11 |
| Wahoo | 4 | 2,877 | NA | 59 | Oct. 9 |
| Statewide Buck-Only | 796 | 3,532 | 82 | 71 | |

NA = Data not available, * Buck fawns excluded, ** DSO = Did not sell out
MD = Mule Deer, WT = Whitetail Deer

Additional AREA INFORMATION

Garden County Refuge and Clear Creek Refuge: Archery hunting is permitted from Sept. 15 - Oct. 31 only.

North Platte River Refuge (Lincoln County) and Dodge-Saunders Refuge: Archery, muzzleloader and firearm hunting are permitted in accord with all seasons. For information on other special seasons and permits, contact a Commission permitting office, or visit our Web site at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

2008 DEER PERMIT INFORMATION

| UNIT NAME | No. of Permits for 2008 | Bag Limit or Percent of either sex for 2008 ⁴ | No. of Permits sold in 2007* | Deer harvested in 2007 | Percent Success (See Page 5) | Draw Unit or Buy Unit? | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | Buy Unit? | Draw Unit? |
| Blue Northwest | 2,700 | 1ES,1AO | 3,572 | 2,205 | 62 | Buy | |
| Blue Southeast | 3,900 | 1ES,1AO | 5,368 | 2,967 | 55 | Buy | |
| Buffalo ³ | 2,000 | 50/50 | 2,595 | 1,533 | 59 | Buy | |
| Buffalo Whitetail | 1,500 | 100 | 1,500 | 763 | 51 | Buy | |
| Calamus East ² | 1,600 | 100 | 1,751 | 891 | 52 | Buy | |
| Calamus West | 1,800 | 100 | 1,947 | 1,151 | 62 | Buy | |
| Elkhorn | 3,600 | 1ES,1AO | 4,876 | 4,070 | 83** | Buy | |
| Frenchman ² | 2,000 | 100 | 3,067 | 1,731 | 65 | Buy | |
| Frenchman Whitetail | 1,500 | 100 | 1,000 | 454 | 48 | Buy | |
| Keya Paha ² | 2,500 | 100 | 2,435 | 1,446 | 60 | Buy | |
| Loup East ² | 2,800 | 100 | 2,472 | 1,800 | 57 | Buy | |
| Loup West | 1,900 | 100 | 2,105 | 1,246 | 65 | Buy | |
| Missouri ² | 3,200 | 100 | 3,987 | 2,354 | 59 | Buy | |
| Pine Ridge | 3,000 | 100 | 3,168 | 1,870 | 59 | Buy | |
| Plains | 1,500 | 100 | 1,612 | 1,080 | 67 | Buy | |
| Platte ² | 1,600 | 100 | 2,319 | 1,248 | 66 | Buy | |
| Platte Whitetail | 1,200 | 100 | 669 | 268 | 40 | Buy | |
| Republican ² | 500 | 100 | 1,729 | 1,013 | 59 | Draw | |
| Republican Whitetail | 2,500 | 100 | 2,250 | 1,425 | 63 | Buy | |
| Sandhills | 2,400 | 100 | 2,564 | 1,732 | 68 | Buy | |
| Upper Platte | 1,200 | 100 | 1,283 | 726 | 57 | Buy | |
| Wahoo | 4,500 | 1ES,1AO | 5,744 | 3,426 | 60 | Buy | |
| Statewide Buck Only | UNL | 0 | 9,143 | 4,366 | 48 | Buy | |

* Includes 2007 Landowner Permits ** Bonus tags elevate success

² Antlerless mule deer prohibited

³ 50 percent either sex - 50 percent any buck or AO WT

⁴ 100 percent indicates that all permits are for either-sex deer.

Antlerless — no antlers or both antlers less than 6 inches in length

2 AO WT — Two Antlerless whitetail

1 AO WT — One Antlerless whitetail

2 AO — Two Antlerless deer

1 AO — One Antlerless deer

1 ES, 1AO — One deer of either sex and one Antlerless deer

2008 DEER PERMIT INFORMATION

| UNIT NAME | No. of Permits for 2008 | Sex or Antlerless Quota for 2008 | Percent of Either sold in 2007* | No. of Permits in 2007 | Deer harvested in 2007 | Percent Success (See Page 5) | Draw Unit or Buy Unit? | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | | Buy Unit? | Draw Unit? |
| Archery** | UNL | 1ES,1AOWT | 16,067 | 4,858 | 30 | Buy | | |
| Muzzleloader** | UNL | 1ES,1AOWT | 16,077 | 4,953 | 31 | Buy | | |
| Youth Deer** | UNL | 1ES,1AOWT | 5,094 | 2,945 | 58 | Buy | | |
| DeSoto Oct. Early MZ | 140 | 2 AO | 140 | 129 | 63*** | Buy | | |
| DeSoto Nov. Late MZ | 140 | 2 AO | 140 | 102 | 41*** | Buy | | |
| DeSoto Dec. MZ | 100 | 1ES,1AO | 100 | 64 | 62*** | Draw | | |
| Clear Creek WMA | 75 | 2 AO WT | 72 | 54 | 75*** | Buy | | |
| Boyer Early MZ | 60 | 2 AO | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| Boyer Late MZ | 60 | 2 AO | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| Landowner | UNL | 1ES,1AO | 10,810 | — | — | Buy | | |
| SCA 1 | 2,000 | 2 AO WT | 1,329 | 965 | 73*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 2 | 2,000 | 2 AO WT | 1,518 | 1,368 | 90 | Buy | | |
| SCA 3 | 200 | 1 AO WT | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| SCA 4 | 200 | 1 AO WT | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| SCA 5 | 400 | 1 AO WT | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| SCA 6 | 200 | 1 AO WT | New | — | — | Buy | | |
| SCA 8 | 600 | 2 AO WT | 809 | 591 | 73*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 9 | 600 | 2 AO WT | 808 | 547 | 68*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 11 | 300 | 2 AO WT | 212 | 168 | 79*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 12 | 700 | 1 AO WT | 706 | 303 | 43 | Buy | | |
| SCA 13 | 250 | 1 AO WT | 255 | 119 | 47 | Buy | | |
| SCA 17 | 700 | 1AO,1AOWT | 511 | 535 | 105*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 18 | 2,500 | 2 AO | 2,091 | 1,746 | 84*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 19 | 1,400 | 2 AO | 1,424 | 608 | 43 | Buy | | |
| SCA 20 | 5,500 | 2 AO | 5,120 | 2,328 | 45 | Buy | | |
| SCA 21 | 8,000 | 2 AO | 7,442 | 5,477 | 74*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 22 | 400 | 2 AO | 407 | 387 | 95*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 23 | 300 | 2 AO | 304 | 273 | 90*** | Buy | | |
| SCA 24 | 300 | 1 AO | 176 | 69 | 39 | Buy | | |
| SCA 25 | 400 | 1 AO WT | 403 | 133 | 33 | Buy | | |

*Includes 2007 Landowner Permits

**Statewide Unit

*** Bonus tags elevate success

LANDOWNER AND YOUTH

Archery: Sept.15 - Nov. 14 & Nov. 24 - Dec. 31

Firearm: Nov. 15 - Nov. 23

Muzzleloader: Dec. 1 - 31

Antlerless Firearm: Jan. 1 -15, 2009

Statewide. Except landowners must hunt on own land.

Youth Bag Limit: One deer of either sex and one whitetail Antlerless deer

Landowner Bag Limit: One deer of either sex and one Antlerless deer

Landowner and Youth: Permits are Antlerless-only in Jan.1 - 15

ARCHERY

Sept.15 - Nov. 14 &

Nov. 24 - Dec. 31

Unit: Statewide.

Bag Limit: One deer of either sex and one white-tail Antlerless deer.

NOVEMBER FIREARM

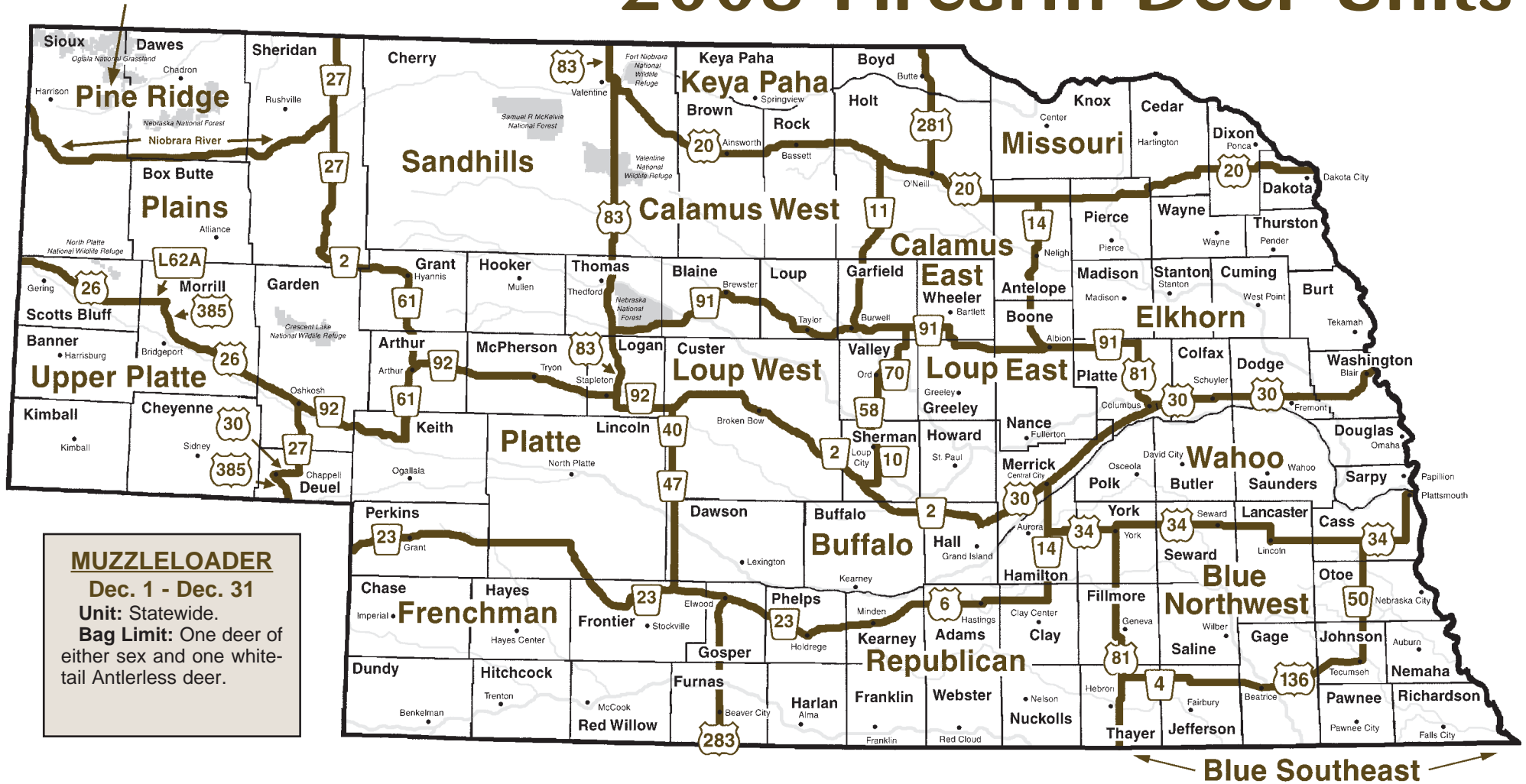
Nov. 15 - Nov. 23

Unit: See the map below for unit boundaries and the chart for Unit Names.

Bag Limit: See 2008 Deer Permit Information chart for the type of permit offered in each unit.

Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons

2008 Firearm Deer Units



MUZZLELOADER

Dec. 1 - Dec. 31

Unit: Statewide.

Bag Limit: One deer of either sex and one white-tail Antlerless deer.



PERCENTAGE OF HARVESTED BUCKS AGE 2½ OR OLDER

As Nebraska's deer herd and hunting opportunity have increased, hunters have become more interested in harvesting older bucks. Age of bucks has increased over the past 20 years, as indicated in this chart.

Harvesting a trophy buck is a dream of many hunters. Costs of this dream include less access to private land and more pressure on public land as leasing, access fees and recreational land purchases continue to increase.

| UNITS | Whitetail Bucks | | | | | Mule Deer Bucks | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1987 | 1992 | 1997 | 2002 | 2007 | 1987 | 1992 | 1997 | 2002 | 2007 |
| Blue | 31 | 31 | 46 | 49 | 62 | | | | | |
| Buffalo | 29 | 28 | 42 | 53 | 64 | 17 | 20 | 29 | 53 | 69 |
| Calamus E. | 16 | 14 | 30 | 44 | 49 | | | | | 60 |
| Calamus W. | 32 | 37 | 48 | 60 | 69 | 23 | 28 | 45 | 62 | 67 |
| Elkhorn | 31 | 20 | 29 | 41 | 46 | | | | | |
| Frenchman | 39 | 38 | 55 | 60 | 74 | 24 | 24 | 42 | 49 | 71 |
| Keya Paha | 38 | 39 | 48 | 62 | 71 | 30 | 40 | 47 | 70 | 74 |
| Loup E. | 22 | 20 | 30 | 46 | 54 | | | | | 47 |
| Loup W. | 23 | 28 | 42 | 57 | 68 | 16 | 20 | 44 | 45 | 70 |
| Missouri | 22 | 29 | 30 | 50 | 60 | | | | | 56 |
| Pine Ridge | 43 | 52 | 56 | 68 | 82 | 29 | 42 | 50 | 62 | 82 |
| Plains | 41 | 32 | 58 | 68 | 77 | 23 | 55 | 52 | 72 | 79 |
| Platte | 37 | 27 | 52 | 50 | 62 | 30 | 25 | 39 | 50 | 68 |
| Republican | 33 | 33 | 36 | 42 | 77 | 37 | 38 | 36 | | 82 |
| Sandhills | 42 | 63 | 74 | 70 | 82 | 37 | 56 | 72 | 82 | 88 |
| Upper Platte | 38 | 45 | 54 | 51 | 70 | 32 | 47 | 51 | 44 | 81 |
| Wahoo | 33 | 23 | 35 | 50 | 59 | | | | | |
| Average | 32 | 33 | 45 | 52 | 64 | 27 | 36 | 46 | 59 | 76 |

LIMITED LANDOWNER - BIG GAME APPLICATION

Instruction: Separate applications must be submitted for each permit request. Applicants are limited to one landowner permit per species per year except for spring and fall turkey. Check applicable boxes and provide accurate name, mailing address, personal description, date of birth and the last four (4) digits of applicant's Social Security number. Also provide the legal description of all qualifying property you will be hunting. Submitting incomplete information may result in the return of your application. Make checks payable to Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and enclose the appropriate fee with your application.

Mail to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370

Resident (choose only one) Fee

Deer \$14.50
 Antelope \$14.50
 Turkey \$12.50
 Elk (Permit plus app. fee) . \$35.90

Nonresident (choose only one)

Deer \$89.50
 Spring Turkey \$43.50

Weapon Type (choose only one)

Firearm
 Archery
 Muzzleloader
 Season Choice (antlerless deer only)

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

| Date of Birth | Height | | Weight | Month | Day | Year | Sex |
|---------------|--------|-----|--------|-------|-----|------|-----|
| | Ft. | In. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Daytime Phone Number _____ Last 4 digits of Social Security No. _____

Credit Card # – Visa or MasterCard Only _____ Card Expiration Date/Verification # see illustration _____

Archery Education Number – State Certified _____ Firearm Hunter Education Number – State Certified _____



Yes No

- I certify that I am a RESIDENT of the State of Nebraska as defined by the rules and regulations of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
- I certify that my privilege to hunt, fish or harvest fur is NOT currently revoked in any state and I am NOT delinquent on any child support payments.

Note: Legal Description form for your property is on page 24

NEBRASKA BIG GAME APPLICATION

Instruction: Check all applicable boxes and provide information as requested. Submitting incomplete information may result in the return of your application. Make checks payable to Nebraska Game and Parks and enclose the appropriate fee with your application. Mail to: **Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.** May be photo copied as needed for more copies

- Resident (choose only one) Fee**
- ___ Statewide Buck (Deer) . . . \$68.50
 - ___ Deer \$28
 - ___ Statewide Youth Deer \$28
 - ___ Antelope \$28
 - ___ Turkey \$24
 - ___ Elk (permit plus app. fee) . \$141.50
 - ___ Bighorn Sheep (app. fee) . . \$25.00
- Nonresident (choose only one)**
- ___ Statewide Buck (Deer) . . . \$443.50
 - ___ Season Choice (antlerless) . . . \$55
 - ___ Deer \$178
 - ___ Statewide Youth Deer \$178
 - ___ Antelope (archery only) . . . \$133
 - ___ Turkey \$86
- Weapon Type (choose only one)**
- ___ Firearm
 - ___ Archery
 - ___ Muzzleloader
 - ___ Season Choice (antlerless deer only)
 - Habitat Stamp \$16.00
 - Check if Buddy Application
- All permit prices include \$1 agent fee*



3-digit card verification No. on back of card

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-------|---------------|----------|
| First Name | | Middle Initial | | Last Name | |
| Mailing Address | | | | | |
| City | | | State | | Zip Code |
| Hair Color | Eye Color | Height | | Date of Birth | |
| | | Ft. | In. | Month | Day |
| | | | | Year | Sex |
| Daytime Phone Number | | Last 4 digits of Social Security No. | | | |
| Credit Card # – Visa or MasterCard Only | | Card Expiration Date/Verification # see illustration | | | |
| Archery Education Number – State Certified | | Firearm Hunter Education Number – State Certified | | | |

Yes No

I certify that I am a RESIDENT of the State of Nebraska as defined by the rules and regulations of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

I certify that my privilege to hunt, fish or harvest fur is NOT currently revoked in any state and I am NOT delinquent on any child support payments.

Do not request a Habitat Stamp when applying for deer, antelope or elk random draw permits

Unit Name (first choice): _____ **Unit Name (second choice):** _____

E-mail address: _____

All applicants having access to the Internet are encouraged to provide a current e-mail address. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will use the e-mail address to survey turkey hunters and to notify those applying for drawing permits of their “draw status” at the conclusion of each drawing. Successful applicants will have a limited window of opportunity to print their draw permit(s) online.

Successful applicants for drawing permits having no access to the Internet or having no current e-mail address will receive their permit(s) through the postal service.

AWARDING PERMITS

Individuals applying for draw permits (deer, elk, antelope or bighorn sheep) will be able to determine draw status and print their permits online shortly after the draw (around May 13). A hot link will be established on the agency's permit Web page (<https://ngpc-permits.ne.gov/NGPC-PS/faces/public/welcome>) that will direct applicants to a site where they can “Check Draw Status.” After providing last name, date of birth, and last four digits of their Social Security number, applicants will be linked to their status. If successful, an applicant will be able to print his or her permit at that time. The draw status information will be made available for approximately 10 days after the draw. Those applicants who do not print their permit from this link will receive their permits in the mail in early June. Applicants are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to get their permits early.

Also, applicants are encouraged to provide a viable e-mail address when applying for permits. The e-mail addresses will be used to notify draw applicants when the drawing is complete and the draw status link is available. Individuals that supply e-mail addresses also have an opportunity to provide input on periodic program evaluations and harvest surveys.

Landowner permit applicants are encouraged to go online early and enter their legal descriptions. In an effort to improve identification of qualified landowners, Parcel identifications no longer will be acceptable online. As with paper applications, legal descriptions that include the section, township, range, quarter of section, ownership and relationship will be required. Assistance for online enrollment is available from staff at each district office.

Unit Name (first choice): _____ **Elk only - Unit Name (second choice):** _____
 (List the unit name where most of your hunting will occur)

The farm or ranch land listed in this application must be used for agricultural purposes.

*****Check the box below that best certifies your qualifications for a limited landowner permit:**

- I qualify as the owner/leaseholder of the land listed.
 I qualify as the spouse or child residing in the same household of the owner or leaseholder of the land listed.

Check One
 Box for Each
 Parcel Listed

FARM AND RANCH LAND - LEGAL DESCRIPTION

(If additional room is needed, an attachment form is available) ***Photocopied applications are acceptable.

| Quarter | Section | Township | Range | County | Acres | Own | Lease |
|-----------|---------|----------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-------|
| W1/2NW1/4 | 16 | 28N | 15E | Cather | 80 | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

I certify that I am eligible to apply for a limited landowner permit. All farm and ranch land listed is qualifying property owned and/or leased by me or a member of my immediate household. I, as the qualified applicant, request a limited landowner permit to be issued to me.

Signature Qualified Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____
E-mail address of applicant for permit notification: _____

BUCKS HARVESTED PER 100 SQUARE MILES FOR ALL SEASONS IN 2007

The information below demonstrates density of whitetail and mule deer by showing the number of bucks harvested per 100 square miles in each county.

| County | WT | MD | County | WT | MD | County | WT | MD |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------|-----|----|-------------|-----|----|
| Adams | 44 | 0 | Frontier | 21 | 33 | Nance | 105 | 0 |
| Antelope | 53 | 2 | Furnas | 57 | 18 | Nemaha | 103 | 0 |
| Arthur | 3 | 18 | Gage | 104 | 0 | Nuckolls | 76 | 1 |
| Banner | 1 | 18 | Garden | 7 | 13 | Otoe | 141 | 0 |
| Blaine | 16 | 19 | Garfield | 21 | 9 | Pawnee | 117 | 0 |
| Boone | 39 | 2 | Gosper | 29 | 13 | Perkins | 2 | 8 |
| Box Butte | 8 | 14 | Grant | 5 | 15 | Phelps | 24 | 1 |
| Boyd | 66 | 20 | Greeley | 29 | 6 | Pierce | 35 | 0 |
| Brown | 17 | 13 | Hall | 57 | 0 | Platte | 55 | 0 |
| Buffalo | 63 | 5 | Hamilton | 50 | 0 | Polk | 63 | 0 |
| Burt | 105 | 0 | Harlan | 110 | 8 | Red Willow | 37 | 24 |
| Butler | 108 | 1 | Hayes | 14 | 30 | Richardson | 116 | 0 |
| Cass | 156 | 0 | Hitchcock | 26 | 29 | Rock | 17 | 8 |
| Cedar | 64 | 0 | Holt | 38 | 4 | Saline | 113 | 0 |
| Chase | 10 | 14 | Hooker | 5 | 15 | Sarpy | 134 | 0 |
| Cherry | 10 | 17 | Howard | 80 | 3 | Saunders | 111 | 0 |
| Cheyenne | 2 | 6 | Jefferson | 93 | 0 | ScottsBluff | 12 | 22 |
| Clay | 42 | 1 | Johnson | 126 | 0 | Seward | 96 | 0 |
| Colfax | 81 | 0 | Kearney | 26 | 1 | Sheridan | 12 | 19 |
| Cumming | 61 | 0 | Keith | 21 | 14 | Sherman | 45 | 9 |
| Custer | 19 | 33 | Keya Paha | 43 | 18 | Sioux | 9 | 16 |
| Dakota | 123 | 0 | Kimball | 1 | 9 | Stanton | 90 | 0 |
| Dawes | 30 | 35 | Knox | 88 | 7 | Thayer | 75 | 0 |
| Dawson | 33 | 14 | Lancaster | 107 | 0 | Thomas | 15 | 31 |
| Deuel | 3 | 6 | Lincoln | 23 | 18 | Thurston | 68 | 0 |
| Dixon | 78 | 0 | Logan | 9 | 19 | Valley | 39 | 12 |
| Dodge | 95 | 0 | Loup | 26 | 21 | Washington | 141 | 0 |
| Douglas | 75 | 0 | Madison | 30 | 0 | Wayne | 25 | 0 |
| Dundy | 8 | 15 | McPherson | 3 | 25 | Webster | 94 | 1 |
| Fillmore | 44 | 0 | Merrick | 82 | 0 | Wheeler | 25 | 5 |
| Franklin | 78 | 5 | Morrill | 8 | 18 | York | 45 | 0 |

Under federal and/or state law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, marital status, national origin, disability or political affiliation. If you think you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility or want more information, contact the Affirmative Action Officer, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-0641; the Equal Opportunity Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-2024, TTY / TDD 402-471-4693. USFWS, Division of Bird Habitat and Conservation, Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, MBSP 4020, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

Special Deer Seasons

SPECIAL DEER SEASONS

Special regulations apply to these seasons. Read unit descriptions for details.

SEASON CHOICE

Persons who obtain a permit for these areas may hunt with:

- (1) Legal archery equipment, Sept. 15-Nov. 14 and Nov. 24-Dec. 31
- (2) Legal muzzleloaders, Dec. 1-31
- (3) Legal firearms, Nov. 15-23, 2008, and Jan. 1-15, 2009

Habitat Stamp: A 2008 Habitat Stamp is valid during the late season.

Season Choice Area 1

Area: Within 3 miles of the landward banks of the Platte River between NE Hwy. 47 and NE Hwy. 14.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 2

Area: All land in the Republican Unit south of NE Hwy. 4. **Not valid on Harlan County Reservoir.**

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 3

Area: Same as Calamus East.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 4

Area: Same as Calamus West. Valentine National Wildlife Refuge and Halsey National Forest is closed.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 5

Area: Same as Loup East.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 6

Area: Same as Loup West.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 8

Area: Same as Frenchman Unit. **Not valid on Enders, Medicine Creek, Red Willow and Swanson wildlife management areas.**

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 9

Area: Same as Platte Unit.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 11

Area: Same as Keya Paha Unit.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 12

Area: Same as Missouri Unit.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 13

Area: All land in the Republican Unit north of NE Hwy. 4.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

Season Choice Area 17

Area: Same as Pine Ridge Unit. Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson WMA, Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to Mule Deer Antlerless harvest in all seasons.

Bag Limit: One antlerless deer and one Antlerless whitetail deer

Season Choice Area 18

Area: All land bordering the Missouri River north of U.S. Hwy. 30 and east of U.S. Hwy. 77, extending north to Dakota City, and north and east of U.S. Hwy. 20 and NE Hwy. 12, and the confluence of the Niobrara and Missouri rivers.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 19

Area: That portion of the Elkhorn Unit located west of U.S. Hwy. 77, east of NE Hwy. 14 and north of NE Hwy. 91, and south of U.S. Hwy. 20 and east of U.S. Hwy. 81 and north of the Platte River.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 20

Area: All land located south of the Platte River, east of U.S. Hwy. 81 and west of NE Hwy. 50.

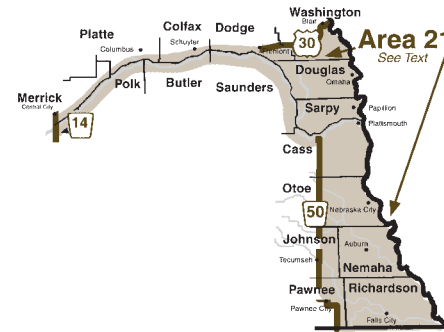
Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 21

Area: All of Douglas and Sarpy counties, and all land bordering the Missouri River south of U.S. Hwy. 30 and east of

NE Hwy. 50, and land within 3 miles of the banks of the Platte River beginning at the Missouri River confluence and extending west to NE Hwy. 14.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.



Season Choice Area 22

Area: Same as Sandhills Unit. Valentine National Wildlife Refuge is closed

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 23

Area: Same as Plains Unit.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 24

Area: Same as Upper Platte Unit.

Bag Limit: One antlerless deer.

Season Choice Area 25

Area: Same as Buffalo Unit.

Bag Limit: One antlerless whitetail.

CLEAR CREEK WMA ANTLERLESS WHITETAIL

Oct. 1-31

Area: Designated lands on Clear Creek WMA, located in Garden and Keith counties.

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless whitetail.

DESOTO SEASONS

Area: A described portion of the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge in Washington County near Blair.

DeSoto

October Early Antlerless:

Oct. 18-19

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag limit: Two antlerless deer.

DeSoto

November Late Antlerless:

Nov. 1-2

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag limit: Two antlerless deer.

DeSoto December Either Sex:

Dec. 13-14

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag Limit: One either-sex deer and one antlerless deer.

Access Deer Permit Areas

Several areas allow hunting with Nebraska deer permits of one type or another, but require **area-specific access permits** issued by entities other than the Commission. Often, specific regulations regarding weapon-type and hunting dates apply as well. Those areas are listed below.

DESOTO

January: Jan. 3-4

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Special Access: Open to Season Choice 21 permit holders only. All hunters must receive a special access permit. 140 access permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Mindy at (712) 642-5405 for more information.

GIFFORD WMA

Sept. 15 - Jan. 15

Area: Gifford WMA in Sarpy County. Two-hundred access permits are issued by drawing. Contact the

Commission's Lincoln office (402) 471-0641 or Omaha office (402) 595-2144 to apply July 15 - Aug. 15.

Access permits are available to archery, youth deer, muzzleloader and Season Choice Area 21 permit holders. All regulations relating to season dates and weapon types apply, except that archers may hunt with archery equipment during the November firearm season. **Center-fire weapons are prohibited.**

BOYER CHUTE SEASONS

Area: A described portion of the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge in Washington County near Fort

Calhoun. Only persons with a Boyer Chute permit are allowed on the area during the hunt.

Boyer

October Early Antlerless:

Oct. 11-12

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

Boyer

November Late Antlerless:

Nov. 29-30

Legal weapons: Muzzleloaders and scopes are legal.

Bag Limit: Two antlerless deer.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

Hunters voluntarily submitted their deer for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing in 2007. A total of 3,310 samples was collected and there were 18 deer that tested positive. That brings the total to 133 positives since testing began in 1997. No wild elk have tested positive for CWD since testing began in 1998. CWD is not known to infect antelope or bighorn sheep.

This surveillance is conducted to provide hunters with information about the distribution and prevalence of the disease. During the last three years the prevalence has remained low and unchanged. Most of the positive deer tested came from the Panhandle. The distribution of CWD was extended in 2007 with one deer each taken from Keith, Red Willow, and Hall counties.

CWD appears to be a prior disease that attacks the central nervous system and causes fatal damage to the brain of white-tailed deer, mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk.



NEBRASKA TROPHY DEER 150-PLUS POINTS 1997-2007, BY COUNTY

More than 4,000 deer are entered into the 2007 edition of Nebraska's Big Game Trophy Records Program. 1,052 deer, scoring 150 or higher in the typical and nontypical categories are represented from the 1997-2007 time periods. This is a minimum count, as many hunters don't have their deer measured.

Deer density, county size and trophy potential vary tremendously between counties. The smallest county is Sarpy with 241 sq. miles and the largest is Cherry with 5,961 sq. miles. The county with the largest total harvest was Cherry (1,996), and the smallest total harvest was Deuel (55).

The trophy records data base can be found at:
www.OutdoorNebraska.org

| County | MD | WT | County | MD | WT | County | MD | WT |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| Adams | | .1 | Furnas | | .7 . . .9 | Nemaha | | .4 |
| Antelope | | .6 | Gage | | .20 | Nuckolls | | .10 |
| Arthur | | .4 | Garden | | .10 . . .5 | Otoe | | .20 |
| Banner | | .9 | Garfield | | .5 . . .2 | Pawnee | | .23 |
| Blaine | | .1 . . .1 | Gosper | | .2 . . .3 | Perkins | | .4 . . .2 |
| Boone | | .2 | Grant | | .12 | Phelps | | .1 |
| Box Butte | | .2 . . .3 | Greeley | | .6 | Pierce | | .4 |
| Boyd | | .1 . . .9 | Hall | | .2 | Platte | | .3 |
| Brown | | .5 . . .10 | Hamilton | | .1 | Polk | | .1 |
| Buffalo | | .2 . . .12 | Harlan | | .9 | Red Willow | | .20 . . .5 |
| Burt | | .8 | Hayes | | .10 . . .2 | Richardson | | .21 |
| Butler | | .3 | Hitchcock | | .13 . . .5 | Rock | | .5 |
| Cass | | .29 | Holt | | .1 . . .14 | Saline | | .9 |
| Cedar | | .2 | Hooker | | .14 . . .4 | Sarpy | | .19 |
| Chase | | .13 . . .2 | Howard | | .1 . . .1 | Saunders | | .22 |
| Cherry | | .47 . . .20 | Jefferson | | .38 | Scotts Bluff | | .12 . . .2 |
| Clay | | .1 | Johnson | | .18 | Seward | | .10 |
| Colfax | | .2 | Kearney | | .2 | Sheridan | | .13 . . .3 |
| Cuming | | .1 | Keith | | .6 . . .6 | Sherman | | .7 |
| Custer | | .20 . . .18 | Keya Paha | | .4 . . .16 | Sioux | | .11 . . .1 |
| Dakota | | .1 | Kimball | | .4 | Stanton | | .7 |
| Dawes | | .9 . . .5 | Knox | | .9 | Thayer | | .14 |
| Dawson | | .5 . . .4 | Lancaster | | .32 | Thomas | | .7 . . .4 |
| Deuel | | .1 | Lincoln | | .30 . . .19 | Thurston | | |
| Dixon | | .1 | Logan | | .4 . . .6 | Unknown | | .4 . . .4 |
| Dodge | | .10 | Loup | | .3 . . .3 | Valley | | .1 . . .8 |
| Douglas | | .8 | Madison | | .3 | Washington | | .23 |
| Dundy | | .16 . . .4 | McPherson | | .12 . . .1 | Webster | | .1 . . .6 |
| Fillmore | | .6 | Merrick | | .4 | Wheeler | | .5 |
| Franklin | | .11 | Morrill | | .6 . . .2 | York | | .3 |
| Frontier | | .19 . . .9 | Nance | | .2 | Total | | 372 680 |

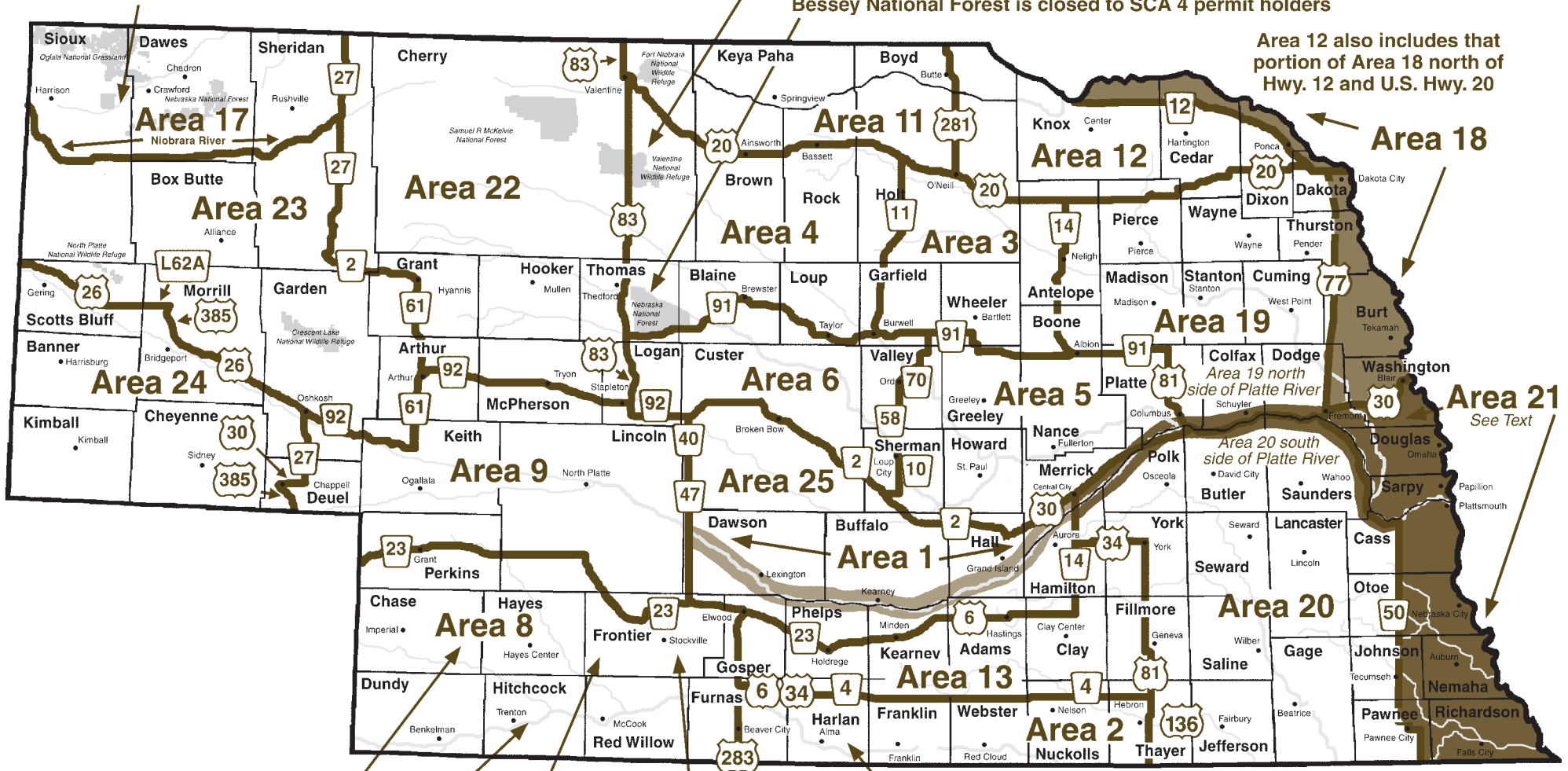
2008 Deer Season Choice Areas

Fort Robinson State Park and Fort Robinson Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Soldier Creek Wilderness Area and Peterson WMA are closed to antlerless mule deer harvest in all seasons

Valentine National Wildlife Refuge is closed to SCA 4 and SCA 22 permit holders

Bessey National Forest is closed to SCA 4 permit holders

Area 12 also includes that portion of Area 18 north of Hwy. 12 and U.S. Hwy. 20



Enders, Swanson, Red Willow and Medicine Creek State Recreation Areas/ Wildlife Management Areas are closed to SCA 8 permit holders

Harlan County Reservoir is closed to SCA 2 permit holders

Bighorn Sheep

SEASON DATES

Dec. 2 - 22

Permit type : One lottery

Application period: April 21- Aug. 1
Application fee: \$25.00

BIGHORNS IN NEBRASKA

Once native to parts of Nebraska, bighorn sheep were reintroduced in the Pine Ridge in 1981 and to the Wildcat Hills in 2001. Additional releases of 100 Montana bighorns in the Pine Ridge in 2005 and the Wildcat Hills in 2007 brought the total population to a record level of more than 200. Significant disease losses in the Pine Ridge and Wildcat Hills herds during the winter of 2004-05 resulted in a season closure for 2006 and 2007.

Maintaining, reintroducing and managing bighorn sheep is a costly endeavor. Sheep face many obstacles – both natural and man-made. A great deal of staff time and money is spent monitoring, tracking and trapping sheep for blood samples, providing medical attention and assessing the overall health of individual sheep and herds.

Penalty for unlawful take or possession of bighorn sheep or parts thereof may exceed \$5,000.

LOTTERY AND AUCTION REVENUE/APPLICATIONS

Proceeds from lottery entries and auctions have raised nearly \$600,000 for the Bighorn Sheep Program in Nebraska. These proceeds are a critical revenue source for the program.

AUCTIONS

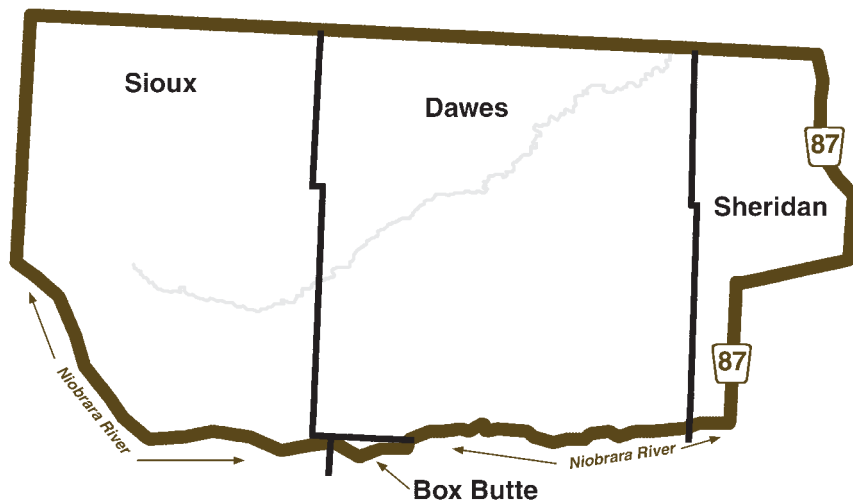
- 1998 - \$87,500 Safari Club International
- 2000 - \$85,000 Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
- 2002 - \$55,000 Safari Club International
- 2005 - \$83,000 Grand Slam/Ovis

LOTTERY REVENUE

\$286,200 total proceeds

LOTTERY APPLICATIONS

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1998 - 3,443 | 2002 - 1,838 |
| 1999 - 1,996 | 2003 - 1,595 |
| 2000 - 1,806 | 2004 - 1,585 |
| 2001 - 886 | 2005 - 1,445 |



Elk

SEASON DATES

All units except Boyd:
Bull — Sept. 27 - Oct. 26
Antlerless — Sept. 27 - Oct. 26
and Dec.1-21

Boyd Unit:
Aug. 15 - Nov. 14 and
Nov. 24 - Dec. 31

FORECAST

A record harvest is expected as herds continue to increase and permits are added. A total population of 1,600 - 1,700 is expected after calving season. The future of the elk herd looks very bright. Landowner support continues to be good and an increased number of permits will provide more opportunity for landowners and other resident hunters.

2008 ELK BULL PERMITS

| UNIT NAME | No. of General Permits for 2008 | No. of Landowner Permits for 2008 | No. of bulls harvested in 2007 | General Permit 2007 Draw Odds | Landowner Permit Draw Odds | No. of Permits sold in 2007 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ash Creek Bull Unit | 4 | 2 | 4 | 23/1 | 3/1 | 6 |
| Bordeaux Bull Unit | 12 | 6 | 9 | 45/1 | 4/1 | 12 |
| Box Elder Bull Unit | 2 | 1 | 2 | 55/1 | 11/1 | 3 |
| Boyd Bull Unit | 2 | 1 | 0 | 67/1 | 4/1 | 3 |
| Hat Creek Bull Unit | 12 | 6 | 8 | 47/1 | 2/1 | 12 |
| Niobrara River Bull Unit | 4 | 2 | 5 | 28/1 | 5/1 | 6 |
| North Platte River Bull Unit | 10 | 5 | 7 | 32:1 | 3/1 | 9 |
| Lottery and Auction | 2 | | 1 | | | 2 |

2008 ELK ANTLERLESS-ONLY PERMITS

| UNIT NAME | No. of General Permits for 2008 | No. of Landowner Permits for 2008 | Number of cows harvested in 2007 | 2008 Permit Draw Odds | No. of Permits sold 2007 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Ash Creek Antlerless Unit | 10 | 5 | 2 | 4:1 | 10 |
| Bordeaux Antlerless Unit | 32 | 16 | 18 | 5:1 | 36 |
| Box Elder Antlerless Unit | 2 | 1 | 2 | 21:1 | 3 |
| Boyd Antlerless Unit | 4 | 2 | 2 | 12:1 | 10 |
| Hat Creek Antlerless Unit | 32 | 16 | 8 | 5:1 | 37 |
| Niobrara River Either Sex Unit | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | — |
| North Platte River Antlerless Unit | 14 | 7 | 8 | 8:1 | 17 |

CHANGES IN 2008

A total of 18 bull permits are added in three units (Bordeaux, Hat Creek and North Platte River). Antlerless-only permits are decreased by six in Boyd Unit due to low success and few crop damage complaints. A December antlerless season is added. Bull-only permits will replace Either-sex permits. Box Elder Unit is expanded to include much of south-central Nebraska.

Only Nebraska residents may apply. Beginning in 2006, residents can apply for and obtain an antlerless-only elk permit every third year, rather than once in a lifetime. Residents may still obtain only one that allows the take of a bull elk (either-sex permit) in one's lifetime (different regulations apply to landowner permits, see below).

LANDOWNER ELK PERMITS

Nebraska residents who own no less than 320 acres, OR who lease AND reside on no less than 320 acres of farm or ranch land used for agricultural purposes may apply for and obtain a landowner permit every third year, providing they own/operate property which is in an area designated as an elk zone by the Commission. (See Elk Zones page 39). Landowners may hunt in their entire designated unit. A legal description of the land owned/operated must be provided with the application. Members of the immediate family (husband, wife and their children) residing in the same household are eligible, but only one permit may be issued per person or for any property described. Any person who obtained a landowner elk permit in 2006 or 2007 is not eligible. Complete the Landowner Big Game Application found in this brochure and submit it beginning April 21 at 1 p.m. Only applications received at the Commission office in Lincoln by 5 p.m. May 2 or online by midnight will be eligible for the drawing. If you obtain a landowner permit this year, you will not be eligible to apply again until 2011.

APPLYING FOR A PERMIT

Application for elk permits is open to Nebraska residents only.

Note: Be very careful to apply for the proper permit. The Commission will continue to issue permits by drawing and you must ensure that your application lists the proper unit name for the permit you wish to receive.

You must apply (by listing the proper unit on your application) for a Bull permit or for an Antlerless-only permit in all units.

If you are willing to accept an antlerless-only permit for a given unit, but would prefer a bull permit, list the bull as a first choice and the antlerless unit as a second choice. You are not required to provide a second choice.

Any permits remaining after the drawing will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis beginning June 9.

1. Study the elk unit maps, the elk permit chart on the previous page and the General Big Game Information section to get an idea of your elk hunting options.
2. Determine the unit in which you wish to hunt. Be sure to indicate on the application whether your choice is an Bull unit, or an Antlerless-only unit, and enter it on the line correctly. (See example on page 35.) Applications that do not indicate an Bull or Antlerless-only preference will be treated as Bull applications.
3. If you would accept a permit in a different unit, list it as your second choice. Those who do not receive their first choice will receive their second choice if permits remain in that unit.
4. On the Nebraska Big Game Application included in this brochure, list the unit name for your first choice of permits.
5. Please print legibly on your application, include all information requested and make sure the information you provide is correct. Failure to do so can delay the processing of your application and may cause you to be excluded from the drawing.

THE CORRECT WAY TO APPLY FOR AN ELK PERMIT

Important Note: When applying for an elk permit, you must indicate whether you are applying for an antlerless unit or a bull unit (see the examples below). Applications that do not indicate an antlerless or bull unit will be treated as a bull unit application.

| | |
|---|---|
| RIGHT | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Stamp \$16 | DO NOT REQUEST A HABITAT STAMP WHEN APPLYING FOR DEER, ELK, OR ANTELOPE RANDOM DRAW PERMITS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If buddy application, check box. | |
| Unit Name (1st Choice) <u>Boyd Bull Unit</u> | Unit Name (2nd Choice) <u>Boyd Antlerless Unit</u> |
| WRONG | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Stamp \$16 | DO NOT REQUEST A HABITAT STAMP WHEN APPLYING FOR DEER, ELK, OR ANTELOPE RANDOM DRAW PERMITS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If buddy application, check box. | |
| Unit Name (1st Choice) <u>Boyd Unit</u> | Unit Name (2nd Choice) <u>Boyd Unit</u> |

Note: Only one Bull elk permit may be obtained in a lifetime, except landowner permits. Antlerless permits may be obtained every third year.

6. Where and When to apply:

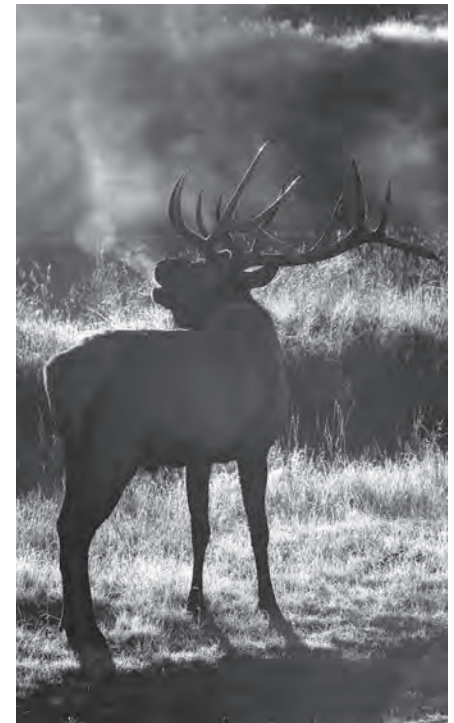
- **April 21 - May 2:** Beginning at 1 p.m. Central Time April 21. Applications, including those from landowners, must be received by 5 p.m. May 2 or online by midnight to be eligible for the drawing. All applications must be sent to the Commission's Lincoln office.

- **June 9:** Remaining permits available to residents and resident landowners.

7. A non-refundable fee of \$8.50 along with the permit fee must be included with each application. Checks, money orders, and Visa or Mastercard are accepted. Do not send cash.

Notification of Success: All applicants will be notified of their status following the drawing.

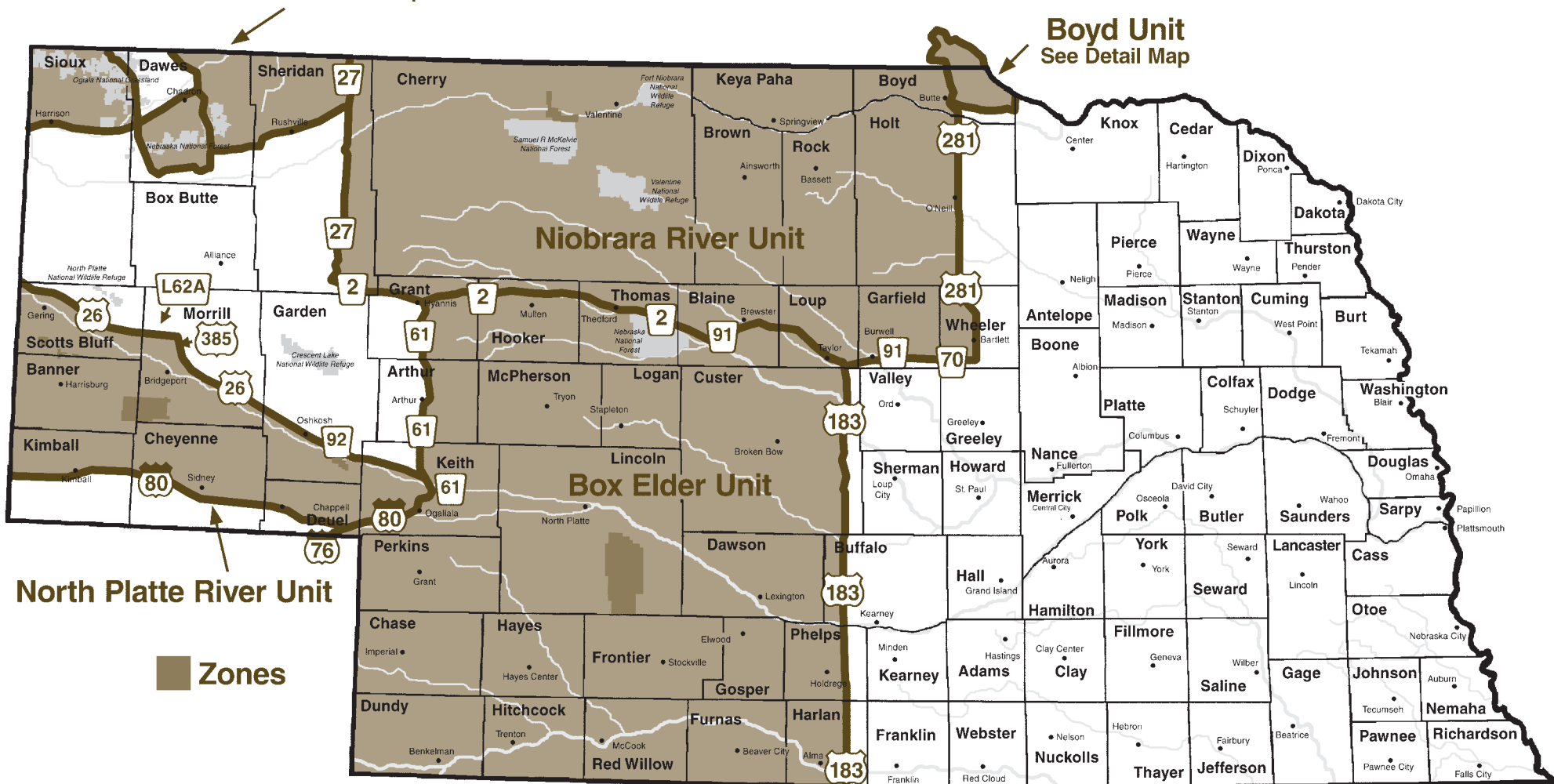
Please Note: Drawing an elk permit does not guarantee hunters the opportunity to harvest an elk. Nebraska's elk populations move freely between private and public land, but the majority of elk sightings are on private property. Some landowners may charge an access fee for permission to hunt on their property.

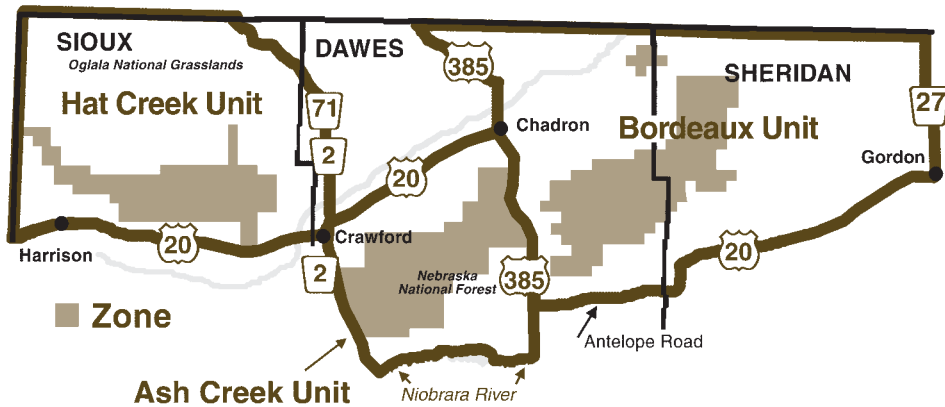


2008 Elk Units

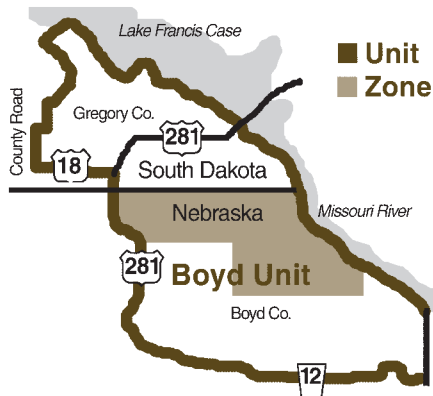
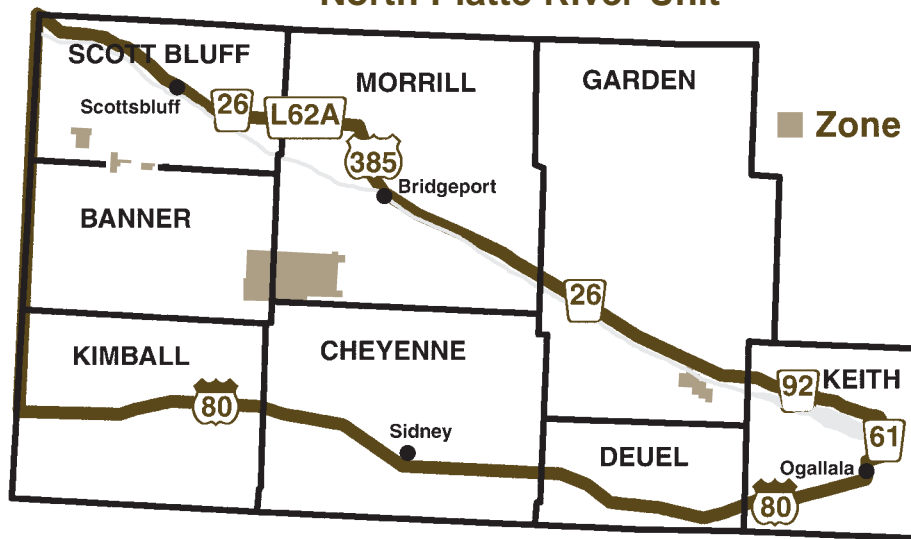
Hat Creek, Ash Creek and Bordeaux Units
See Detail Map

Boyd Unit
See Detail Map





North Platte River Unit



ELK ZONES

Note: Text that is bold and underlined are new lands this year.

Ash Creek Unit - The following lands in Dawes County: Sec. 1, 12, 13, and 24 and those portions of Sec. 2, 11, 14, 23, 25, 26, and 36 that lie east of NE Hwy. 2, all in T30N R52W; that portion of Sec. 1 that lies east of NE Hwy. 2 in T29N R52W; Sec. 13 through 17, 20 through 29, 32 through 36, all in T31N R51W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T30N R51W; Sec. 1 through 5, 8 through 11, and those portions of Sec. 6 and 7 that lie east of NE Hwy. 2, all in T29N R51W; Sec. 11 through 36, all in T31N R50W; Sec. 1 through 11, 14 through 22, 27 through 34, all in T30N R50W; Sec. 3, 4, 5, and 6, all in T29N R50W; Sec. 9 through 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 31 through 35, and those portions of Sec. 24, 25 and 36 that lie west of U.S. Hwy. 385, all in T32N R49W; Sec. 1 through 24, 28 through 33, and those portions of Sec. 26 and 27 that lie north of Table Road, all in T31N R49W; Sec. 18, 19, and 20 and portions of Sec. 6, 7, 8, and 17 that lie west of U.S. Hwy. 385, all in T31N R48W; Sec. 4, 5 and 6, all in T30N R49W; 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.

Bordeaux Unit - The following lands in Dawes and Sheridan counties: Sec. 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12, all in T31N R48W; Sec. 5, 6, and 7, all in T31N R47W; Sec. 1, 2, 3, 9 through 14, 22 through 26, and 36, all in T32N R48W; Sec. 35 and 36, all in T33N R48W; Sec. 1 through 32, all in T32N R47W; Sec. 21 through 36, all in T33N R47W; Sec. 3, through 9, and 17 through 19, all in T32N R46W; Sec. 1, 2, 10 through 35, all in T33N R46W; Sec. 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23 through 26, and 35 and 36, all in T34N R46W; Sec. 4 through 9, 17 through 20, 27 through 33, all in T33N R45W; Sec. 7 through 10, 15 through 22, 28 through 33, all in T34N R45W; Sec. 29 through 33, all in T35N R46W; Sec. 25 and 36 in T35N R47W; 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.

Box Elder Unit - The following lands in Lincoln County: Sec. 9 through 16, 21 through 29, 32 through 36, all in T12N R29W; Sec. 17 through 21, 26 through 36, all in T12N R28W; Sec. 1 through 5, 8 through 17, 20 through 29, 32 through 36, all in T11N R29W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T11N R28W; Sec. 1 through 5, 9 through 16, 21 through 28, 33 through 36, all in T10N R29W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T10N R28W; Sec. 1 through 4, 9 through 15, 22 through 27, and 34 through 36, all in T9N R29W; Sec. 3 through 10, 15 through 22, and 27 through 34, all in T9N R28W.

Boyd Unit - That part of Boyd County east of U.S. Hwy. 281 including the following lands: Sec. 22 through 27, 35 and 36, all in T35N R12W; Sec. 19 through 36, all in T35N R11W; Sec. 1, 2, 12 and 13, all in T34N R11W; Sec. 19, 20, 21, 28 through 34, all in T35N R10W; Sec. 3 through 11, 14 through 18, all in T34N R10W.

Hat Creek Unit - The following lands in Sioux County: Sec. 6, 7, and that portion of 18 that lies north of U.S. Hwy 20, all in T31N R53W; Sec. 1, 12, and that portion of 13 that lies north of U.S. Hwy 20, all in T31N R54W; Sec. 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, and 31, all in T32N R53W; Sec. 1 through 36, all in T32N R54W; Sec. 13, 24, 25, and 36, all in T33N R54W; Sec. 1, 2, 3 and Sec. 7 through 36, all in T32N R55W; Sec. 5 through 18, and Sec. 23, 24, 25, and 36, all in T32N R56W; Sec. 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 26,

ELK ZONES CONTINUED

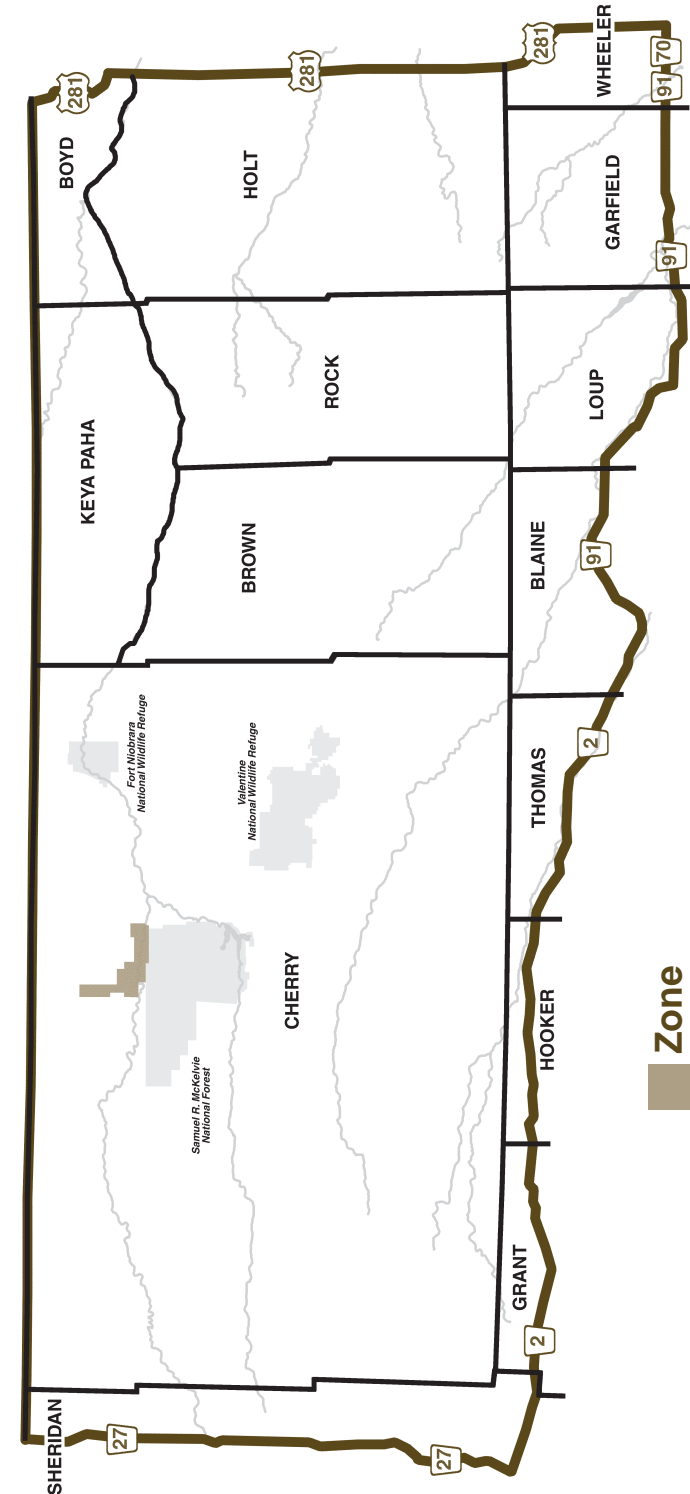
35 and 36, in T33N R57W; and Sec. 1, 2, 11 and 12, in T32N R57W; except that any lands owned by the Forest Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission shall not be included in the zone.

North Platte River Unit - The following lands in Scotts Bluff and Banner counties: Sec. 33, 34, and 35, all in T21N R57W; Sec. 4, 5, 8, and 9, all in T20N R57W; Sec. 17, 20, 29, and the W1/2, and NE1/4 of Sec. 21, and N1/2 of Sec. 22, all in T20N R56W; N1/2, SW1/4, W1/2 of SE1/4, all in Sec. 19, and Sec. 24, all in T20N R56W; the following lands in Banner and Morrill counties: Sec. 13 through 17, 20 through 29, 32 through 36, all in T18N R53W; Sec. 1 through 5, 8 through 17, all in T17N R53W; **Sec. 6 all in T17N, R54W**; Sec. 13 through 36, T18N R52W; Sec. 1 through 12, 14 through 18, all in T17N R52W; South half of Sec. 9, 15 through 21, 28 through 33, all in T18N R51W; Sec. 4 through 10, all in T17N R51W; the following lands in Garden County: Sec. 23, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36, all in T16N R43W; Sec. 1 in T15N R43W; Sec. 31 in T16N R42W; Sec. 5, 6, N1/2 of 7, and 8, all in T15N R42W; 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.

Niobrara River Unit - The following lands in Cherry County: Sec. 23 through 26, 35 and 36 all in T34N R32W; Sec. 1, 2, 12, 13, 24, 25 and the south half of 26 all in T33N R32W; Sec. 17 through 21, the south half of 25 through 27, all of Sec. 28 through 36 all in T33N R31W; Sec. 29 through 32 all in T33N R30W; those portions of Sec. 6 that lie north of the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest all in T32N R30W; those portions of Sec. 1 through 6 that lie north of Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest all in T32N R31W; 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.



Niobrara River Elk Unit



Antelope

2008 SEASON DATES

Archery Statewide

Aug. 20 - Nov. 14 &
Nov. 24 - Dec. 31

Archery hunting is closed in all firearm units during the period open to firearm antelope hunting.

Prairie Muzzleloader

Sept. 20 - Oct. 5

North Sioux Muzzleloader

Sept. 20 - Oct. 5

FIREARM

Oct. 11 - 26

2008 FORECAST

Harvest should be similar to last year as there are no changes in permit quotas. Buck quality and hunter success should continue to improve as population numbers have improved.

CHANGES IN 2008

Landowner permits will be either sex.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN ANTELOPE PERMIT

Hunters may obtain only one permit for antelope.

1. Study the maps on page 44, the Antelope Permit Information chart on the following page and the General Big Game Information to get an idea of your antelope hunting options.
2. On a Nebraska Big Game Application, list the Unit Name of your first choice of permit. Refer to the Antelope Permit Information chart for the exact unit name to use. Applications with unit names other than those listed in the chart will be returned.
3. If you would accept a different permit, list it as your second choice on

your application. Those who do not receive their first choice will receive their second choice if permits remain in that unit.

4. Please print legibly on your application, include all information requested and make sure the information you provide is correct. Failure to do so can delay the processing of your application and may cause you to be eliminated from the drawing. Submit the proper fee with your application.

Firearm and Muzzleloader

• **April 21 - May 2:** Beginning at 1 p.m. Central Time, Residents only. Apply by mail to the Lincoln office or online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org for the drawing. Applications submitted by mail must be received by the Commission's Lincoln office by 5 p.m. May 2 to be considered, including those from landowners. Online applications must be made by midnight May 2. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified.

• **June 9:** Beginning at 1 p.m. Central Time, residents and nonresidents may purchase any remaining permits, including remaining landowner permits. Check, money order, and Visa or Mastercard are acceptable. Do not send cash.

Archery

• **June 9:** Residents and nonresidents. Permits are available over the counter at Commission permitting offices, by mail through the Lincoln office, and online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org. Permits may be purchased through the close of the season. Landowner permits are available at all Commission permitting offices or online.

Landowners: The number of landowner antelope permits issued in any unit cannot exceed 20 percent of the permits authorized for that unit. Application can be made April 21 - May 2 for these limited permits.

Preference Points: Any person who properly applies for and is denied a firearm or muzzleloader antelope permit during the first application period will receive one preference point each year they are unsuccessful. Accumulated points shall be used to determine priority in the permit drawing. **In buddy applications, priority will be given based on the lower number of points possessed by either applicant.** Any person who is issued a permit shall lose all preference points and any person who does not apply during a five-year period shall lose accumulated points. Purchasing an archery permit will not cause you to lose preference points.

Everyone with the number of required points shown below received a permit in 2007. Some applicants with one less point also received a permit.



2008 ANTELOPE PERMIT INFORMATION

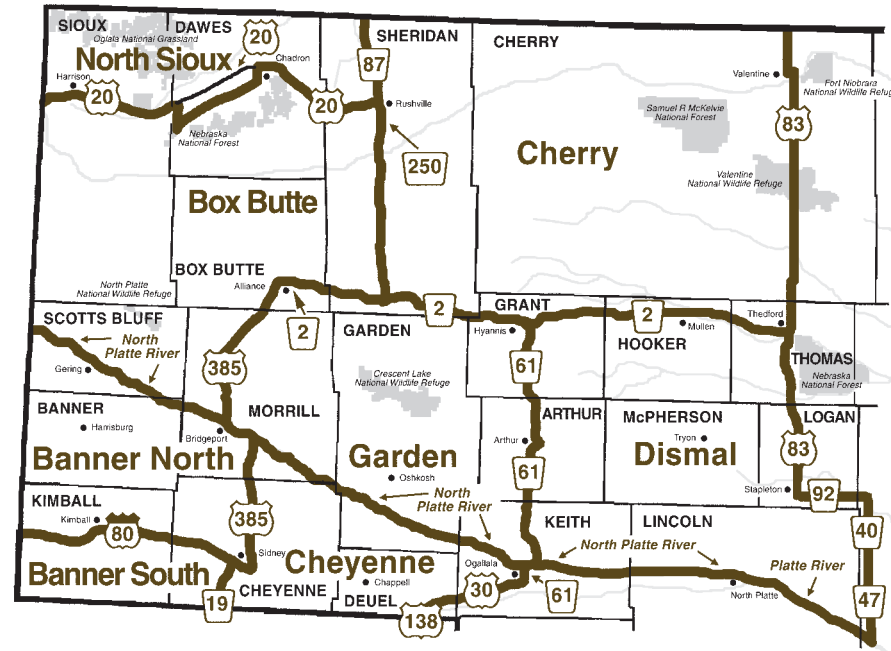
| UNIT NAME | | No. of Permits for 2008 | Sex for 2008 | Percent of Either 2007 Harvest | Percent Success in 2007 | 2007 Points Required | Age 2 or Older | Percent Harvested Bucks |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2007 FIREARM | Archery - Statewide ¹ | UNL | | 100 | 78 | 16 | 0 | 83 |
| | Prairie Muzzleloader ^{2,3} | 65 | | 0 | 42 | 61 | 2 | 94 |
| | North Sioux Muzzleloader ³ | 35 | | 0 | 22 | 60 | 2 | 90 |
| | Banner North ³ | 75 | | 0 | 61 | 68 | 3 | 80 |
| | Banner South ³ | 25 | | 0 | 21 | 70 | 2 | 89 |
| | Box Butte ³ | 35 | | 0 | 34 | 77 | 2 | 91 |
| | Cherry ³ | 55 | | 0 | 42 | 66 | 2 | 91 |
| | Cheyenne ³ | 15 | | 0 | 14 | 78 | 2 | 69 |
| | Dismal ³ | 15 | | 0 | 15 | 83 | 2 | 93 |
| | Garden ³ | 35 | | 0 | 28 | 67 | 2 | 92 |
| North Sioux ³ | 90 | | 0 | 91 | 81 | 4 | 82 | |

¹ Except on the Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest, where the harvest is limited to one antelope with horns longer than its ears.

² Except the Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest in Blaine and Thomas counties is closed to muzzleloader hunting.

³ Buck-Only – Horns longer than ears.

Firearm Antelope



Prairie Muzzleloader Antelope and North Sioux Muzzleloader Antelope

