

## 2014 - JCR Evaluation Form

SPECIES: White tailed Deer

PERIOD: 6/1/2014 - 5/31/2015

HERD: WD201 - BIGHORN BASIN

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

PREPARED BY: LESLIE SCHREIBER

	<u>2009 - 2013 Average</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015 Proposed</u>
Population:	0	N/A	N/A
Harvest:	2,235	1,638	1,740
Hunters:	4,745	3,690	3,800
Hunter Success:	47%	44%	46 %
Active Licenses:	5,698	4,411	4,500
Active License Success:	39%	37%	39 %
Recreation Days:	21,713	17,565	17,700
Days Per Animal:	9.7	10.7	10.2
Males per 100 Females	36	33	
Juveniles per 100 Females	71	86	

Population Objective ( $\pm 20\%$ ) : 0 (0 - 0)

Management Strategy: Recreational

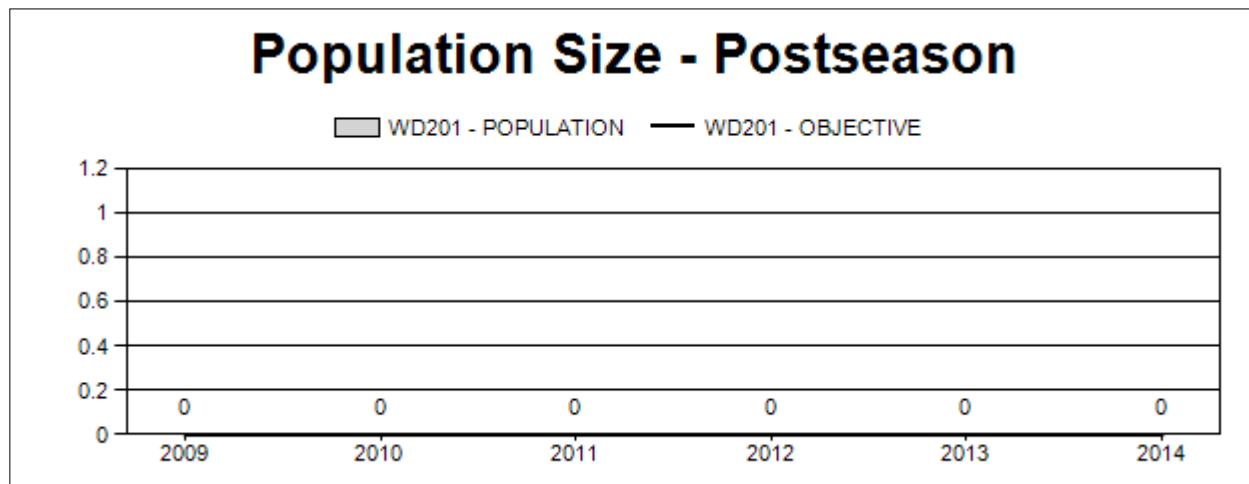
Percent population is above (+) or below (-) objective: N/A%

Number of years population has been + or - objective in recent trend: 0

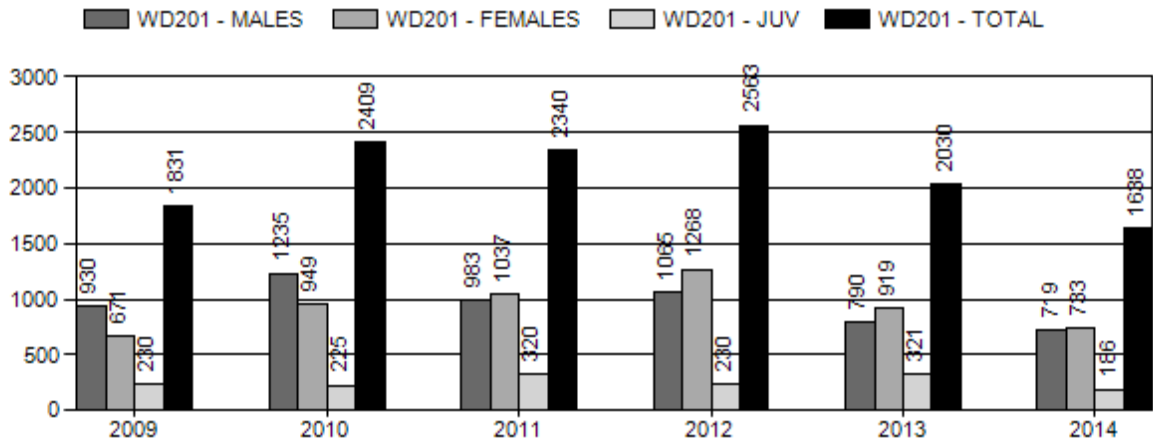
Model Date: None

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

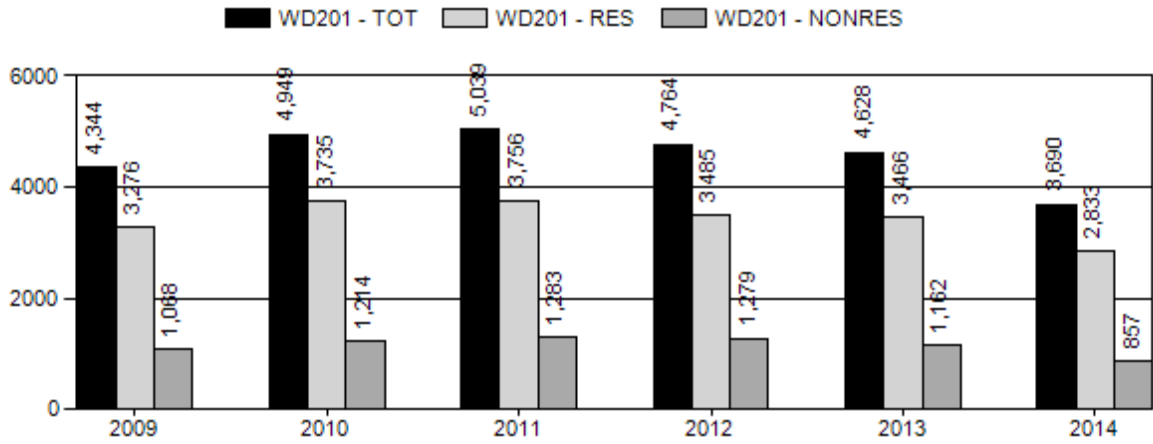
	<u>JCR Year</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Females $\geq 1$ year old:	na%	na%
Males $\geq 1$ year old:	na%	na%
Juveniles (< 1 year old):	na%	na%
Total:	na%	na%
Proposed change in post-season population:	na%	na%



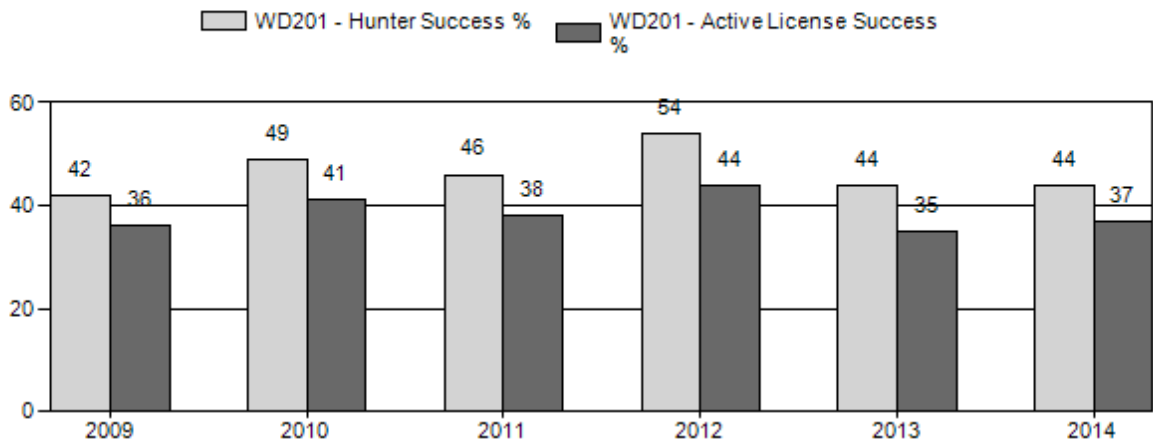
# Harvest



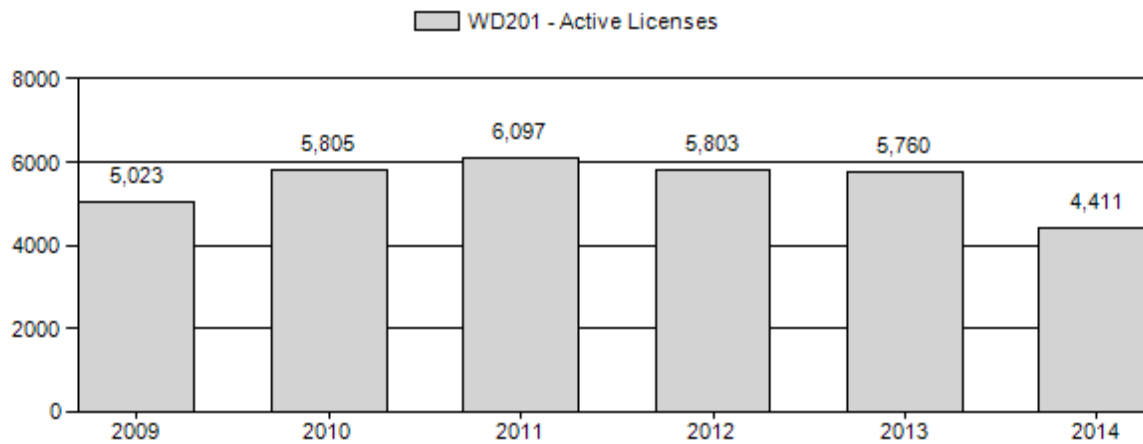
# Number of Hunters



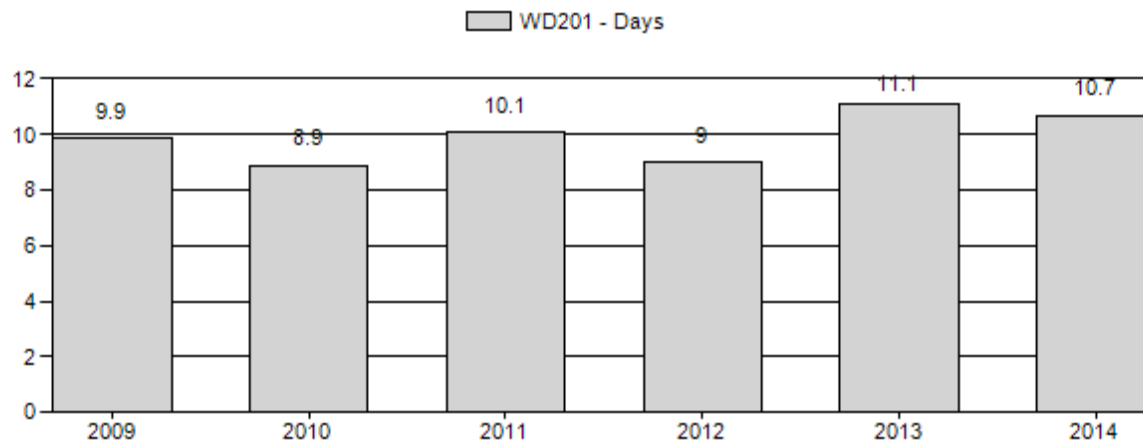
# Harvest Success



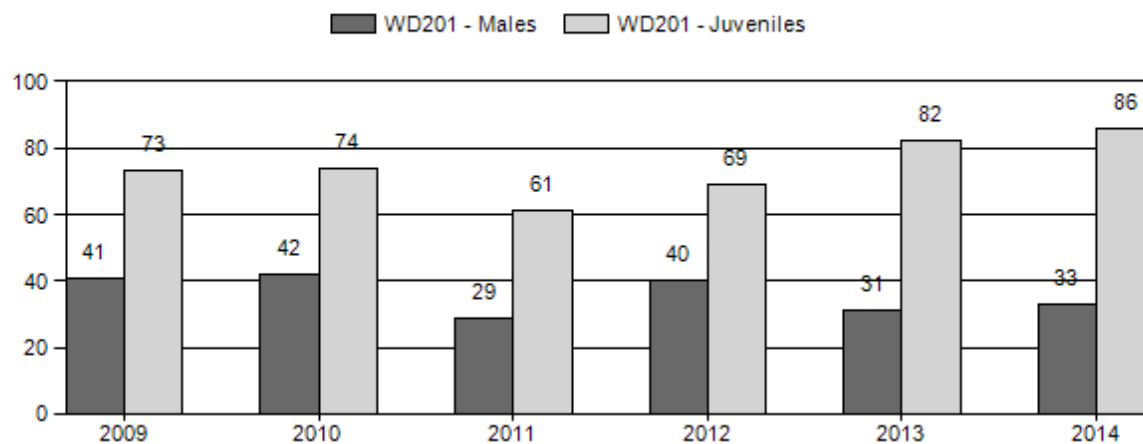
## Active Licenses



## Days per Animal Harvested



## Postseason Animals per 100 Females



**2015 Hunting Seasons  
Bighorn Basin White-tailed Deer (WD201)**

Hunt Area	Type	Dates of Seasons		Quota	Limitations
		Opens	Closes		
36	8	Oct. 15	Oct. 22	25	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
37	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	15	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
40	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
41	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
41	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
47, 51	3	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
47	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
51	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
110, 111	8	Oct. 15	Dec. 31	100	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
112, 113	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
112, 113	8	Oct 15	Dec. 31	100	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
116, 117, 118	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	100	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
116, 117, 118	7	Sep. 1	Oct. 14	100	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer valid on private land in the Wood River drainage
116, 117, 118	8	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	75	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
119, 120	3	Oct. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
120	8	Sep. 15	Dec. 15	100	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
121	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
122	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
124	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer
127	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	15	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
164	3	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	25	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
165	3	Oct. 15	Nov. 30	50	Limited quota; any white-tailed deer
	8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	100	Limited quota; doe or fawn white-tailed deer

Archery:

Sep. 1                      Sep. 30                      Refer to Section 2 of this Chapter

Hunt Area	Type	Quota change from 2014
41,47	8	-100
41	8	+50
47	8	+50
116,117,118	3	+25
116,117,118	7	+100
116,117,118	8	+25
119,120	3	+10
122	8	-50
165	8	+50
<b>Total</b>		<b>+160</b>

**Management Evaluation**

**Current Management Objective:** none

**2014 Postseason Population Estimate:** none

**2015 Proposed Postseason Population Estimate:** none

**Herd Unit Issues.** All white-tailed deer within the Bighorn Basin are managed as one herd unit consisting of 33 Hunt Areas. Hunting seasons for white-tails are typically set in conjunction with mule deer hunting seasons by hunt area. Some opportunity exists for exclusive white-tail type 3 licenses, whereas most are managed to minimize crop depredation using type 8 licenses. Blue tongue and epizootic hemorrhagic disease periodically (occurred in 2001, 2007, 2011) reduces deer numbers; however, white-tail deer have quickly rebounded from disease outbreaks.

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

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

**Field Data and Harvest Data.** Not enough data is collected to draw conclusions from classification data. Harvest data typically follows number of licenses issued and would not provide an index to population level.

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

**Management Summary.** White-tailed deer hunting seasons will continue to be set to address landowner concerns. Licenses specific only for white-tailed deer are needed to obtain enough harvest. Harvest rates probably do not greatly affect the overall population. More licenses for bucks are being proposed for 2015, because department personnel perceive that more can be issued without impacting buck numbers. Furthermore, the Owl Creek/Meeteetse Mule Deer Initiative identified competition with white-tailed deer as a factor in mule deer declines.

