

FALL BLACK HILLS TURKEY

There were 4,319 Fall Black Hills Turkey licenses (4,155 resident, 164 nonresident) sold in South Dakota for the 2008 season. All were single tag licenses valid for either a tom or a hen.

Of the 499 license-holders that were sampled, 411 responded for an 82% response rate. Approximately 28% of responding hunters used the Internet response system.

The fall season ran from October 1 through January 31, a total of 123 days (92 days in 2006, 31 days in 2005, 16 days in 2004, 9 days in 2003). Respondents reported hunting an average of 3.4 days, which projected to a total of 10,632 recreation days for the season.

An estimated 806 toms were harvested along with 1,179 hens, a total of 1,986 turkeys. The overall projected success rate for this season was 46%. The mean satisfaction score reported by hunters was 5.40 (1 representing "very dissatisfied" and 7 representing "very satisfied").

Comparison of the 1999-2008 Fall Black Hills Turkey seasons:

YEAR	LICENSES SOLD		HARVEST				Avg Days	Average
	Resident	Nonresid	Toms	Hens	Total	%Success	Hunted	Satisfaction
1999	645	30	172	222	394	58%	NA	NA
2000	595	33	123	210	333	54%	2.21	NA
2001	No Season							
2002	300	25	104	78	182	56%	2.22	5.91
2003	400	32	114	165	279	65%	1.84	5.95
2004	708	42	206	270	476	63%	2.12	5.97
2005	1,312	83	321	399	720	52%	2.51	6.04
2006	3,081	159	681	962	1,643	51%	3.50	5.34
2007	3,641	138	1,130	1,039	2,169	57%	3.24	5.49
2008	4,155	164	806	1,179	1,986	46%	3.39	5.40

2008 Fall Black Hills Turkey Harvest Projections

Unit/Type	Licenses								Response Rate	Unit/ Subunit Success	Harvest Projections			Average Days Hunted	Mean Satisfctn Score	
	Resident				Nonresident						Total	Toms	Hens			Harvest
	Hunters	Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold	Appl. 1st Choice *	Avail.	Sold									
BH1-31	3,127	1,520	4,000	4,155	68	320	164	82% #	46%	806	1,179	1,986	3.39	5.40		

The response rate for all units combined was: **82.4%**

* Number of 1st drawing applicants with that season as 1st choice.

Harvest projections were developed for units where response rate was less than 85% and may not be within +/- 15% of the sample statistic.

Black Hills Fall Turkey 1985-2008

