

NDG&F February 27th Newsletter

2011 Bighorn Sheep, Moose and Elk Harvests

Harvest statistics released by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department show overall hunter success during the 2011 season for bighorn sheep was 100 percent, 88 percent for moose and 50 percent for elk.

Four bighorn sheep units were open in 2011. Game and Fish issued one license in unit B1/B2, two licenses in unit B3, and two licenses in unit B4. One additional auction license holder was able to hunt any open area. All six hunters tagged adult rams.

The department issued 163 moose licenses last year. Of that total, 159 hunters harvested 140 animals - 84 bulls and 56 cows/calves. Harvest for each unit follows:

2011 Moose Harvest by Unit

Unit	Hunters	Bulls	Cow/Calf	Success Rate
M4	7	4	1	71
M5	5	2	1	60
M6	15	7	6	87
M8	25	13	10	92
M9	30	14	13	90
M10	67	37	24	91
M11	10	7	1	80

The department issued 520 elk licenses last year. Of that total, 504 hunters harvested 251 elk - 177 bulls and 74 cows/calves. Harvest for each unit follows:

2011 Elk Harvest by Unit

Unit	Hunters	Bulls	Cow/Calf	Success Rate
E1	69	16	19	51
E2	124	27	35	50
E3	198	88	10	50
E4	113	46	10	50

Remove Permanent Fish Houses

State law requires permanent fish houses to be removed from North Dakota waters by midnight March 15.

Nancy Boldt, water safety coordinator for the state Game and Fish Department, said anglers should exercise caution because mild weather conditions this winter have resulted in unstable ice conditions in many areas of the state.

“It is always important to check ice thickness, but even more so this year because of the unseasonably mild temperatures over the past two months,” Boldt said. “In addition, warm temperatures with a high sun will rapidly deteriorate ice conditions this time of the year.”

Fish houses may be used after March 15 if they are removed daily.

Darkhouse Spearfishing Season Closes March 15

Anglers are reminded that North Dakota’s darkhouse spearfishing season closes March 15.

Individuals who would still like to get out for the first time this year must [register](#) with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Registration is available through the department’s website, gf.nd.gov, or through any Game and Fish Department office.

March 15 is also the deadline for anglers to remove permanent fish houses from state waters.