

SPRING BLACK HILLS TURKEY

An unlimited number of licenses were available and 4,401 licenses were issued for the 2017 Spring Black Hills Turkey season (2,939 residents, 1,462 nonresidents). All licenses consisted of single tags for male turkeys only.

The survey sample size was 799 (19% of hunters) and the response rate was 76%. Surveys were sent via email and regular mail. The reported success rate was 39% and the projected harvest was 1,701 male turkeys.

The season was open from April 8 through May 21 and hunters averaged 3.48 days of hunting for a projected total of 14,296 days of recreation.

Resident hunters purchased 379 licenses for the BH2 unit, where tags were only valid May 1-21. Of those, 86 did not have a unit BH1 license; therefore, only 293 hunters purchased two licenses for the season. Reported success for unit BH2 for those hunters who purchased two licenses was 30%.

Comparison of the 2008-2017 Spring Black Hills Turkey Seasons

<i>Year</i>	<i>Licenses Issued</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Avg Days Hunted</i>	<i>Success</i>	<i>Average Satisfaction</i>
2008	6,508	2,743	3.39	42%	5.52
2009	5,474	2,346	3.46	43%	5.69
2010	5,244	2,195	3.97	42%	5.36
2011	4,808	1,693	3.53	35%	5.28
2012	4,435	1,685	3.63	38%	5.31
2013	4,512	1,517	3.18	34%	5.08
2014	3,944	1,258	3.19	32%	4.99
2015	3,877	1,258	3.44	32%	4.89
2016	4,056	1,575	3.38	39%	5.21
2017	4,401	1,701	3.48	39%	5.30

2017 Spring Black Hills Turkey Harvest Projections

<i>Unit/Type</i>	<i>Licenses</i>				<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Response Rate</i>	<i>Tag Success</i>	<i>Hunter Success</i>	<i>LCI</i>	<i>UCI</i>	<i>Harvest Estimate</i>			<i>Ave. Days Hunted</i>	<i>Avg Satsfctn</i>
	<i>Resident</i>		<i>Nonresident</i>								<i>Toms</i>	<i>Jakes</i>	<i>Total</i>		
BH1-32	Unlim	2,560	Unlim	1,462	4,108	76.47%	39%	39%	36%	43%	1,540	161	1,701	3.48	5.30
BH2-32	Unlim	379	0	0											
		2,939		1,462											

Response rate for the season was **76.5%**

Satisfaction scale of 1=very dissatisfied to 7=very satisfied.

293 hunters had licenses for both BH1 and BH2 units

Black Hills Spring Turkey 1985-2017

