

Deer numbers checked at Laker's in Enders just shy of 500

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Tuesday, 26 November 2013 18:10 -



**Art Luhrs of Wauneta shot an 8 x9 mule deer with a 28 1/2 inch spread on Nov. 18.
(Courtesy Photo | Laker's)**

By Jan Schultz

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The Imperial Republican

Total deer checked at the Laker's in Enders, one of the Game & Parks Commission's official check-in stations, were down this year from 2012.

A report from Ron Schoenberger of Laker's said 498 deer came in by the 1 p.m. deadline Monday. That's a drop from last year's 540.

Causes for the 7.7 percent decline in success this year could be many, but Schoenberger said he heard a lot of comments they were hard to find this year, especially north of here.

He said that difficulty was expressed more from hunters seeking their prey in Perkins County.

"The last one I checked in Monday was a guy from Perkins County who said he just didn't see them this year," Schoenberger said.

Others who hunted in Perkins County had similar comments, he said.

But, on the other hand, other hunters said they spied a lot of deer this firearm season.

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The season opened Nov. 16 and closed at sunset Sunday. Successful hunters had until 1 p.m. Monday to get them checked in.

Of the 498 total, 370 were bucks and 128 were does. It was nearly even on species bagged, with 241 being mule deer and 257 whitetail.

The vast majority of deer checked in came from Chase County, as expected. Thirty-three were killed on the reservoir by Enders Lake, he added.

Here is the full breakdown:

Chase County 332

Hayes County 101

Dundy County 48

Hitchcock County 11

Perkins County 6