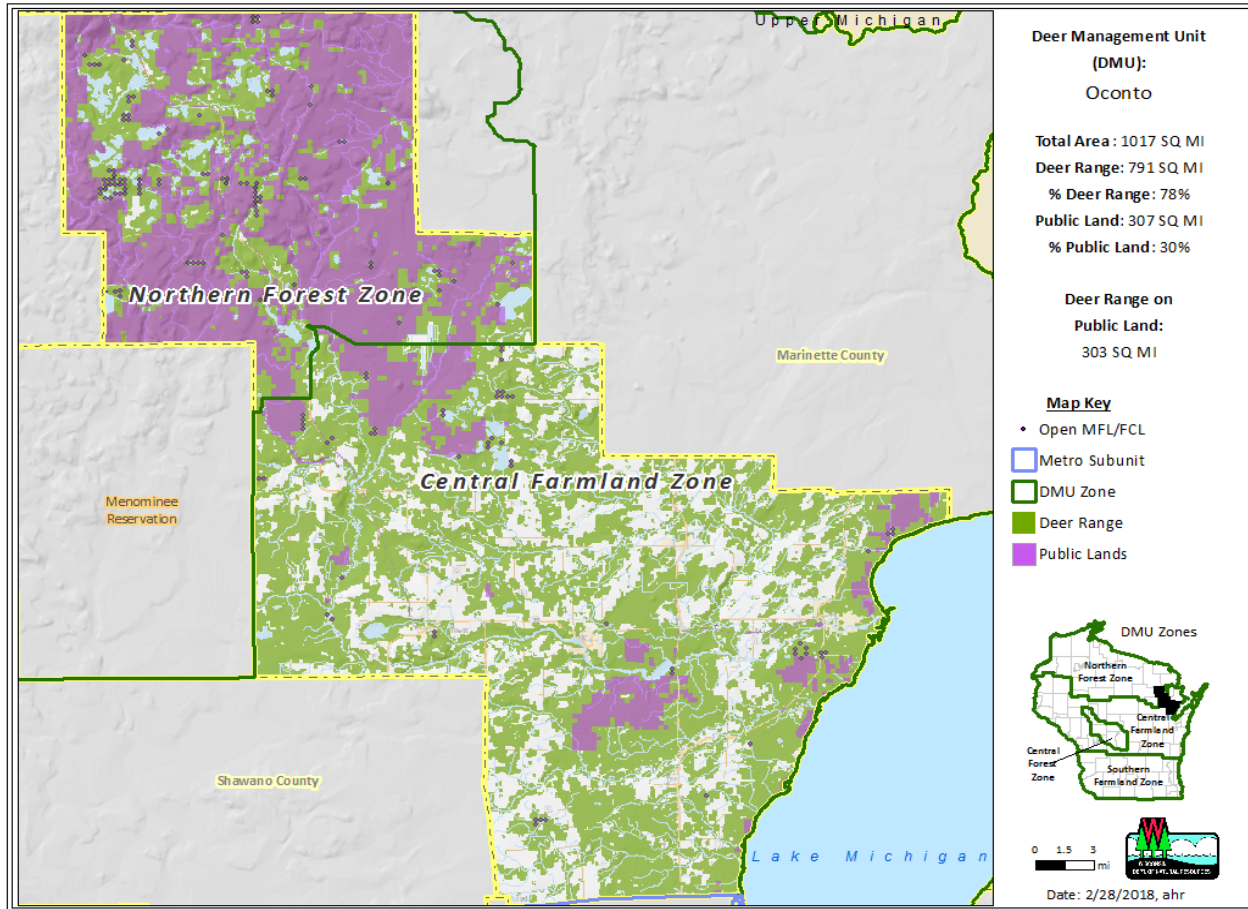


# Oconto County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

Oconto County consists of two Deer Management Units (DMUs); the Northern Forest Zone 1 and the Central Farmland Zone 2 being divided by State Highways 64, 32, and County AA using the old, numbered management unit boundaries and the dominant habitat type in each. The area of the Central Farmland Zone 2 is 413 square miles, 73% of which is considered deer range. Public land only makes up about 9% of this area and it contains 14% of the deer range. These public lands are Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Areas and Oconto County Forest predominately. Private land then makes up 81% of the zone and contains 86% of the deer range. Urban and suburban development as well as the ownership breakdown, create challenges for public hunting access. Agricultural crop damage, vehicle deer collisions, nuisance deer, and deer disease are issues in this unit. Deer numbers have risen over the past few years; correspondingly harvest has generally increased. Registered kill though, reflects the capacity of hunters in the zone to take antlerless deer despite liberal antlerless harvest opportunities. The CDAC objective for this zone is to decrease the population. The area of the Northern Forest Zone 1 is 337 square miles, 94% of which is considered deer range. Public land makes up about 70% of this area. Public lands are predominately National Forest and Oconto County Forest. Private lands then are 30% of the area and are 84% deer range. Deer range habitat quality varies for both public and private lands but is now beginning to change on public lands from mature stands to young forest with an increase in timber harvest activity. It will be important to watch forest regeneration over time. This zone generally produces a harvest of 2-3 bucks per square mile of deer range and antlerless harvest dependent on permit issuance. The CDAC objective for this zone is to increase the population.

Contact Information:

Wildlife Biologist: Dave Halfmann (715) 927-2735

Conservation Warden: Paul Hartrick (920) 373-4179

## ***Deer Management Unit Harvest History***

Fawn to doe ratios collected in late summer give information on fawn recruitment and survival and are used as an input into the formula for annual deer herd abundance estimation. Fawn to doe ratios were summarized using groups of county deer management units. County deer management units were grouped based on location, habitat characteristics, and deer demography.

### **Central Farmland Management Zone**

Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 659.40

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 453.00

### **Northern Forest Management Zone**

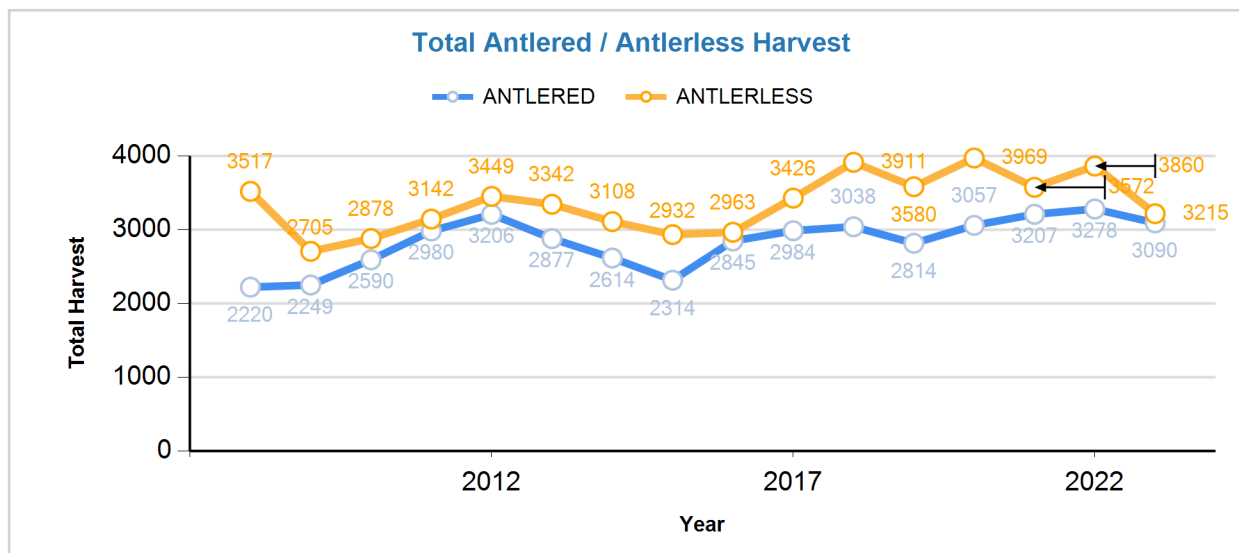
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 357.60

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 337.90

## Total Harvest for Oconto County - Central Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	2614	2314	2845	2984	3038	2814	3057	3207	3278	3090
Antlerless	3126	2932	2963	3426	3911	3580	3969	3572	3860	3215
Total	5740	5246	5808	6410	6949	6394	7026	6779	7138	6305
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	1845	1524	1861	2107	2232	1778	1873	2025	2238	2102
Antlerless	2340	2102	2069	2508	2865	2512	2718	2450	2759	2247
Total	4185	3626	3930	4615	5097	4290	4591	4475	4997	4349
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	445	402	471	350	300	391	429	387	311	304
Antlerless	468	428	377	378	394	366	393	346	338	288
Total	913	830	848	728	694	757	822	733	649	592
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	324	388	513	527	506	645	755	795	729	684
Antlerless	318	402	517	540	652	702	858	776	763	680
Total	642	790	1030	1067	1158	1347	1613	1571	1492	1364
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	187	154	146	108	136	117	119	94

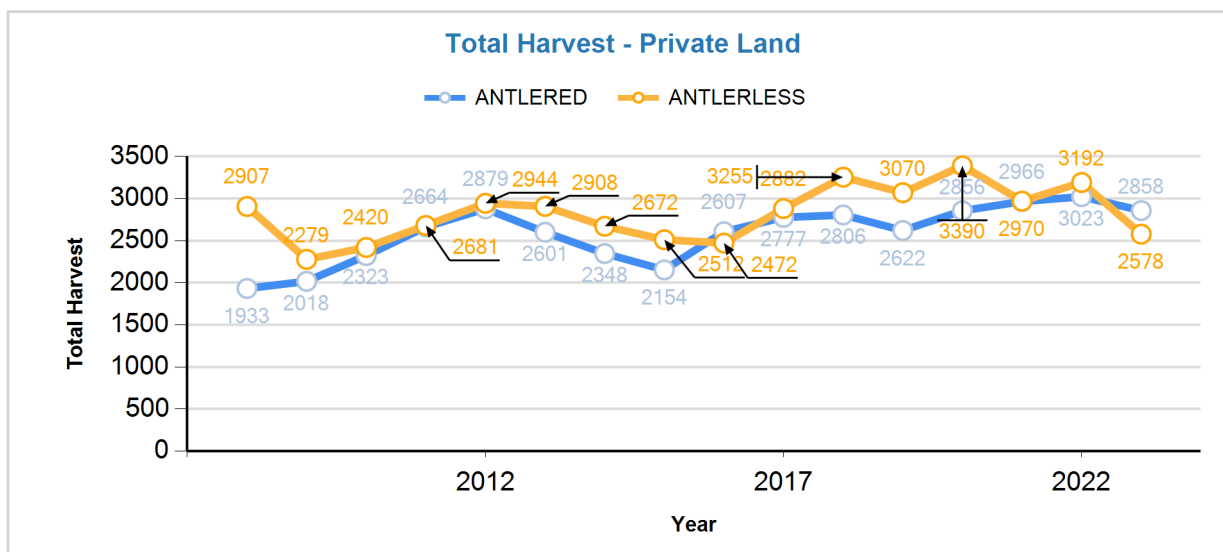
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



**Total Harvest for Oconto County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Private Land**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	2348	2154	2607	2777	2806	2622	2856	2966	3023	2858
Antlerless	2689	2512	2472	2882	3255	3070	3390	2970	3192	2578
Total	5037	4666	5079	5659	6061	5692	6246	5936	6215	5436
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	1657	1439	1718	1982	2081	1671	1771	1894	2077	1969
Antlerless	2047	1844	1788	2147	2420	2206	2368	2079	2316	1809
Total	3704	3283	3506	4129	4501	3877	4139	3973	4393	3778
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	392	358	425	311	261	347	385	338	275	271
Antlerless	376	343	286	309	306	280	319	255	268	220
Total	768	701	711	620	567	627	704	593	543	491
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	299	357	464	484	464	604	700	734	671	618
Antlerless	266	325	398	426	529	584	703	636	608	549
Total	565	682	862	910	993	1188	1403	1370	1279	1167
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	161	141	139	100	123	106	107	86

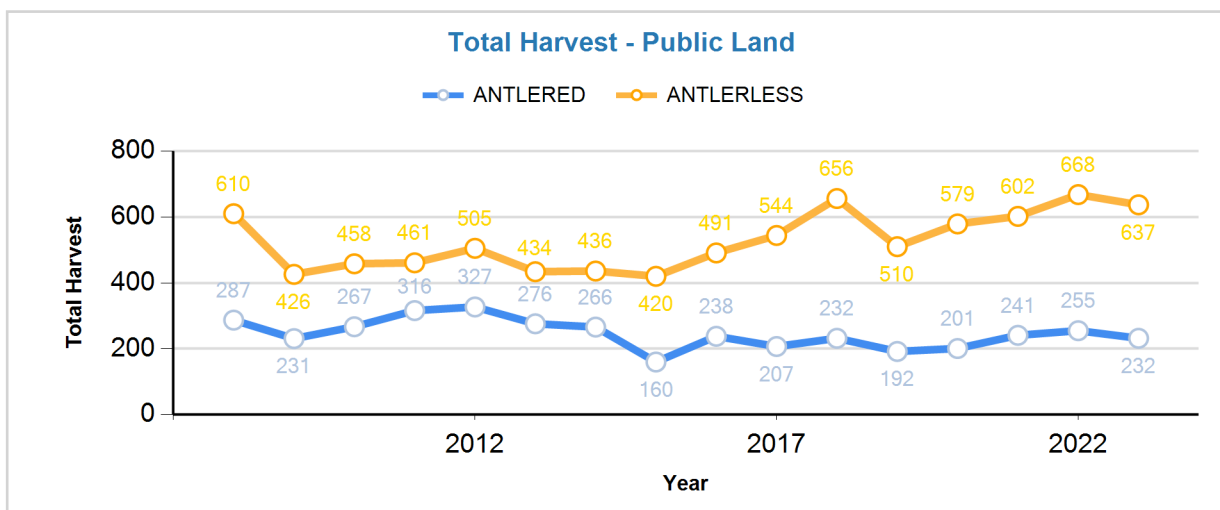
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



## Total Harvest for Oconto County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	266	160	238	207	232	192	201	241	255	232
Antlerless	437	420	491	544	656	510	579	602	668	637
Total	703	580	729	751	888	702	780	843	923	869
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	188	85	143	125	151	107	102	131	161	133
Antlerless	293	258	281	361	445	306	350	371	443	438
Total	481	343	424	486	596	413	452	502	604	571
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	53	44	46	39	39	44	44	49	36	33
Antlerless	92	85	91	69	88	86	74	91	70	68
Total	145	129	137	108	127	130	118	140	106	101
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	25	31	49	43	42	41	55	61	58	66
Antlerless	52	77	119	114	123	118	155	140	155	131
Total	77	108	168	157	165	159	210	201	213	197
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	26	13	7	8	13	11	12	8

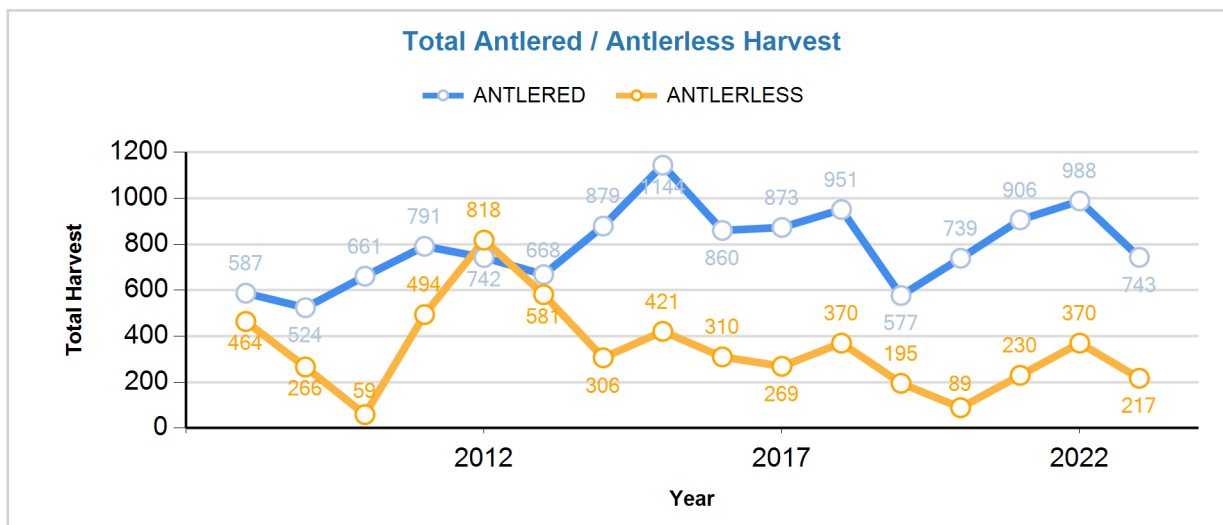
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



## Total Harvest for Oconto County - Northern Forest Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	879	1144	860	873	951	577	739	906	988	743
Antlerless	307	421	310	269	370	195	89	230	370	217
Total	1186	1565	1170	1142	1321	772	828	1136	1358	960
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	571	747	558	612	706	350	417	570	678	501
Antlerless	236	293	229	210	271	140	77	173	288	146
Total	807	1040	787	822	977	490	494	743	966	647
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	169	201	139	96	87	86	121	85	100	60
Antlerless	45	49	30	22	35	22	3	15	19	14
Total	214	250	169	118	122	108	124	100	119	74
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	139	195	162	164	153	138	200	247	209	179
Antlerless	26	78	51	33	62	33	8	39	56	52
Total	165	273	213	197	215	171	208	286	265	231
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	1	1	1	5	3	1	4	1	3
Antlerless	0	1	0	4	2	0	1	3	7	5
Total	0	2	1	5	7	3	2	7	8	8
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	128	85	109	55	78	83	85	47

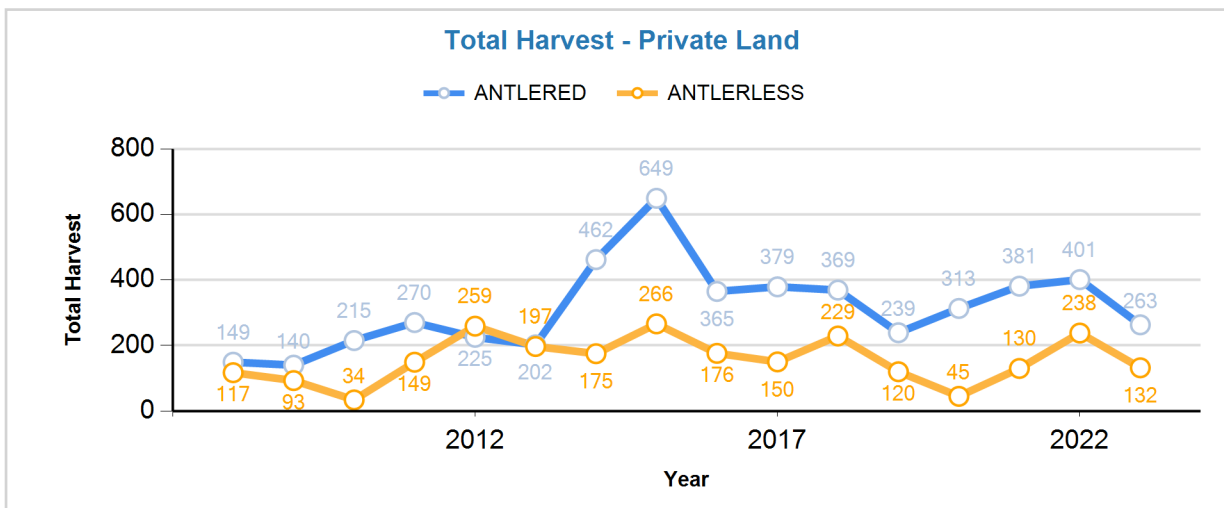
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



**Total Harvest for Oconto County - Northern Forest Management Zone - Private Land**

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	462	649	365	379	369	239	313	381	401	263
Antlerless	175	266	176	150	229	120	45	130	238	132
Total	637	915	541	529	598	359	358	511	639	395
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	286	424	215	246	257	140	157	229	258	167
Antlerless	122	166	115	106	159	78	37	96	174	85
Total	408	590	330	352	416	218	194	325	432	252
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	88	112	62	42	29	27	55	32	39	15
Antlerless	35	40	21	17	24	16	2	8	14	10
Total	123	152	83	59	53	43	57	40	53	25
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	88	113	88	91	83	72	101	120	104	81
Antlerless	18	60	40	27	46	26	6	26	50	37
Total	106	173	128	118	129	98	107	146	154	118
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	53	31	45	21	38	39	43	23

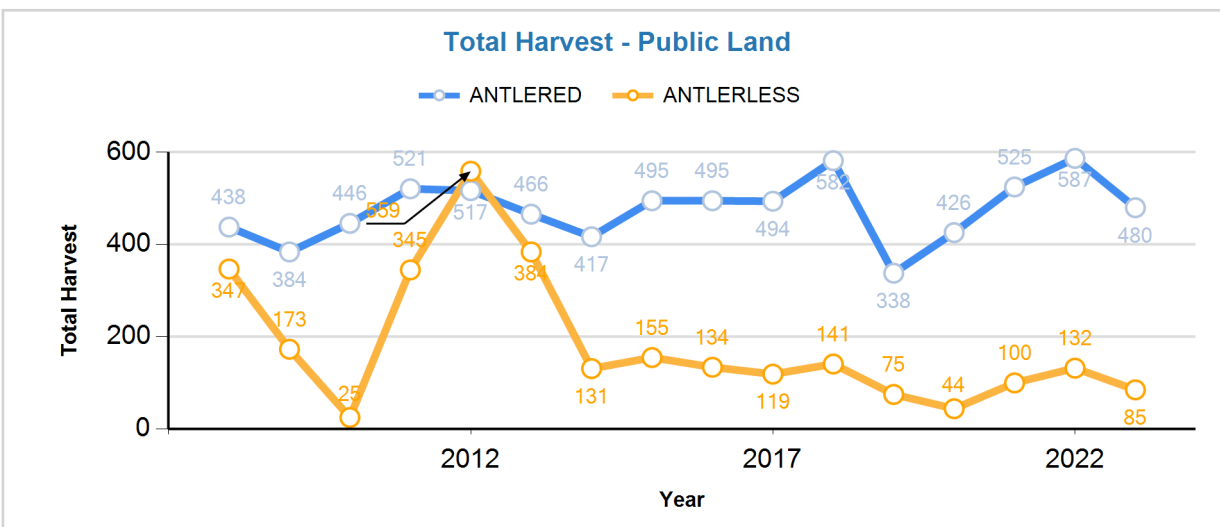
\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



**Total Harvest for Oconto County - Northern Forest Management Zone - Public Land**

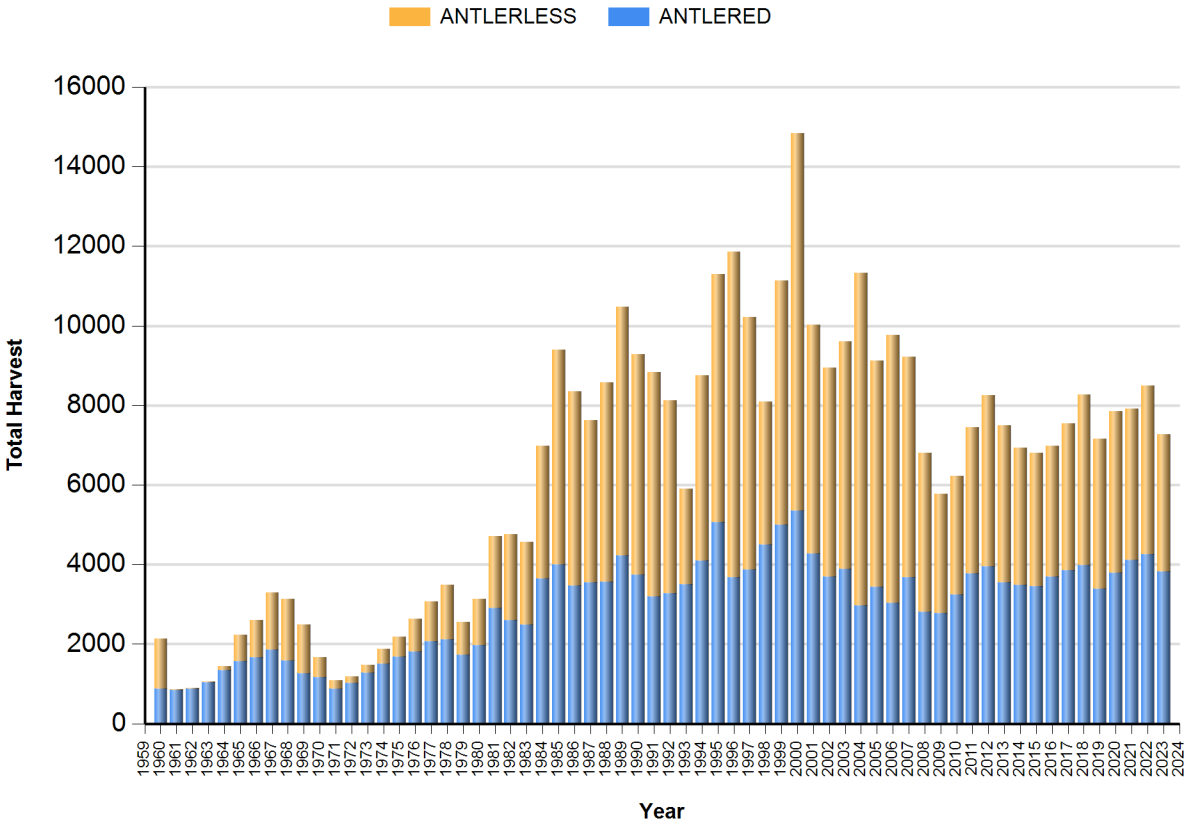
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Total Harvest</b>										
Antlered	417	495	495	494	582	338	426	525	587	480
Antlerless	132	155	134	119	141	75	44	100	132	85
Total	549	650	629	613	723	413	470	625	719	565
<b>Gun</b>										
Antlered	285	323	343	366	449	210	260	341	420	334
Antlerless	114	127	114	104	112	62	40	77	114	61
Total	399	450	457	470	561	272	300	418	534	395
<b>Bow</b>										
Antlered	81	89	77	54	58	59	66	53	61	45
Antlerless	10	9	9	5	11	6	1	7	5	4
Total	91	98	86	59	69	65	67	60	66	49
<b>Crossbow</b>										
Antlered	51	82	74	73	70	66	99	127	105	98
Antlerless	8	18	11	6	16	7	2	13	6	15
Total	59	100	85	79	86	73	101	140	111	113
<b>Tribal*</b>										
Antlered	0	1	1	1	5	3	1	4	1	3
Antlerless	0	1	0	4	2	0	1	3	7	5
Total	0	2	1	5	7	3	2	7	8	8
<b>Youth Antlerless*</b>										
Antlerless	0	0	75	54	64	34	40	44	42	24

\* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply





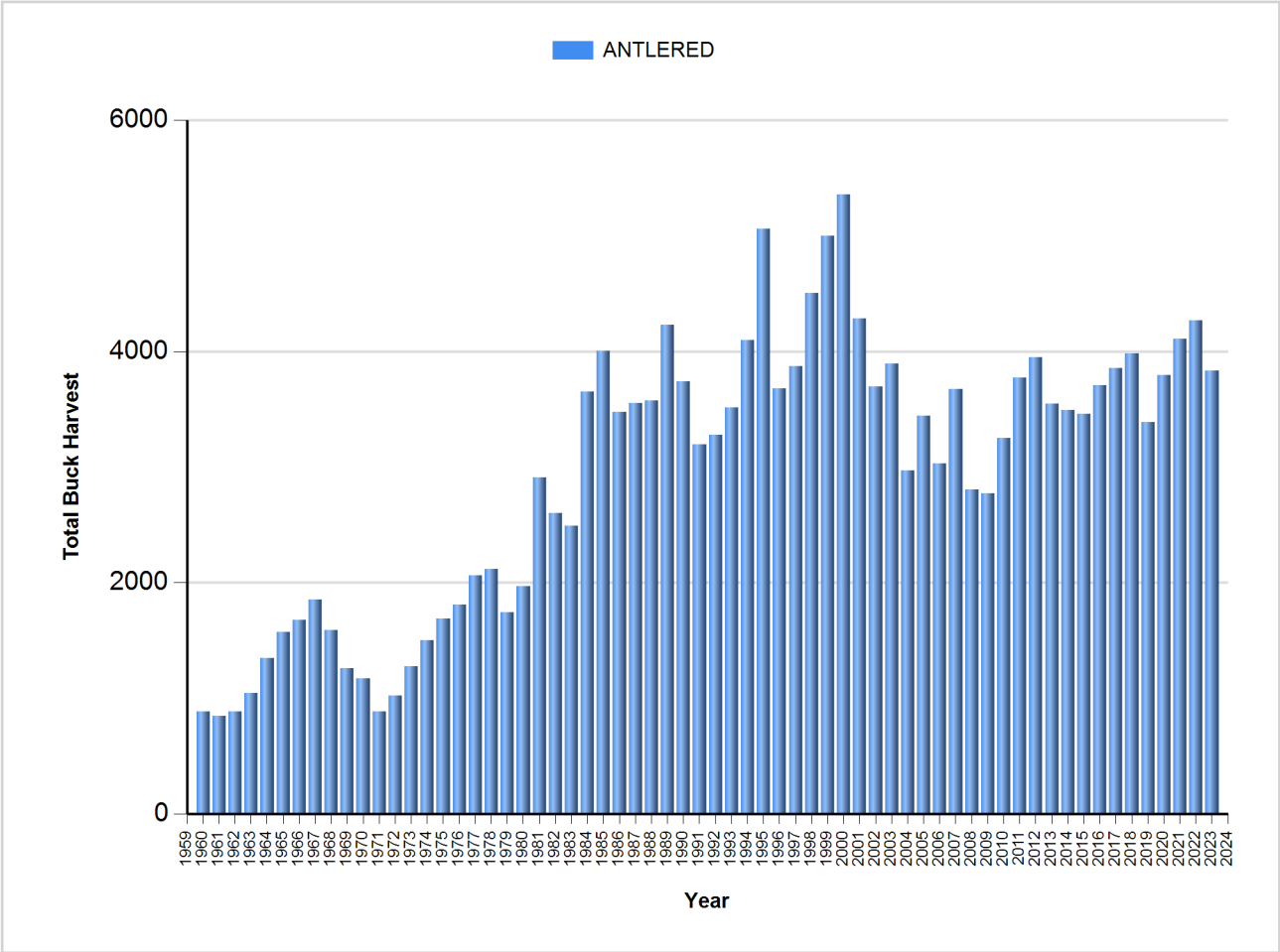
Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 2000 - 5,356

Historic Low: 1961 - 843



**Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Oconto County - Central Farmland**

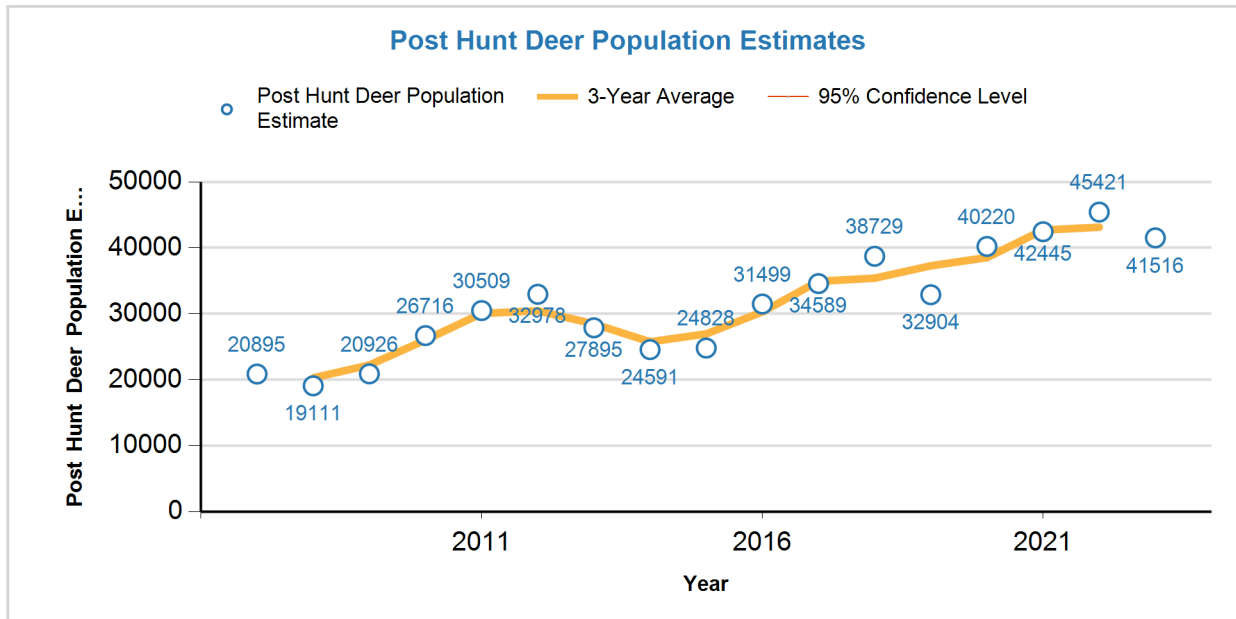
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Farmland - Public</b>				
Issued	17,673	17,632	17,743	17,518
Killed	528	556	629	488
Success Rate (%)	3.0	3.2	3.5	2.8
<b>Farmland - Private</b>				
Issued	43,464	42,725	42,455	42,029
Killed	3,091	2,689	2,934	2,459
Success Rate (%)	7.1	6.3	6.9	5.9
<b>Farmland - Total</b>				
Issued	61,137	60,357	60,198	59,547
Killed	3,619	3,245	3,563	2,947
Success Rate (%)	5.9	5.4	5.9	4.9
<b>Bonus- Public</b>				
Available	450	450	425	200
Issued	449	424	398	200
Killed	28	28	17	11
Success Rate (%)	6.2	6.6	4.3	5.5
<b>Bonus- Private</b>				
Available	1,825	1,825	1,825	1,600
Issued	568	617	601	711
Killed	80	76	89	84
Success Rate (%)	14.1	12.3	14.8	11.8
<b>Bonus- Total</b>				
Available	2,275	2,275	2,250	1,800
Issued	1,017	1,041	999	911
Killed	108	104	106	95
Success Rate (%)	10.6	10.0	10.6	10.4

**Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Oconto County - Northern Forest**

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Farmland - Public</b>				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
<b>Farmland - Private</b>				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
<b>Farmland - Total</b>				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
<b>Bonus- Public</b>				
Available	0	150	250	250
Issued	0	150	250	250
Killed	0	46	75	50
Success Rate (%)		30.7	30.0	20.0
<b>Bonus- Private</b>				
Available	0	300	580	580
Issued	0	301	580	580
Killed	0	70	164	99
Success Rate (%)		23.3	28.3	17.1
<b>Bonus- Total</b>				
Available	0	450	830	830
Issued	0	451	830	830
Killed	0	116	239	149
Success Rate (%)		25.7	28.8	18.0

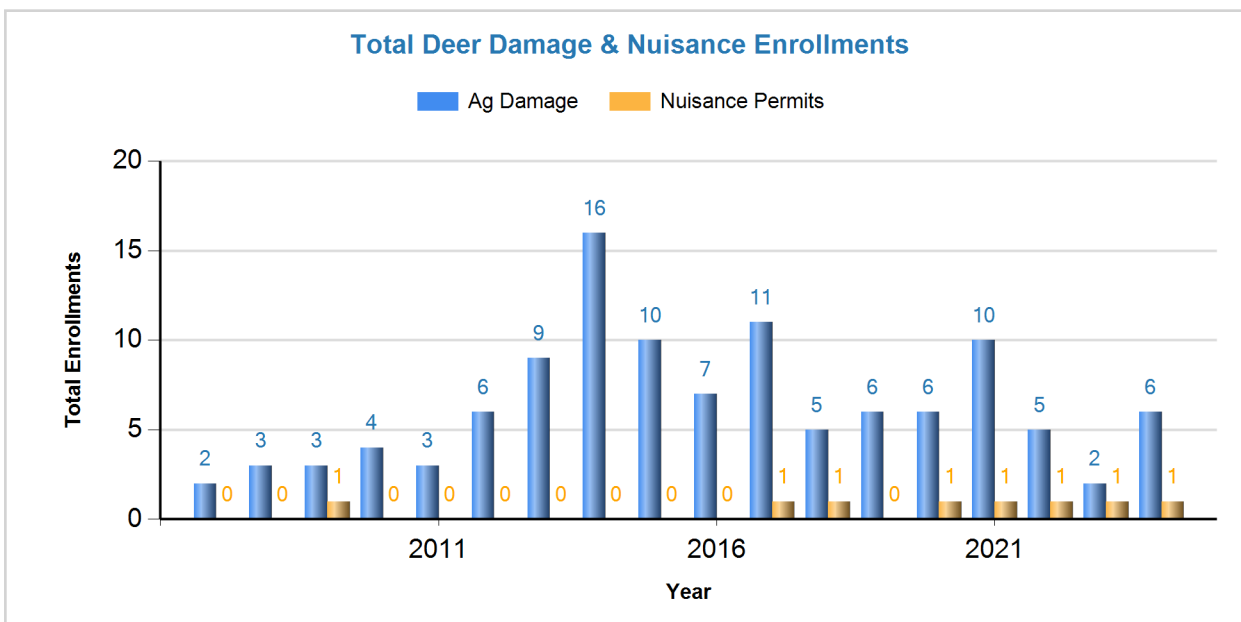
## Herd Abundance

Deer herd abundance is estimated annually with hunter-collected data and a mathematical model to get post hunt deer population estimates.

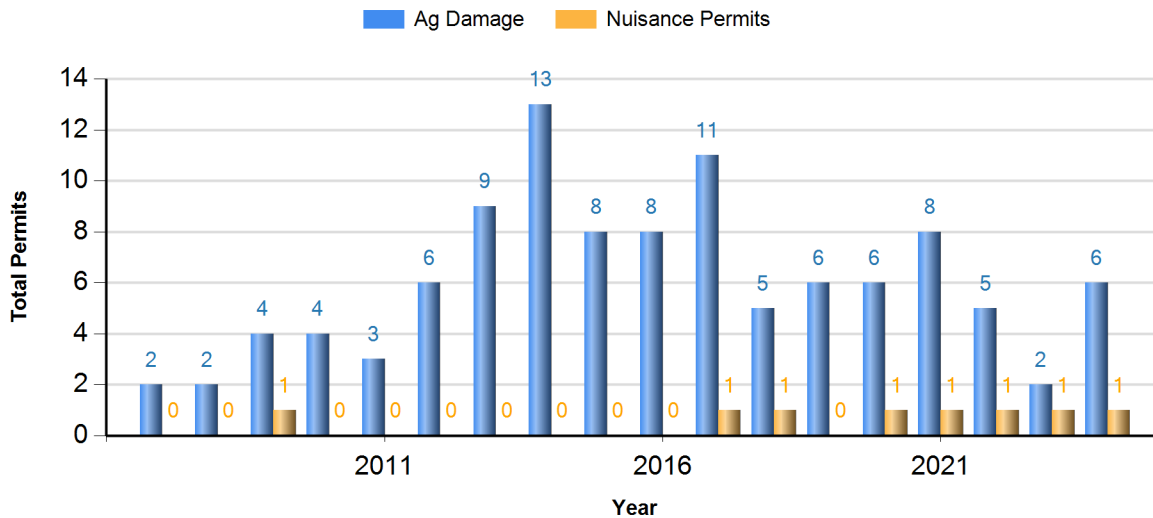


## Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

View trends in county and statewide enrollment, shooting permit, Ag Damage, and Nuisance harvest numbers over the years.



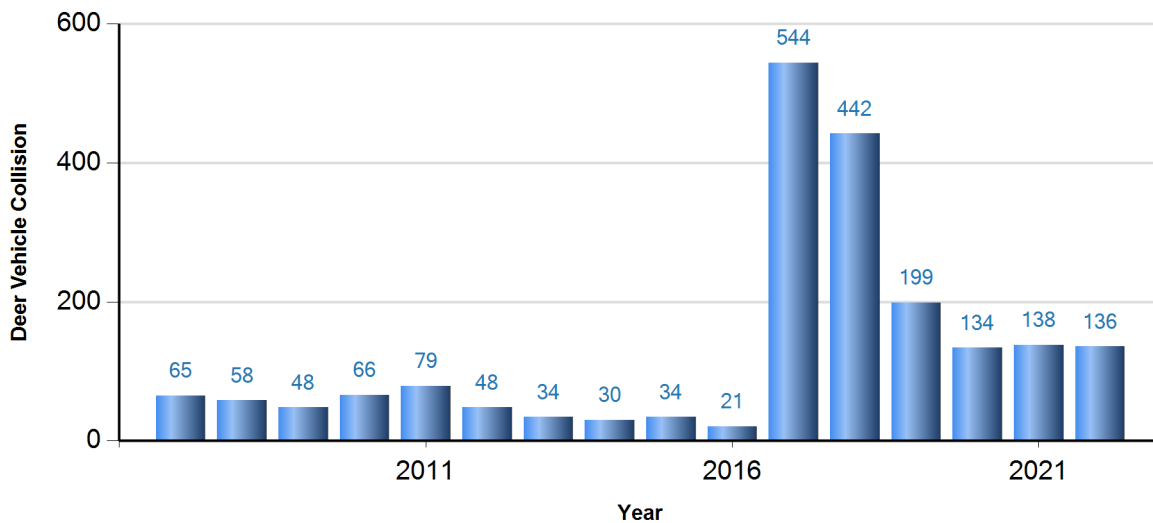
### Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



### Deer Impacts – Deer Vehicle Collision

Deer-vehicle collisions (DVCs) are one of the most visible negative impacts that deer populations have on society. As managing deer involves balancing the positive benefits of deer with their negative impacts, it makes sense to consider DVCs when making deer management decisions.

#### Deer Vehicle Collisions



### Hunter Dynamics - Hunter Field Observations

This metric provides voluntary hunter observation data that is collected either during the process of registering a deer, or from submitted field observations through an on-line reporting form.

Deer Seen Per Hunted Hour

