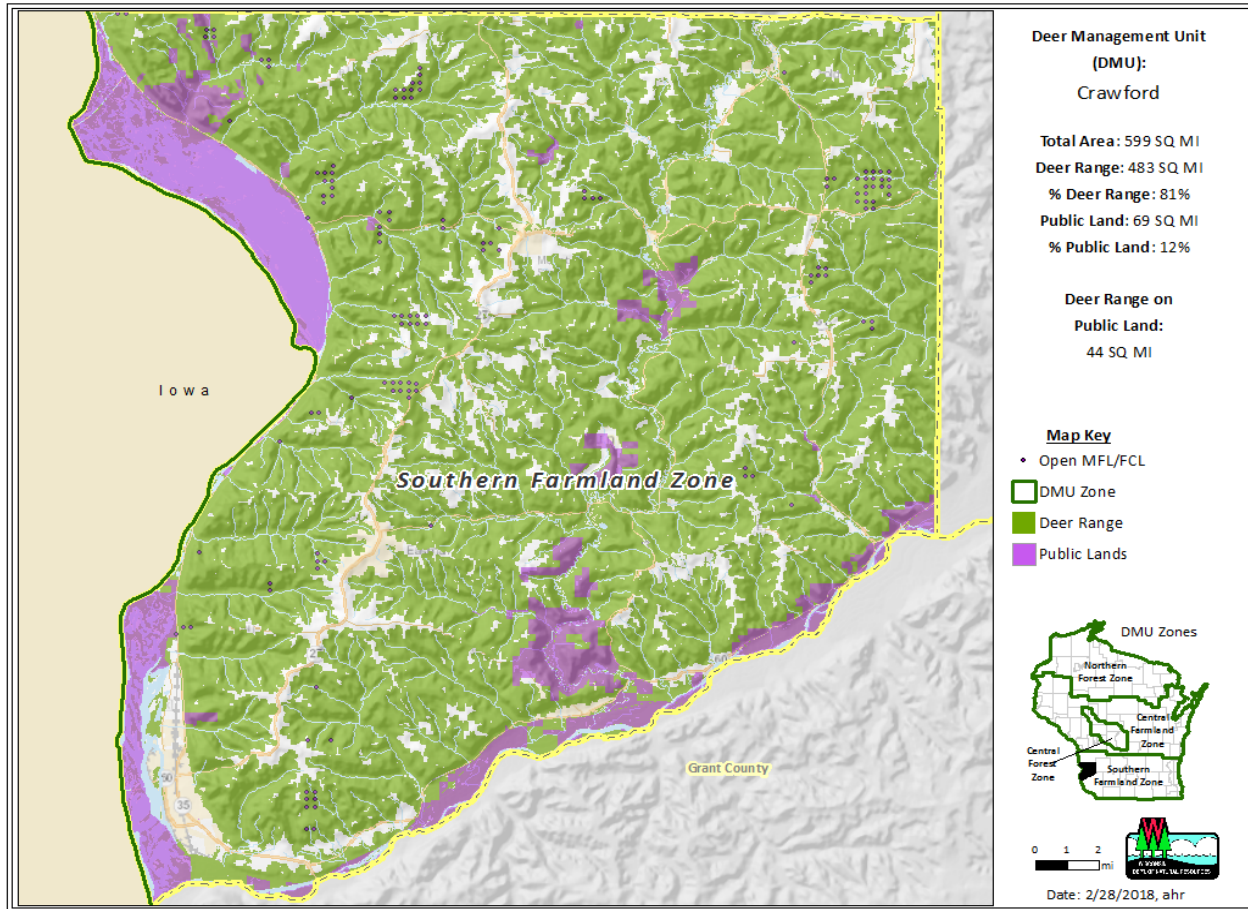


Crawford County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Crawford County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 81 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. The unit lies in the un-glaciated Driftless Area of Wisconsin and is characterized by rolling ridges and narrow, steep-sided valleys. Two main ridges, separated by the Kickapoo River, run north to south through the unit. Many secondary ridges run east to west. Habitat in the unit is typified by extensive woodlands that follow the steep hillsides and stream corridors, mixed with cash grain and dairy agriculture on ridge tops and valleys. Oak often dominate the woodlands, but without active management much of the oak is converting to more shade-tolerant tree species, especially in areas east of the Kickapoo River. South-facing slopes are often snow-free during much of the winter. Land ownership is primarily private with rural residences, vacation home developments, and hobby farms common throughout the unit. Crawford County contains about 69.5 square miles of publicly accessible lands. Publicly-owned properties include the Kickapoo River Wildlife Area–Bell Center Unit, Kickapoo River Wildlife Area–Wauzeka Unit, Rush Creek State Natural Area, and Hogback Prairie State Natural Area. Hunter densities on opening day of the 9-day gun deer season average about 13 hunters per square mile of deer range, and buck harvests average about 3.5 - 5 bucks per square mile of deer range. In 2018 the overall deer harvest averaged about 10.4 deer/square mile of deer range. The current deer herd management objective is to stabilize the population. Both wild and captive white-tailed deer in Crawford County have tested positive for chronic wasting disease. Seventeen wild deer tested positive for CWD in 2020, bringing the cumulative total to 33.

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.

Southern Farmland Management Zone

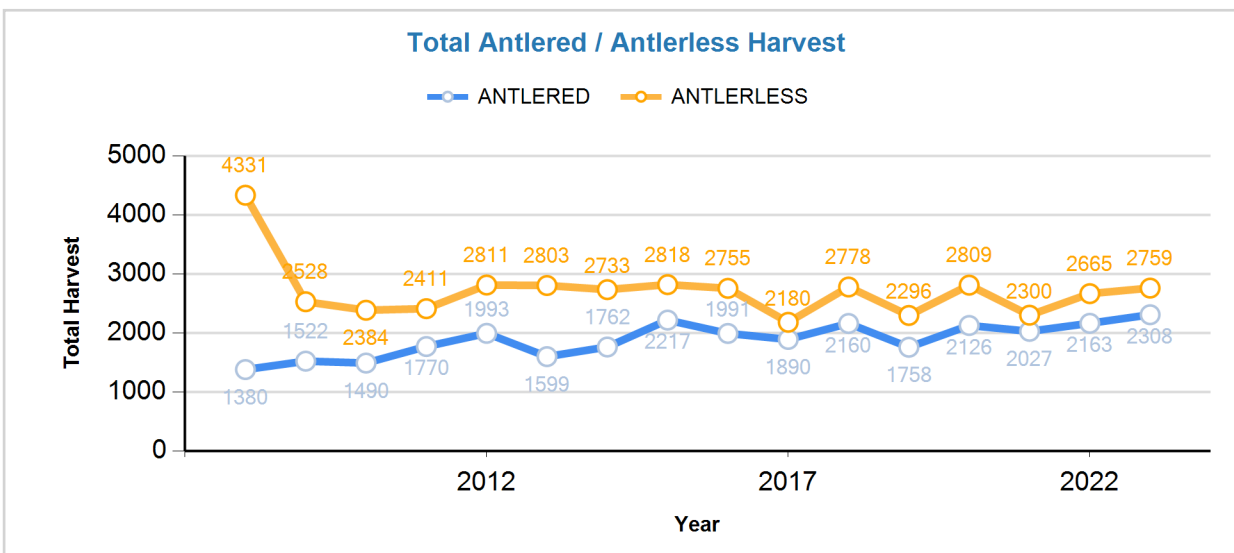
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 598.90

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 482.70

Total Harvest for Crawford County - Southern Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1762	2217	1991	1890	2160	1758	2126	2027	2163	2308
Antlerless	2746	2818	2755	2180	2778	2296	2809	2300	2665	2759
Total	4508	5035	4746	4070	4938	4054	4935	4327	4828	5067
Gun										
Antlered	1291	1650	1435	1335	1629	1153	1356	1263	1481	1542
Antlerless	2370	2499	2441	1871	2390	1913	2337	1963	2280	2356
Total	3661	4149	3876	3206	4019	3066	3693	3226	3761	3898
Bow										
Antlered	364	402	370	339	306	346	439	396	355	391
Antlerless	302	217	187	173	232	204	246	152	174	187
Total	666	619	557	512	538	550	685	548	529	578
Crossbow										
Antlered	107	165	186	216	225	259	331	368	327	375
Antlerless	74	102	127	136	156	179	226	185	211	216
Total	181	267	313	352	381	438	557	553	538	591
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	135	131	143	73	105	95	93	91

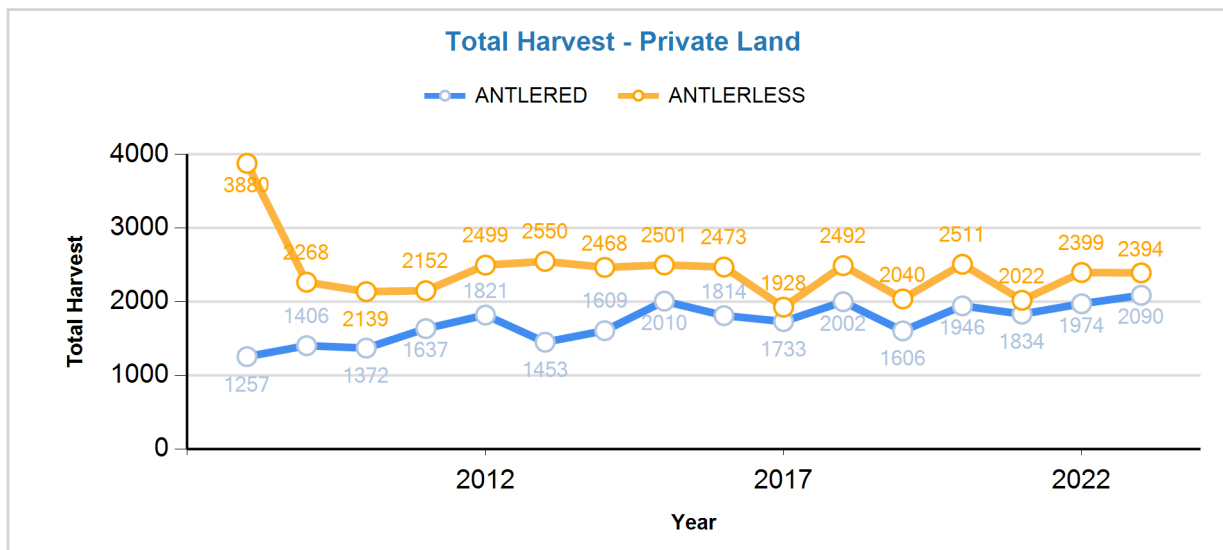
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Crawford County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1609	2010	1814	1733	2002	1606	1946	1834	1974	2090
Antlerless	2481	2501	2473	1928	2492	2040	2511	2022	2399	2394
Total	4090	4511	4287	3661	4494	3646	4457	3856	4373	4484
Gun										
Antlered	1182	1494	1313	1224	1531	1073	1263	1162	1370	1420
Antlerless	2144	2225	2191	1659	2151	1713	2107	1725	2076	2032
Total	3326	3719	3504	2883	3682	2786	3370	2887	3446	3452
Bow										
Antlered	326	361	331	310	262	295	381	336	306	325
Antlerless	267	186	164	149	197	173	206	131	142	165
Total	593	547	495	459	459	468	587	467	448	490
Crossbow										
Antlered	101	155	170	199	209	238	302	336	298	345
Antlerless	70	90	118	120	144	154	198	166	181	197
Total	171	245	288	319	353	392	500	502	479	542
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	124	126	135	70	101	87	88	84

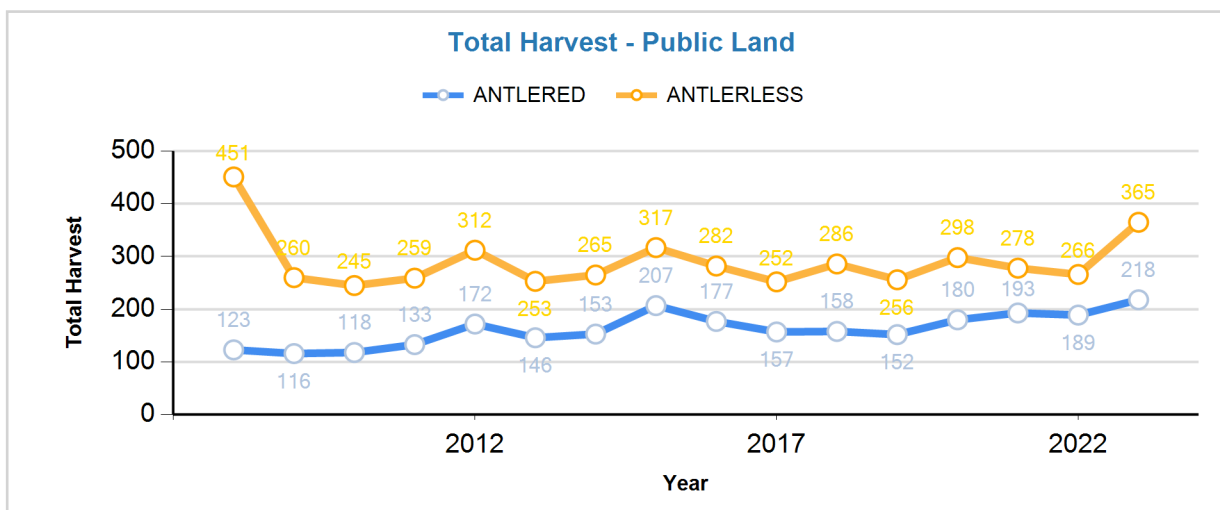
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

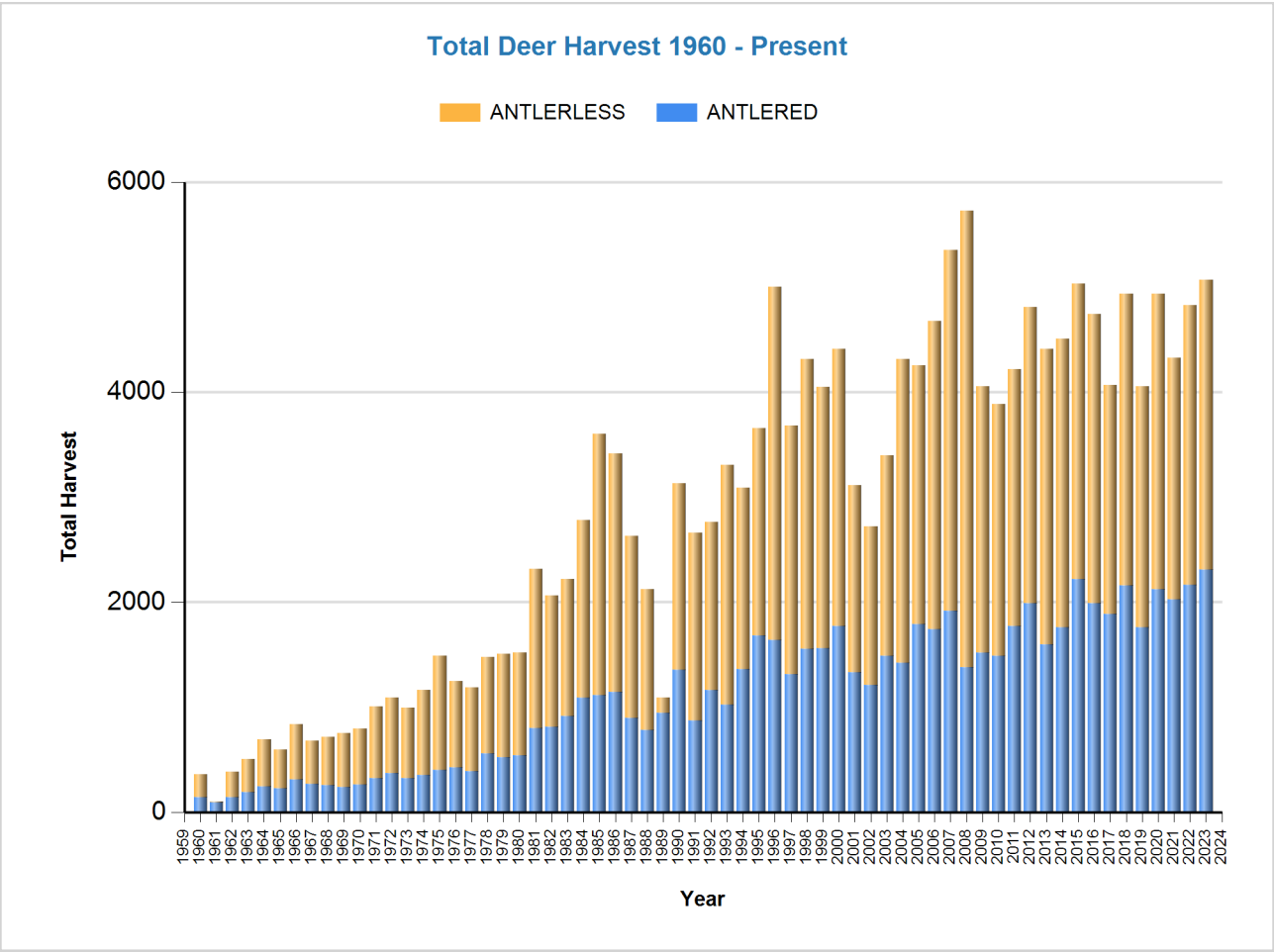


Total Harvest for Crawford County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	153	207	177	157	158	152	180	193	189	218
Antlerless	265	317	282	252	286	256	298	278	266	365
Total	418	524	459	409	444	408	478	471	455	583
Gun										
Antlered	109	156	122	111	98	80	93	101	111	122
Antlerless	226	274	250	212	239	200	230	238	204	324
Total	335	430	372	323	337	280	323	339	315	446
Bow										
Antlered	38	41	39	29	44	51	58	60	49	66
Antlerless	35	31	23	24	35	31	40	21	32	22
Total	73	72	62	53	79	82	98	81	81	88
Crossbow										
Antlered	6	10	16	17	16	21	29	32	29	30
Antlerless	4	12	9	16	12	25	28	19	30	19
Total	10	22	25	33	28	46	57	51	59	49
Tribal*										
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
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	11	5	8	3	4	8	5	7

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

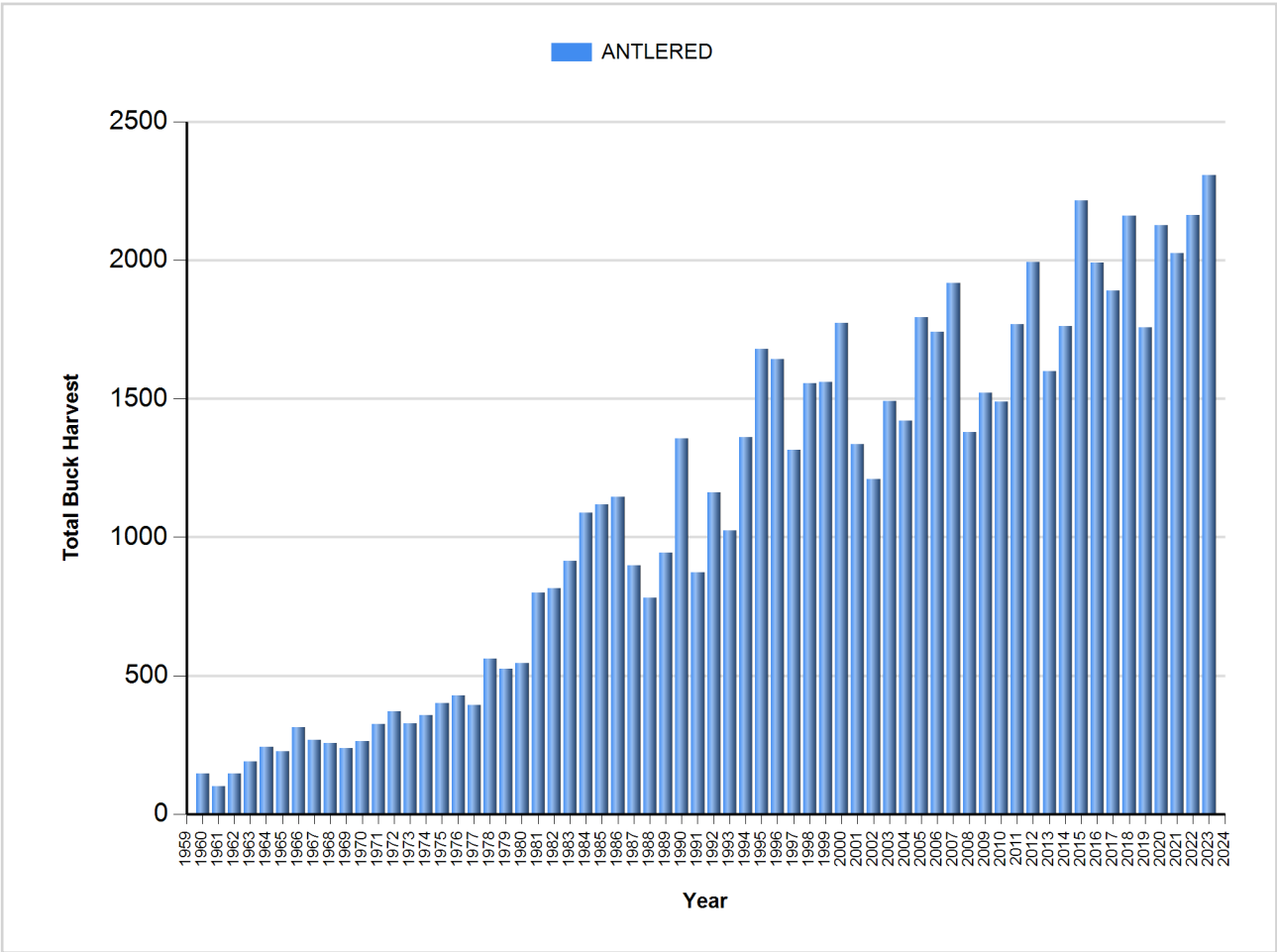




Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 2023 - 2,308

Historic Low: 1961 - 100

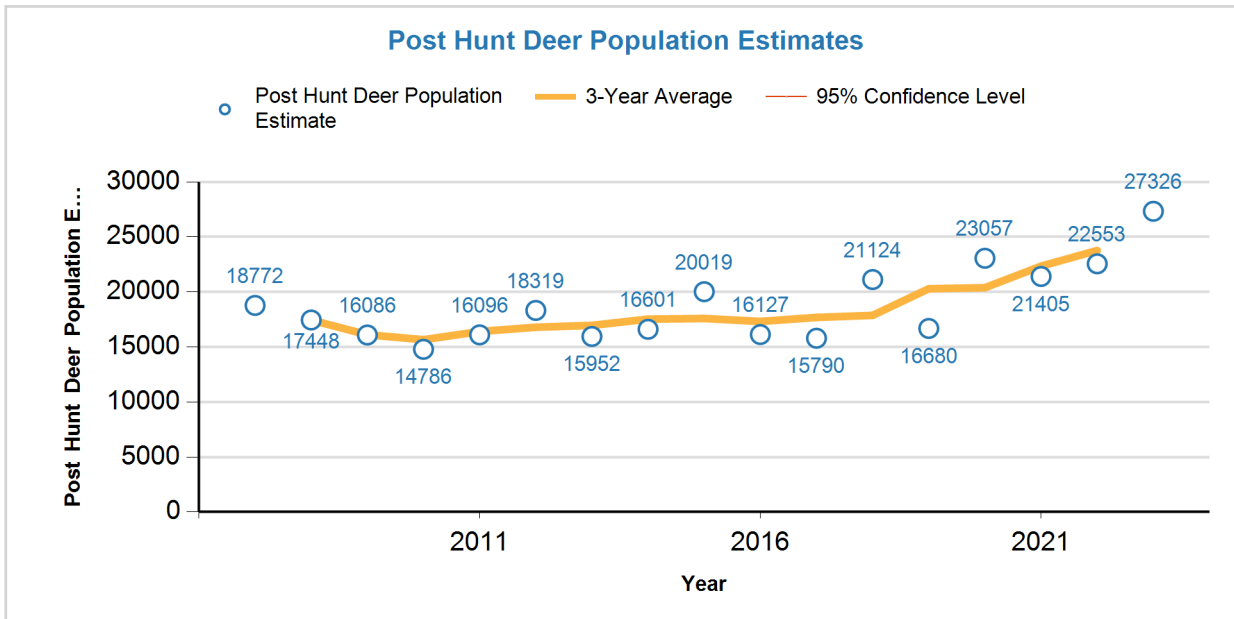


Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Crawford County - Southern Farmland

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued	4,946	3,410	5,112	5,369
Killed	271	249	234	248
Success Rate (%)	5.5	7.3	4.6	4.6
Farmland - Private				
Issued	25,105	16,754	24,930	25,204
Killed	2,285	1,801	2,143	2,193
Success Rate (%)	9.1	10.7	8.6	8.7
Farmland - Total				
Issued	30,051	20,164	30,042	30,573
Killed	2,556	2,050	2,377	2,441
Success Rate (%)	8.5	10.2	7.9	8.0
Bonus- Public				
Available	200	300	300	300
Issued	200	287	237	227
Killed	19	19	20	22
Success Rate (%)	9.5	6.6	8.4	9.7
Bonus- Private				
Available	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800
Issued	423	540	474	462
Killed	54	57	74	58
Success Rate (%)	12.8	10.6	15.6	12.6
Bonus- Total				
Available	3,000	3,100	3,100	3,100
Issued	623	827	711	689
Killed	73	76	94	80
Success Rate (%)	11.7	9.2	13.2	11.6

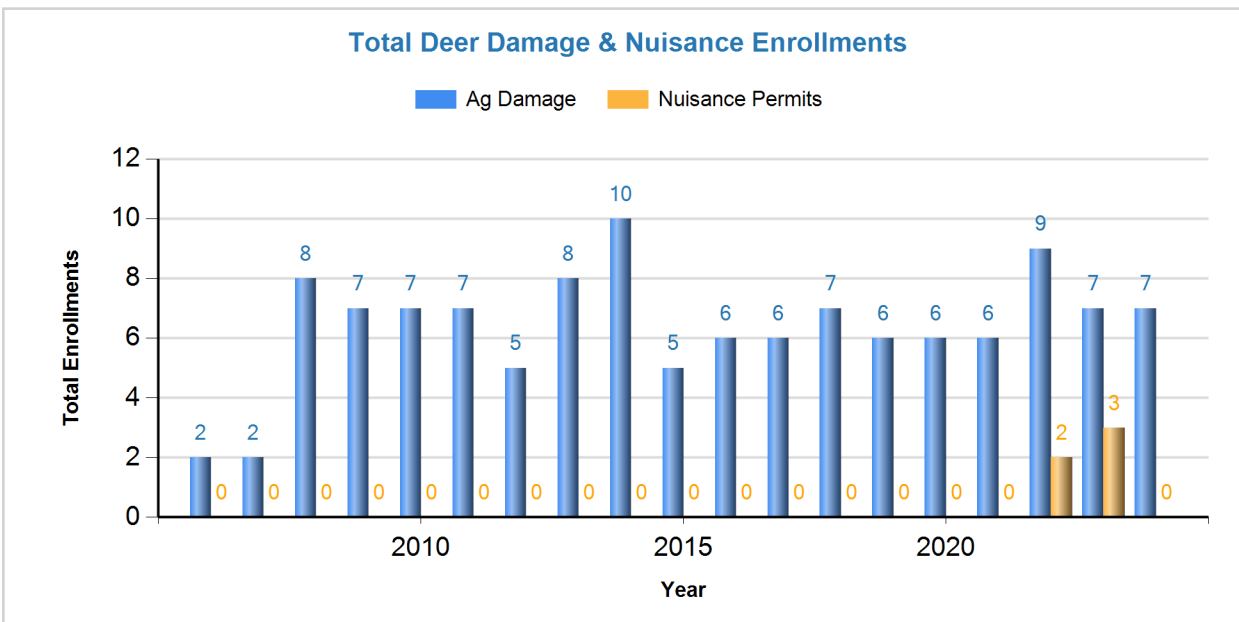
Herd Abundance

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

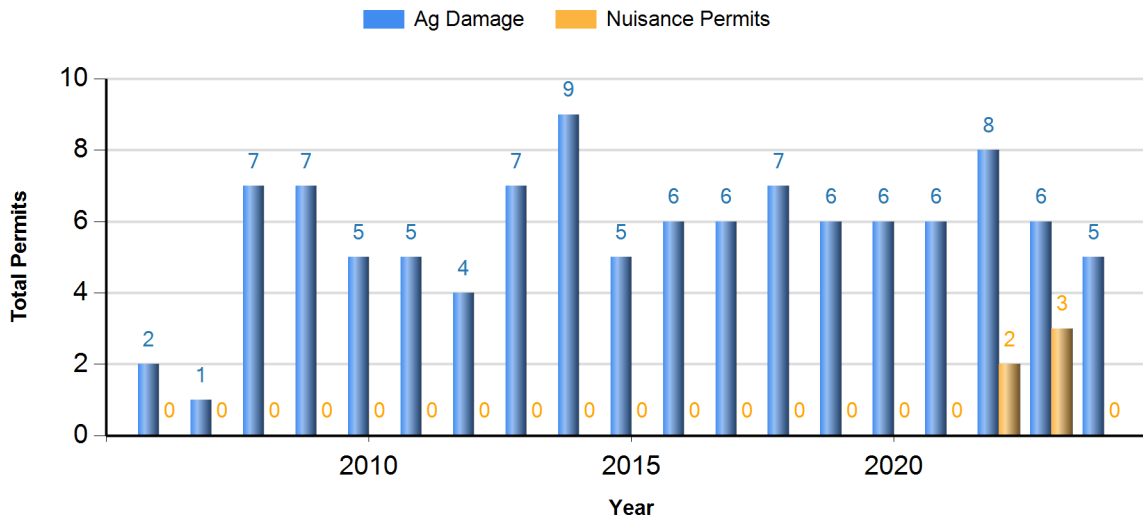


Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



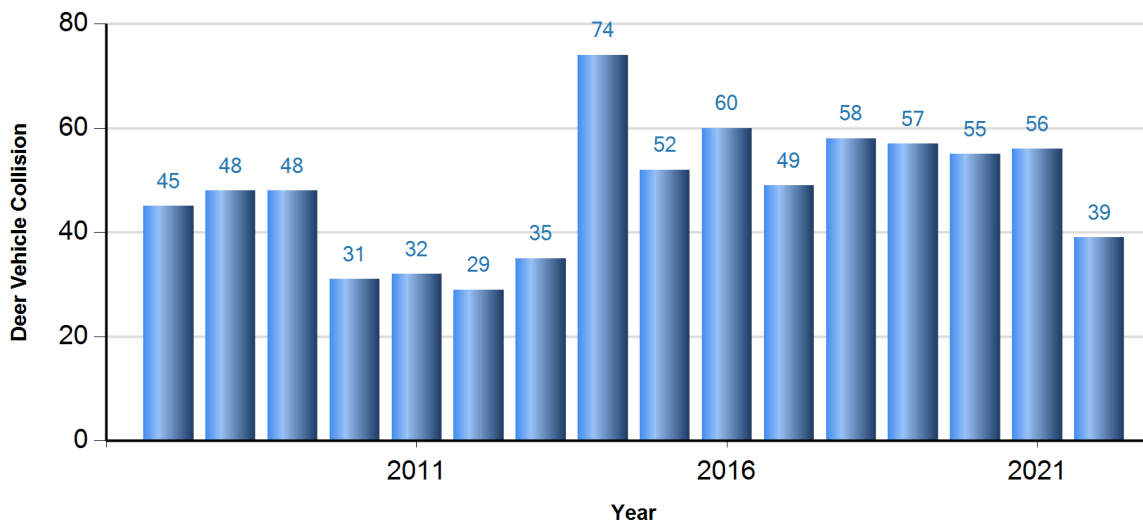
Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



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

