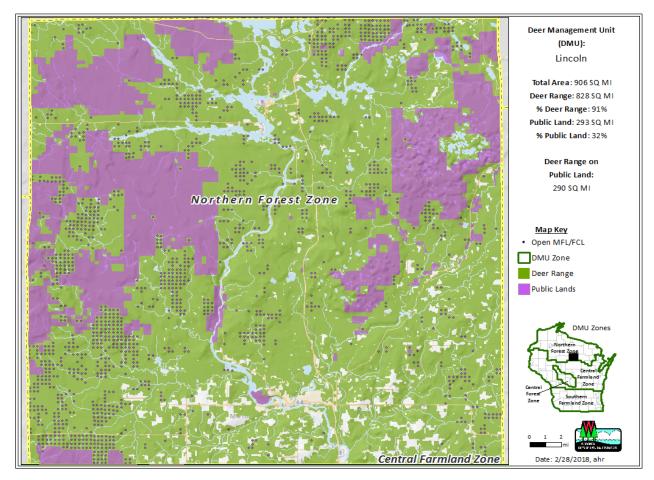
# Lincoln County Deer Metrics Report Spring of 2024

#### **Management Unit:**



# Manager's Note:

The Lincoln County Deer Management Unit is located in the Northern Forest Zone. Approximately 91 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. As a transitional northern forest unit, varied habitat creates uneven deer distribution throughout the unit. The ecological landscape of the southern one-third of the unit is transitional forest type predominantly used for agriculture. The central band, which extends north along the western border of the unit, is considered north-central forest and the far northeastern corner is northern highland. These two ecological landscapes dominant forest types include aspen and upland hardwood, with swamp hardwoods in the more lowland areas. Good winter cover for deer is common and well scattered throughout the unit. However, severe winters with deep snow and cold temperatures can have a significant impact on overwinter population losses and reproduction the following spring. With around 188,000 acres of public land, hunting opportunities are abundant. These properties include Lincoln County Forest, New Wood Wildlife Area, Bill Cross Wildlife Area and Menard Island Wildlife Area, as well as private and industrial forest land open to the public through the open Managed Forest Law and Forest Crop Land programs. The current deer herd management objective is to increase the population.

# 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.

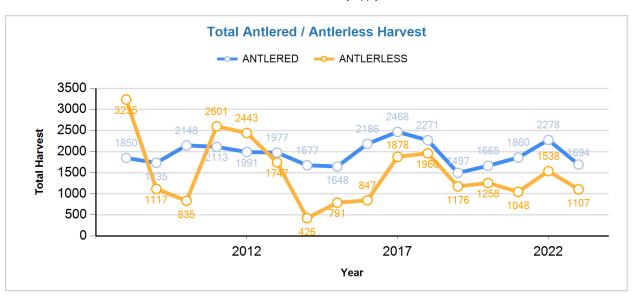
#### **Northern Forest Management Zone**

Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 906.20 Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 827.50

#### **Total Harvest for Lincoln County - Northern Forest Management Zone**

| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1677 | 1648 | 2186 | 2468 | 2271 | 1497 | 1665 | 1860 | 2278 | 1694 |
| Antlerless        | 427  | 791  | 847  | 1879 | 1960 | 1176 | 1258 | 1048 | 1538 | 1107 |
| Total             | 2104 | 2439 | 3033 | 4347 | 4231 | 2673 | 2923 | 2908 | 3816 | 2801 |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1077 | 1029 | 1409 | 1641 | 1669 | 926  | 903  | 1109 | 1475 | 1112 |
| Antlerless        | 372  | 640  | 631  | 1327 | 1524 | 832  | 795  | 700  | 1037 | 775  |
| Total             | 1449 | 1669 | 2040 | 2968 | 3193 | 1758 | 1698 | 1809 | 2512 | 1887 |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 338  | 304  | 334  | 319  | 190  | 181  | 227  | 200  | 230  | 145  |
| Antlerless        | 31   | 75   | 92   | 222  | 153  | 126  | 150  | 95   | 127  | 86   |
| Total             | 369  | 379  | 426  | 541  | 343  | 307  | 377  | 295  | 357  | 231  |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 262  | 314  | 443  | 508  | 408  | 390  | 534  | 551  | 570  | 437  |
| Antlerless        | 21   | 75   | 122  | 329  | 278  | 218  | 313  | 253  | 371  | 246  |
| Total             | 283  | 389  | 565  | 837  | 686  | 608  | 847  | 804  | 941  | 683  |
| Tribal*           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 4    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 3    | 0    |
| Antlerless        | 3    | 1    | 2    | 1    | 5    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 3    | 0    |
| Total             | 3    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 9    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 6    | 0    |
| Youth Antlerless* |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlerless        | 0    | 0    | 344  | 269  | 259  | 143  | 197  | 165  | 210  | 133  |

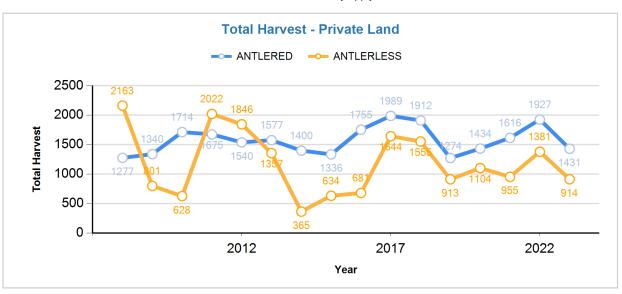
<sup>\*</sup> Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



#### Total Harvest for Lincoln County - Northern Forest Management Zone - Private Land

|                   |      | -    |      |      | _    |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1400 | 1336 | 1755 | 1989 | 1912 | 1274 | 1434 | 1616 | 1927 | 1431 |
| Antlerless        | 366  | 634  | 681  | 1645 | 1555 | 913  | 1104 | 955  | 1381 | 914  |
| Total             | 1766 | 1970 | 2436 | 3634 | 3467 | 2187 | 2538 | 2571 | 3308 | 2345 |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 891  | 811  | 1122 | 1321 | 1389 | 782  | 763  | 931  | 1229 | 917  |
| Antlerless        | 319  | 512  | 501  | 1150 | 1204 | 629  | 677  | 631  | 923  | 615  |
| Total             | 1210 | 1323 | 1623 | 2471 | 2593 | 1411 | 1440 | 1562 | 2152 | 1532 |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 269  | 244  | 263  | 251  | 155  | 152  | 195  | 175  | 197  | 120  |
| Antlerless        | 28   | 58   | 77   | 200  | 116  | 95   | 135  | 86   | 110  | 72   |
| Total             | 297  | 302  | 340  | 451  | 271  | 247  | 330  | 261  | 307  | 192  |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 240  | 281  | 370  | 417  | 368  | 340  | 476  | 510  | 501  | 394  |
| Antlerless        | 19   | 64   | 103  | 295  | 235  | 189  | 292  | 238  | 348  | 227  |
| Total             | 259  | 345  | 473  | 712  | 603  | 529  | 768  | 748  | 849  | 621  |
| 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    | 271  | 207  | 212  | 117  | 168  | 144  | 175  | 116  |

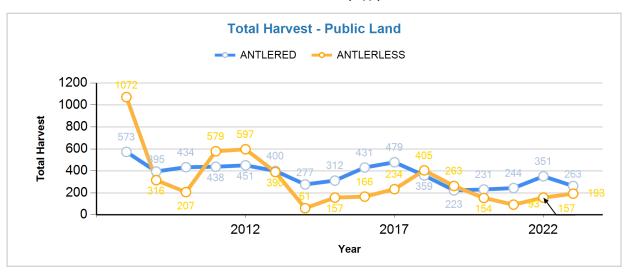
<sup>\*</sup> Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

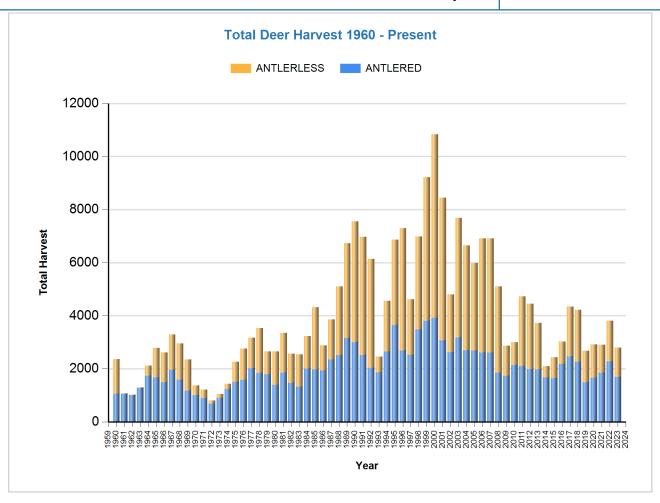


#### Total Harvest for Lincoln County - Northern Forest Management Zone - Public Land

| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 277  | 312  | 431  | 479  | 359  | 223  | 231  | 244  | 351  | 263  |
| Antlerless        | 61   | 157  | 166  | 234  | 405  | 263  | 154  | 93   | 157  | 193  |
| Total             | 338  | 469  | 597  | 713  | 764  | 486  | 385  | 337  | 508  | 456  |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 186  | 218  | 287  | 320  | 280  | 144  | 140  | 178  | 246  | 195  |
| Antlerless        | 53   | 128  | 130  | 177  | 320  | 203  | 118  | 69   | 114  | 160  |
| Total             | 239  | 346  | 417  | 497  | 600  | 347  | 258  | 247  | 360  | 355  |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 69   | 60   | 71   | 68   | 35   | 29   | 32   | 25   | 33   | 25   |
| Antlerless        | 3    | 17   | 15   | 22   | 37   | 31   | 15   | 9    | 17   | 14   |
| Total             | 72   | 77   | 86   | 90   | 72   | 60   | 47   | 34   | 50   | 39   |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 22   | 33   | 73   | 91   | 40   | 50   | 58   | 41   | 69   | 43   |
| Antlerless        | 2    | 11   | 19   | 34   | 43   | 29   | 21   | 15   | 23   | 19   |
| Total             | 24   | 44   | 92   | 125  | 83   | 79   | 79   | 56   | 92   | 62   |
| Tribal*           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 4    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 3    | 0    |
| Antlerless        | 3    | 1    | 2    | 1    | 5    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 3    | 0    |
| Total             | 3    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 9    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 6    | 0    |
| Youth Antlerless* |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlerless        | 0    | 0    | 73   | 62   | 47   | 26   | 29   | 21   | 35   | 17   |

<sup>\*</sup> Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

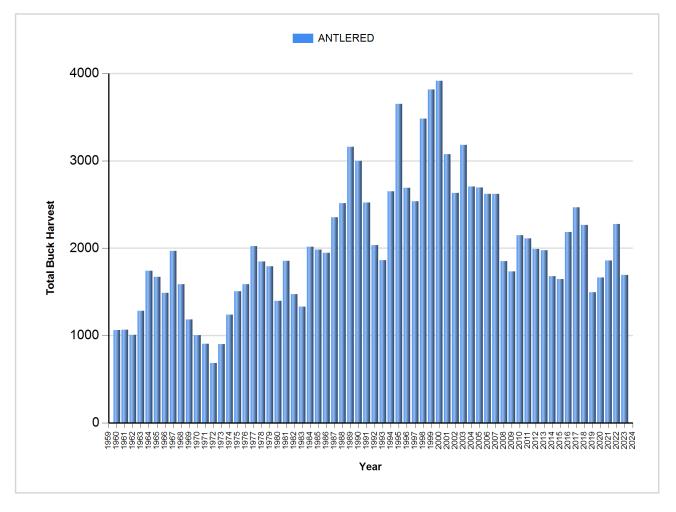




#### **Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present**

Historic High: 2000 - 3,918

Historic Low: 1972 - 684

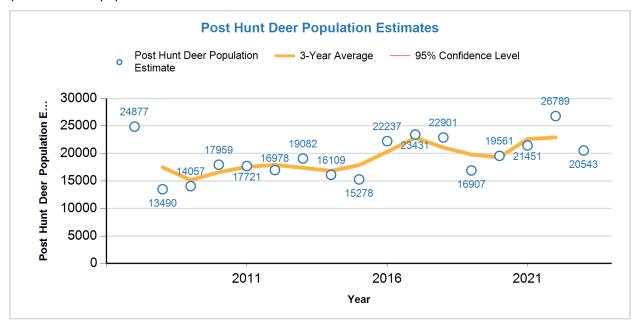


# Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Lincoln County - Northern Forest

| Antieriess ray issuance & Suc |       |       |       | 2022  |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Year                          | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
| Farmland - Public             |       |       |       |       |
| Issued                        |       |       |       |       |
| Killed                        |       |       |       |       |
| Success Rate (%)              |       |       |       |       |
| Farmland - Private            |       |       |       |       |
| Issued                        |       |       |       |       |
| Killed                        |       |       |       |       |
| Success Rate (%)              |       |       |       |       |
| Farmland - Total              |       |       |       |       |
| Issued                        |       |       |       |       |
| Killed                        |       |       |       |       |
| Success Rate (%)              |       |       |       |       |
| Bonus- Public                 |       |       |       |       |
| Available                     | 750   | 400   | 500   | 1,250 |
| Issued                        | 750   | 398   | 500   | 1,250 |
| Killed                        | 123   | 69    | 117   | 145   |
| Success Rate (%)              | 16.4  | 17.3  | 23.4  | 11.6  |
| Bonus- Private                |       |       |       |       |
| Available                     | 4,000 | 3,600 | 4,500 | 4,750 |
| Issued                        | 4,003 | 3,601 | 4,503 | 4,759 |
| Killed                        | 859   | 729   | 1,137 | 764   |
| Success Rate (%)              | 21.5  | 20.2  | 25.2  | 16.1  |
| Bonus- Total                  |       |       |       |       |
| Available                     | 4,750 | 4,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 |
| Issued                        | 4,753 | 3,999 | 5,003 | 6,009 |
| Killed                        | 982   | 798   | 1,254 | 909   |
| Success Rate (%)              | 20.7  | 20.0  | 25.1  | 15.1  |
|                               |       |       |       |       |

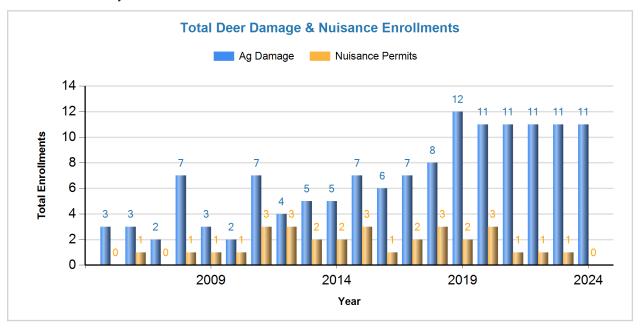
#### Herd Abundance

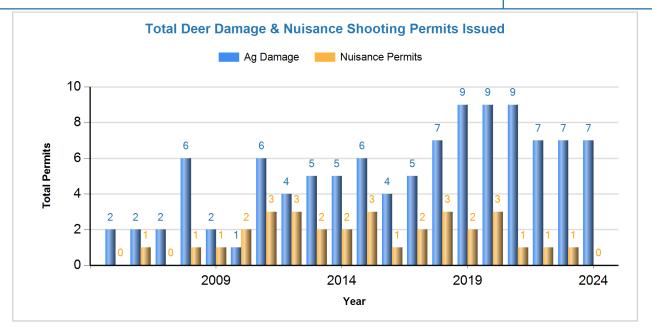
Deer herd abundance is estimated annually with hunter-collected data and a mathematical model to get post hunt deer population estimates.



## Deer Impacts - Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

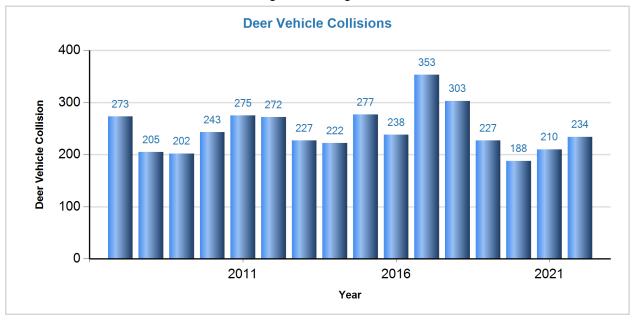
View trends in county and statewide enrollment, shooting permit, Ag Damage, and Nuisance harvest numbers over the years.





## 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.



# **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.

