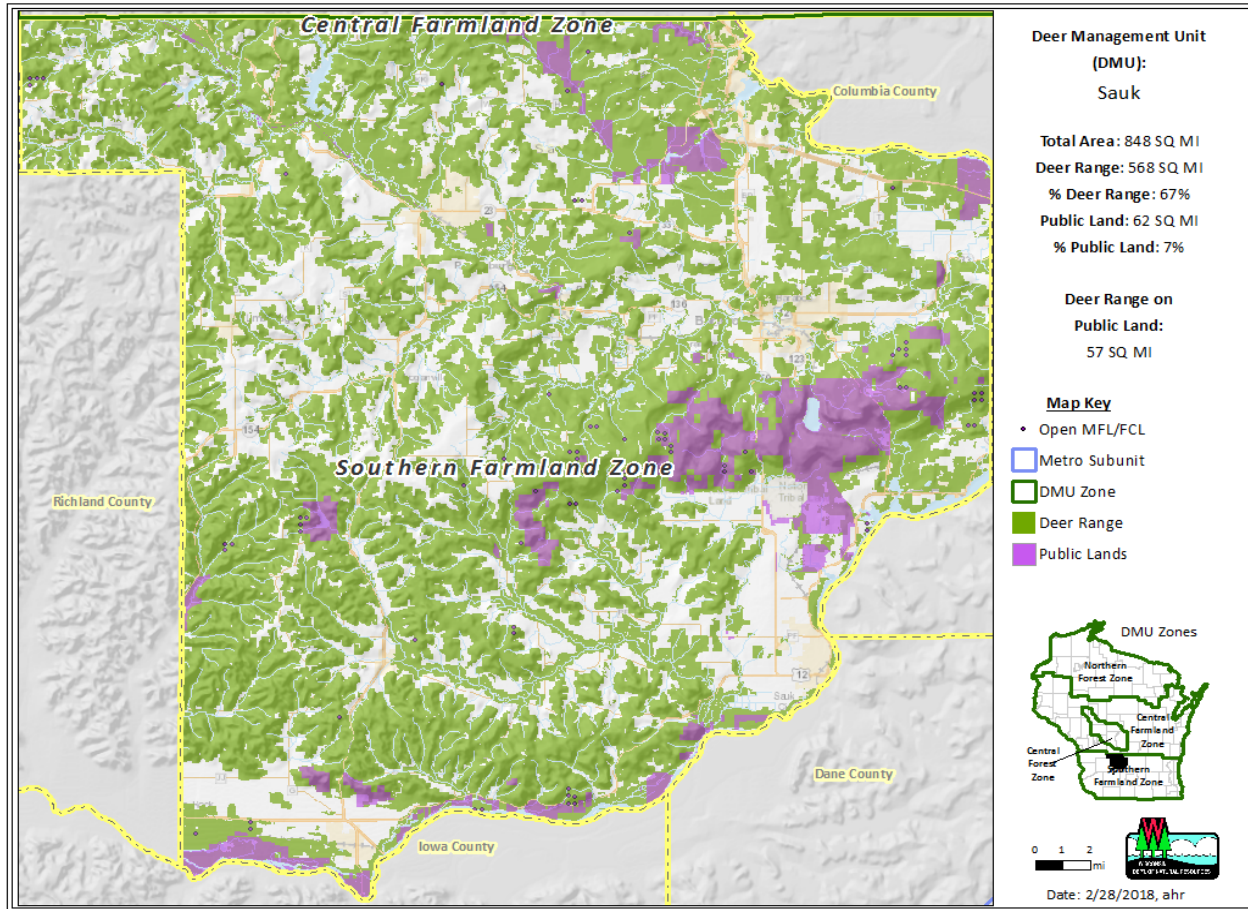


Sauk County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Sauk County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 67 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. Public land accounts for only 7 percent of the unit, with public land ownership between many different agencies or organizations such as the Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Sauk County to name a few. Department of Natural Resource properties are a mix of Wildlife Areas and State Park and Recreation lands. The unit is a mix of habitats with the northern and eastern portion primarily dominated by agricultural land use, the center dominated by rolling to steep terrain with agricultural land use on ridgetops and valleys and the southern portion dominated by lowlands of the Wisconsin River. In rolling to steep terrains, the forest is often classified as oak-hickory or maple types, with oak regeneration limited in areas of high deer numbers. Some agricultural producers utilize agricultural damage tags to reduce deer in areas and damage to their crops. Deer densities vary between the different cover-types and ownerships. Chronic wasting disease was detected in the unit in 2002. For the latest information on CWD in this unit, please visit the following DNR webpage: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/prevalence.html>. The current deer herd management objective is to maintain 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.

Southern Farmland Management Zone

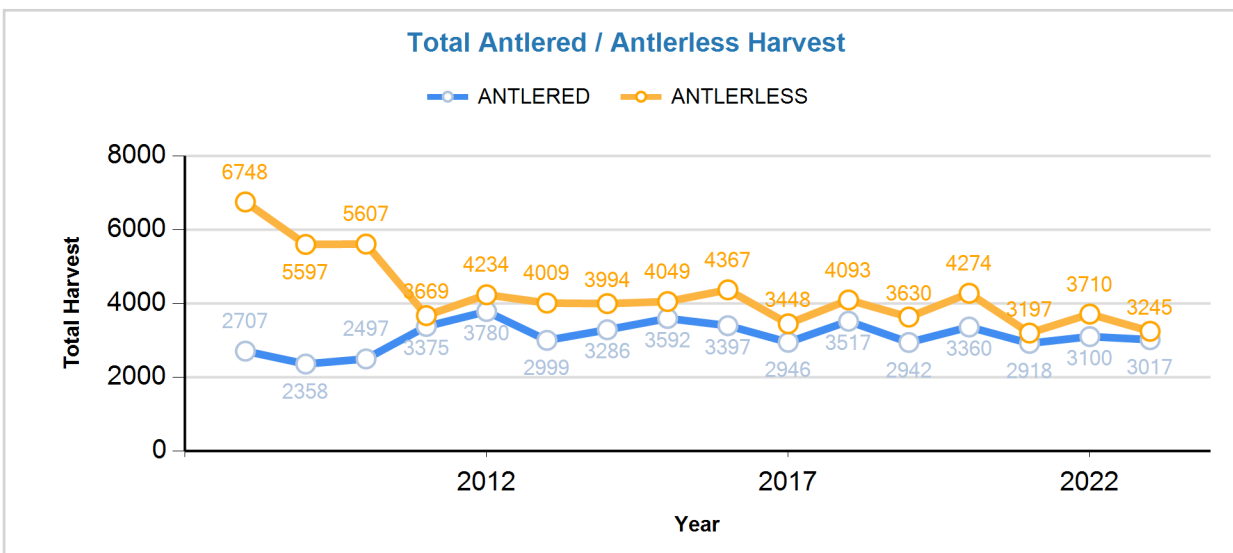
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 847.70

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 568.20

Total Harvest for Sauk County - Southern Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	3286	3592	3397	2946	3517	2942	3360	2918	3100	3017
Antlerless	4043	4049	4367	3450	4093	3630	4274	3197	3710	3245
Total	7329	7641	7764	6396	7610	6572	7634	6115	6810	6262
Gun										
Antlered	2232	2597	2345	2029	2580	1840	2195	1849	2120	1927
Antlerless	3232	3283	3572	2762	3379	2800	3318	2549	2967	2567
Total	5464	5880	5917	4791	5959	4640	5513	4398	5087	4494
Bow										
Antlered	805	669	666	579	560	628	634	542	509	552
Antlerless	638	554	543	413	422	460	526	324	386	349
Total	1443	1223	1209	992	982	1088	1160	866	895	901
Crossbow										
Antlered	249	326	386	338	377	474	531	527	471	538
Antlerless	173	212	252	275	292	370	430	324	357	329
Total	422	538	638	613	669	844	961	851	828	867
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	209	175	210	116	172	157	160	132

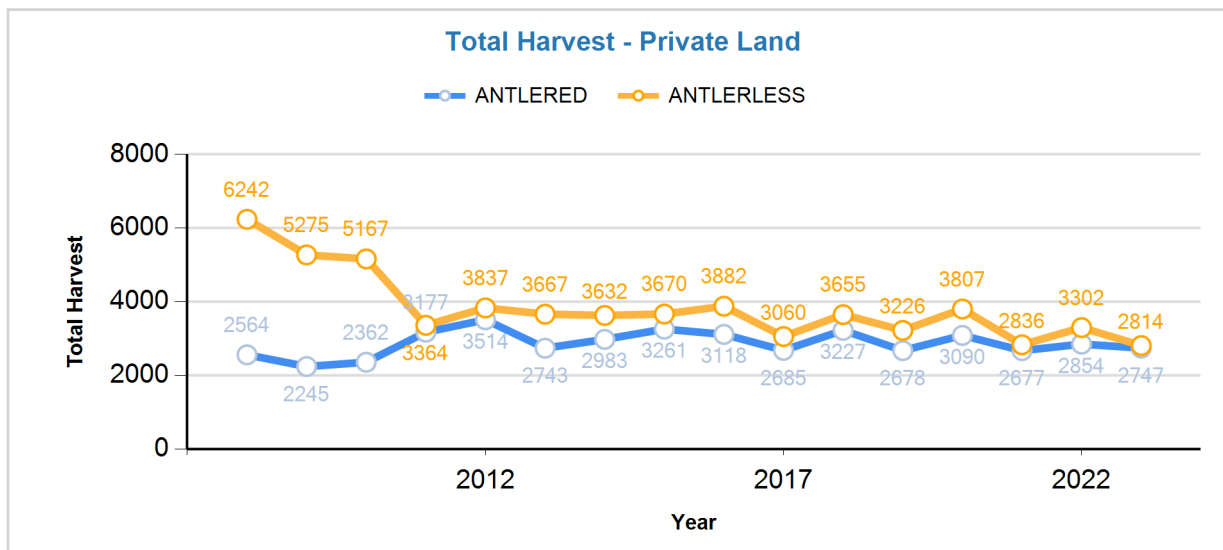
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



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

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	2983	3261	3118	2685	3227	2678	3090	2677	2854	2747
Antlerless	3677	3670	3882	3062	3655	3226	3807	2836	3302	2814
Total	6660	6931	7000	5747	6882	5904	6897	5513	6156	5561
Gun										
Antlered	2038	2369	2161	1864	2370	1695	2043	1704	1964	1773
Antlerless	2962	2981	3181	2472	3042	2529	2976	2278	2666	2228
Total	5000	5350	5342	4336	5412	4224	5019	3982	4630	4001
Bow										
Antlered	730	596	611	522	521	569	559	492	455	492
Antlerless	565	506	480	365	373	396	466	287	342	306
Total	1295	1102	1091	887	894	965	1025	779	797	798
Crossbow										
Antlered	215	296	346	299	336	414	488	481	435	482
Antlerless	150	183	221	225	240	301	365	271	294	280
Total	365	479	567	524	576	715	853	752	729	762
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	190	168	201	111	165	152	154	127

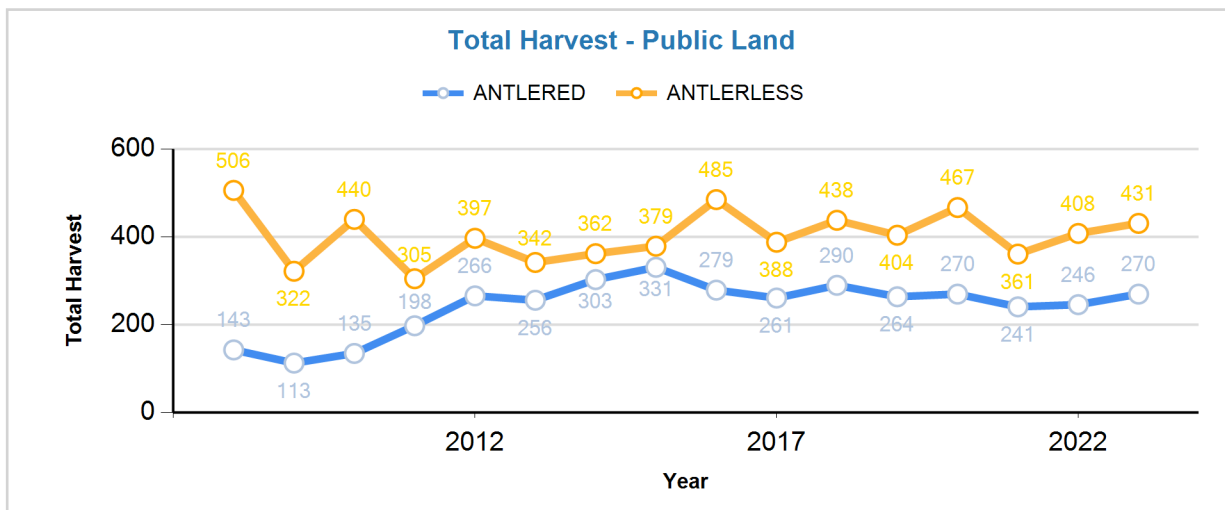
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



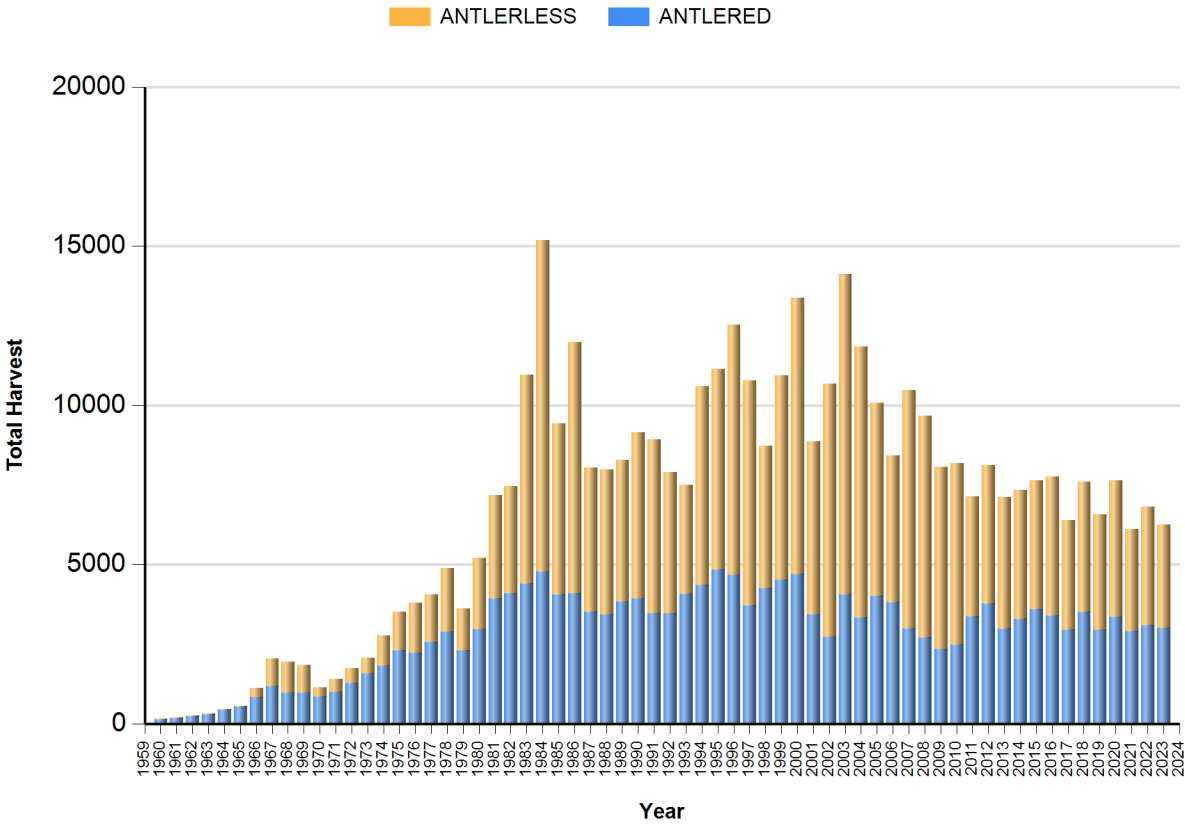
Total Harvest for Sauk County - Southern Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	303	331	279	261	290	264	270	241	246	270
Antlerless	366	379	485	388	438	404	467	361	408	431
Total	669	710	764	649	728	668	737	602	654	701
Gun										
Antlered	194	228	184	165	210	145	152	145	156	154
Antlerless	270	302	391	290	337	271	342	271	301	339
Total	464	530	575	455	547	416	494	416	457	493
Bow										
Antlered	75	73	55	57	39	59	75	50	54	60
Antlerless	73	48	63	48	49	64	60	37	44	43
Total	148	121	118	105	88	123	135	87	98	103
Crossbow										
Antlered	34	30	40	39	41	60	43	46	36	56
Antlerless	23	29	31	50	52	69	65	53	63	49
Total	57	59	71	89	93	129	108	99	99	105
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	19	7	9	5	7	5	6	5

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



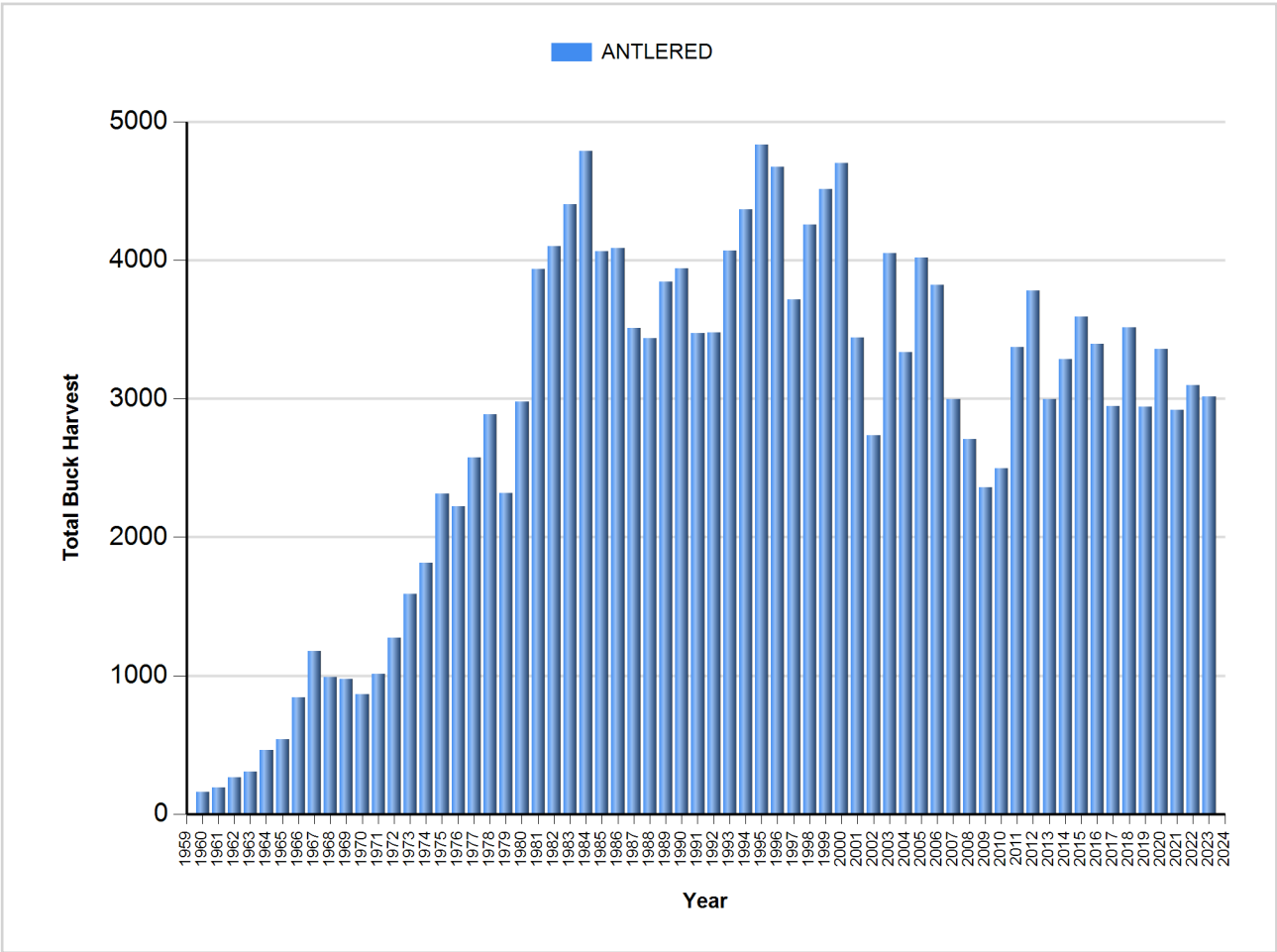
Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 1995 - 4,838

Historic Low: 1960 - 159

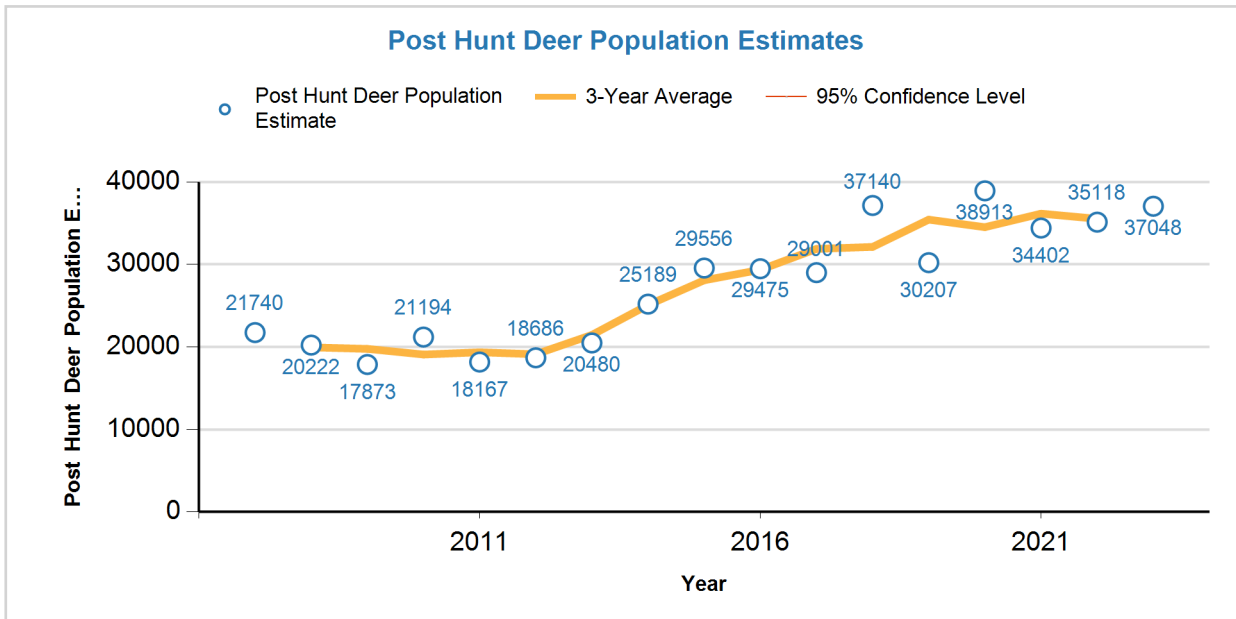


Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Sauk County - Southern Farmland

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued	9,123	5,739	5,745	5,791
Killed	410	312	350	286
Success Rate (%)	4.5	5.4	6.1	4.9
Farmland - Private				
Issued	38,031	24,665	24,159	23,959
Killed	3,415	2,468	2,778	2,499
Success Rate (%)	9.0	10.0	11.5	10.4
Farmland - Total				
Issued	47,154	30,404	29,904	29,750
Killed	3,825	2,780	3,128	2,785
Success Rate (%)	8.1	9.1	10.5	9.4
Bonus- Public				
Available	750	750	750	750
Issued	427	452	505	479
Killed	43	39	43	28
Success Rate (%)	10.1	8.6	8.5	5.8
Bonus- Private				
Available	3,950	3,950	3,950	3,950
Issued	654	785	790	776
Killed	107	124	162	147
Success Rate (%)	16.4	15.8	20.5	18.9
Bonus- Total				
Available	4,700	4,700	4,700	4,700
Issued	1,081	1,237	1,295	1,255
Killed	150	163	205	175
Success Rate (%)	13.9	13.2	15.8	13.9

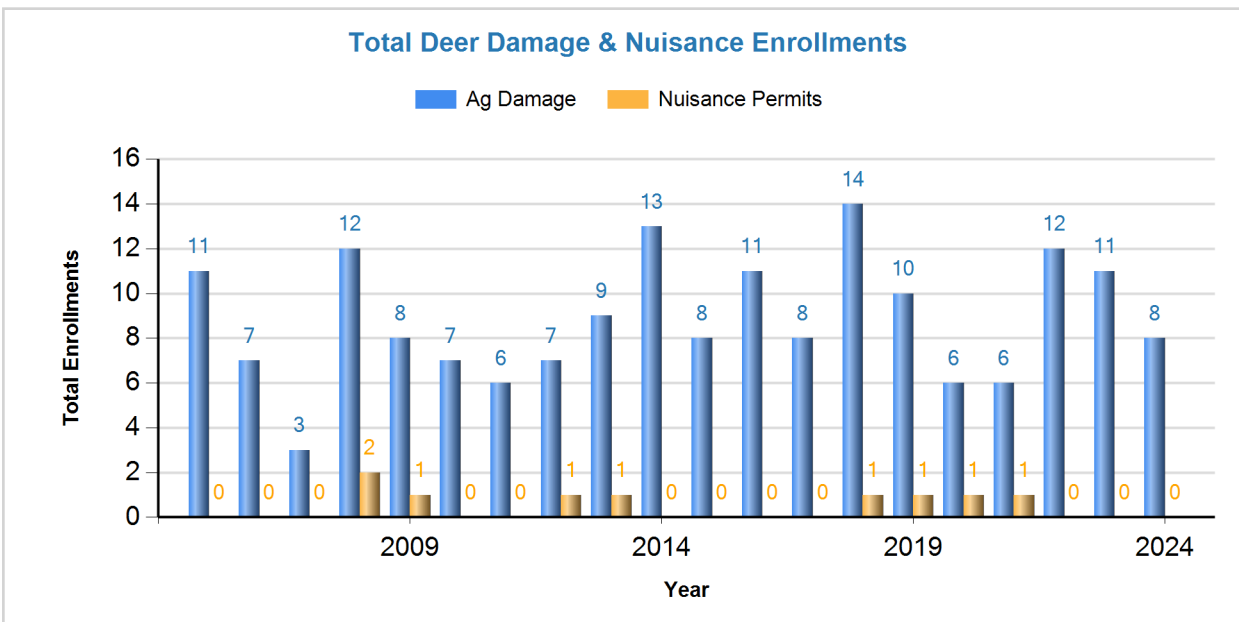
Herd Abundance

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

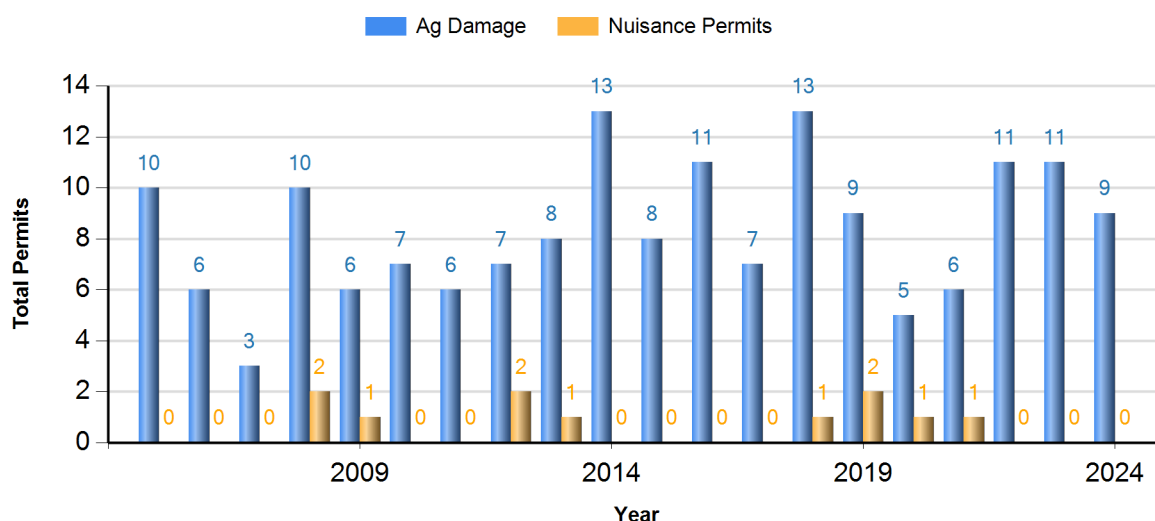


Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



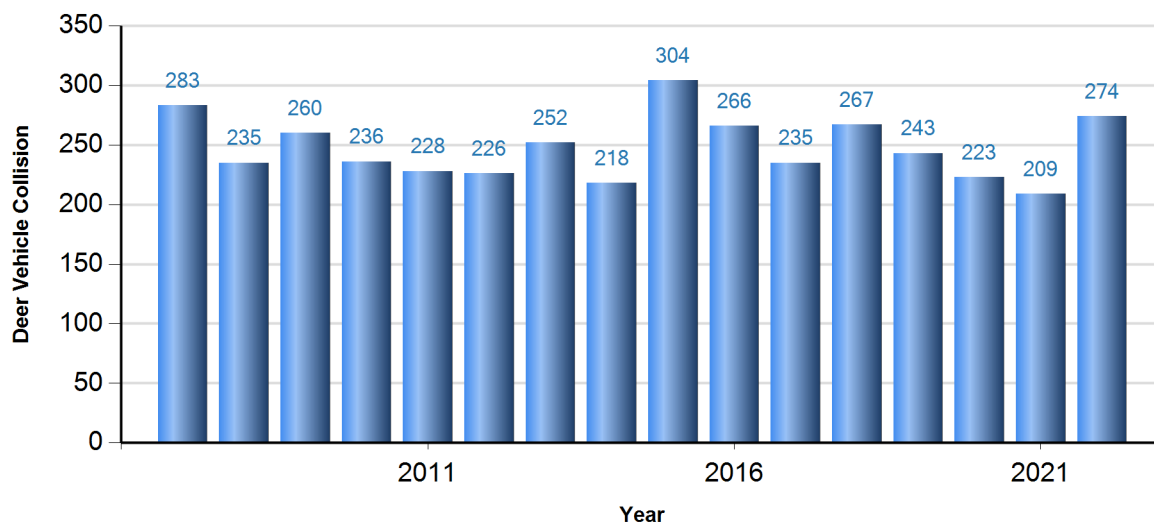
Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



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

