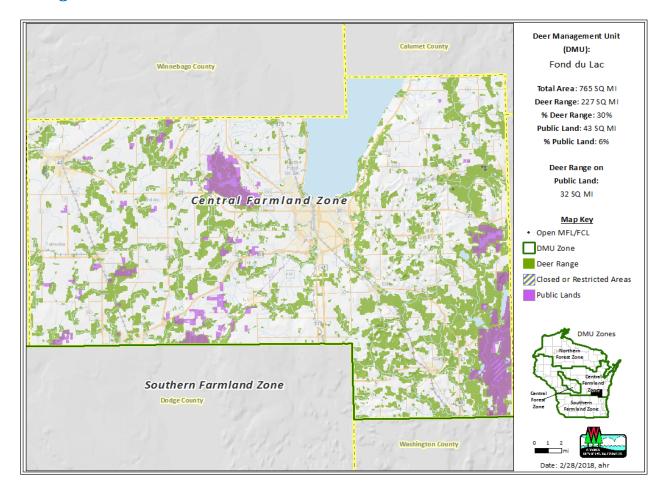
# Fond Du Lac County Deer Metrics Report Spring of 2024

### **Management Unit:**



## Manager's Note:

The Fond du Lac County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 30 percent of the unit is considered deer range (227 square miles). The unit is predominately agricultural and private landownership. Agricultural damage and nuisance permit allocations are about average when compared with other units. Public lands available for hunting include the Eldorado Wildlife Area, Mullet Creek Wildlife Area, a portion of the Kettle Moraine State Forest–Northern Unit, scattered Glacial Habitat Restoration Area parcels, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Waterfowl Production Areas. Productivity is high throughout the unit because of a good mix of forested habitat and agricultural land. However, the deer herd is unevenly distributed throughout the unit. 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.

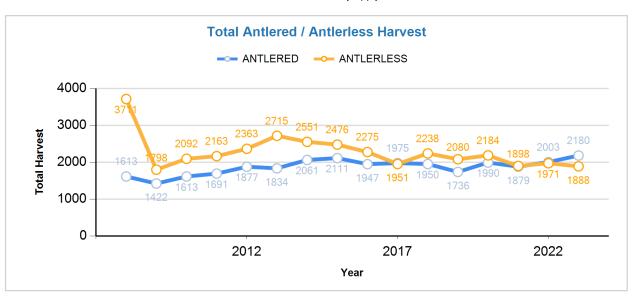
#### **Central Farmland Management Zone**

Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 765.50 Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 226.90

#### Total Harvest for Fond Du Lac County - Central Farmland Management Zone

| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 2061 | 2111 | 1947 | 1975 | 1950 | 1736 | 1990 | 1879 | 2003 | 2180 |
| Antlerless        | 2609 | 2476 | 2275 | 1951 | 2238 | 2080 | 2184 | 1898 | 1971 | 1888 |
| Total             | 4670 | 4587 | 4222 | 3926 | 4188 | 3816 | 4174 | 3777 | 3974 | 4068 |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1298 | 1242 | 1192 | 1206 | 1324 | 987  | 1156 | 1099 | 1253 | 1315 |
| Antlerless        | 1933 | 1813 | 1634 | 1474 | 1757 | 1533 | 1553 | 1437 | 1440 | 1401 |
| Total             | 3231 | 3055 | 2826 | 2680 | 3081 | 2520 | 2709 | 2536 | 2693 | 2716 |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 525  | 534  | 423  | 392  | 309  | 326  | 366  | 315  | 281  | 338  |
| Antlerless        | 473  | 431  | 379  | 250  | 225  | 279  | 295  | 194  | 214  | 221  |
| Total             | 998  | 965  | 802  | 642  | 534  | 605  | 661  | 509  | 495  | 559  |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 238  | 335  | 332  | 377  | 317  | 423  | 468  | 465  | 469  | 527  |
| Antlerless        | 203  | 232  | 262  | 227  | 256  | 268  | 336  | 267  | 317  | 266  |
| Total             | 441  | 567  | 594  | 604  | 573  | 691  | 804  | 732  | 786  | 793  |
| 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 Antierless* |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlerless        | 0    | 0    | 163  | 167  | 150  | 155  | 137  | 138  | 134  | 109  |

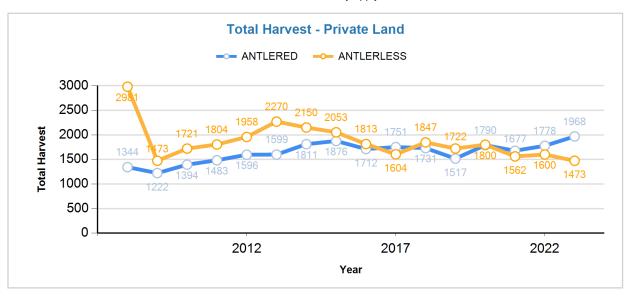
<sup>\*</sup> Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



#### Total Harvest for Fond Du Lac County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

|                   |      |      | •    |      |      | _    |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1811 | 1876 | 1712 | 1751 | 1731 | 1517 | 1790 | 1677 | 1778 | 1968 |
| Antlerless        | 2196 | 2053 | 1813 | 1604 | 1847 | 1722 | 1800 | 1562 | 1600 | 1473 |
| Total             | 4007 | 3929 | 3525 | 3355 | 3578 | 3239 | 3590 | 3239 | 3378 | 3441 |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 1140 | 1114 | 1057 | 1082 | 1186 | 865  | 1051 | 976  | 1121 | 1196 |
| Antlerless        | 1641 | 1515 | 1312 | 1223 | 1466 | 1316 | 1292 | 1194 | 1176 | 1075 |
| Total             | 2781 | 2629 | 2369 | 2305 | 2652 | 2181 | 2343 | 2170 | 2297 | 2271 |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 452  | 455  | 353  | 330  | 262  | 275  | 318  | 275  | 243  | 290  |
| Antlerless        | 380  | 334  | 292  | 191  | 173  | 204  | 231  | 143  | 172  | 174  |
| Total             | 832  | 789  | 645  | 521  | 435  | 479  | 549  | 418  | 415  | 464  |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 219  | 307  | 302  | 339  | 283  | 377  | 421  | 426  | 414  | 482  |
| Antlerless        | 175  | 204  | 209  | 190  | 208  | 202  | 277  | 225  | 252  | 224  |
| Total             | 394  | 511  | 511  | 529  | 491  | 579  | 698  | 651  | 666  | 706  |
| 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    | 145  | 149  | 139  | 144  | 129  | 126  | 122  | 93   |

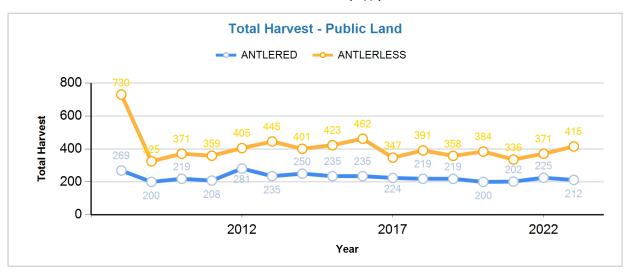
<sup>\*</sup> Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

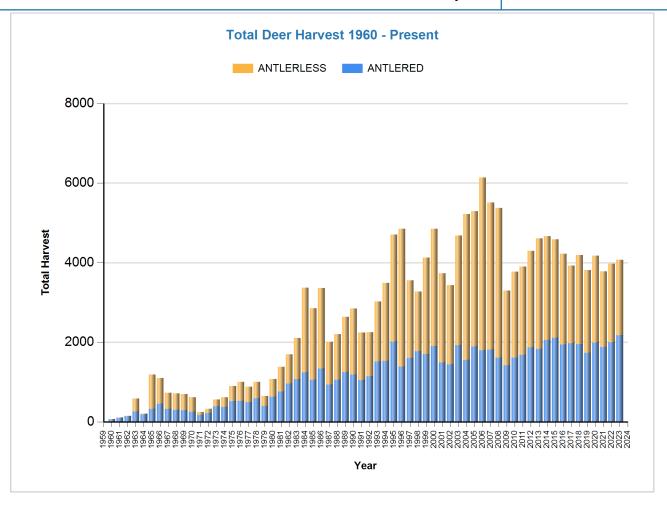


#### Total Harvest for Fond Du Lac County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

|                   |      | •    |      |      |      | -    |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year              | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Total Harvest     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 250  | 235  | 235  | 224  | 219  | 219  | 200  | 202  | 225  | 212  |
| Antlerless        | 413  | 423  | 462  | 347  | 391  | 358  | 384  | 336  | 371  | 415  |
| Total             | 663  | 658  | 697  | 571  | 610  | 577  | 584  | 538  | 596  | 627  |
| Gun               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 158  | 128  | 135  | 124  | 138  | 122  | 105  | 123  | 132  | 119  |
| Antlerless        | 292  | 298  | 322  | 251  | 291  | 217  | 261  | 243  | 264  | 326  |
| Total             | 450  | 426  | 457  | 375  | 429  | 339  | 366  | 366  | 396  | 445  |
| Bow               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 73   | 79   | 70   | 62   | 47   | 51   | 48   | 40   | 38   | 48   |
| Antlerless        | 93   | 97   | 87   | 59   | 52   | 75   | 64   | 51   | 42   | 47   |
| Total             | 166  | 176  | 157  | 121  | 99   | 126  | 112  | 91   | 80   | 95   |
| Crossbow          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Antlered          | 19   | 28   | 30   | 38   | 34   | 46   | 47   | 39   | 55   | 45   |
| Antlerless        | 28   | 28   | 53   | 37   | 48   | 66   | 59   | 42   | 65   | 42   |
| Total             | 47   | 56   | 83   | 75   | 82   | 112  | 106  | 81   | 120  | 87   |
| 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    | 18   | 18   | 11   | 11   | 8    | 12   | 12   | 16   |

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

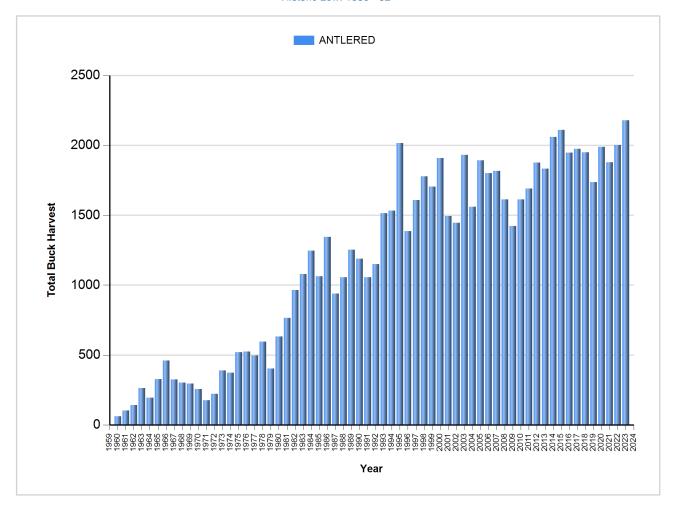




#### **Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present**

Historic High: 2023 - 2,180

Historic Low: 1960 - 62

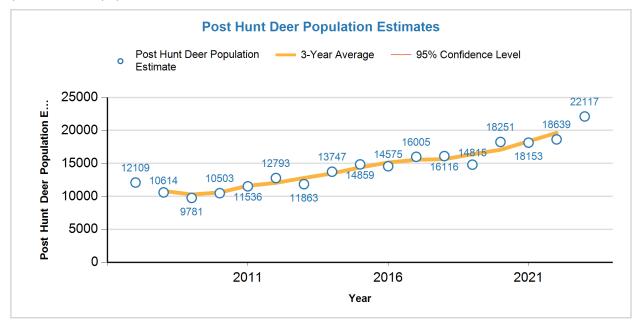


# Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Fond Du Lac County - Central Farmland

| Year               | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Farmland - Public  |        |        |        |        |
| Issued             | 4,000  | 3,879  | 3,809  | 3,773  |
| Killed             | 288    | 246    | 269    | 199    |
| Success Rate (%)   | 7.2    | 6.3    | 7.1    | 5.3    |
| Farmland - Private |        |        |        |        |
| Issued             | 9,628  | 9,025  | 8,810  | 8,896  |
| Killed             | 1,374  | 1,179  | 1,216  | 1,203  |
| Success Rate (%)   | 14.3   | 13.1   | 13.8   | 13.5   |
| Farmland - Total   |        |        |        |        |
| Issued             | 13,628 | 12,904 | 12,619 | 12,669 |
| Killed             | 1,662  | 1,425  | 1,485  | 1,402  |
| Success Rate (%)   | 12.2   | 11.0   | 11.8   | 11.1   |
| Bonus- Public      |        |        |        |        |
| Available          | 1,000  | 1,000  | 1,100  | 1,100  |
| Issued             | 999    | 1,000  | 1,020  | 1,008  |
| Killed             | 78     | 67     | 83     | 80     |
| Success Rate (%)   | 7.8    | 6.7    | 8.1    | 7.9    |
| Bonus- Private     |        |        |        |        |
| Available          | 1,500  | 1,500  | 1,500  | 1,500  |
| Issued             | 1,088  | 1,042  | 959    | 1,050  |
| Killed             | 225    | 179    | 189    | 213    |
| Success Rate (%)   | 20.7   | 17.2   | 19.7   | 20.3   |
| Bonus- Total       |        |        |        |        |
| Available          | 2,500  | 2,500  | 2,600  | 2,600  |
| Issued             | 2,087  | 2,042  | 1,979  | 2,058  |
| Killed             | 303    | 246    | 272    | 293    |
| Success Rate (%)   | 14.5   | 12.0   | 13.7   | 14.2   |

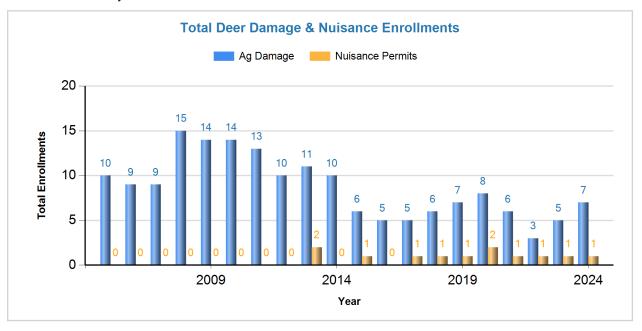
#### Herd Abundance

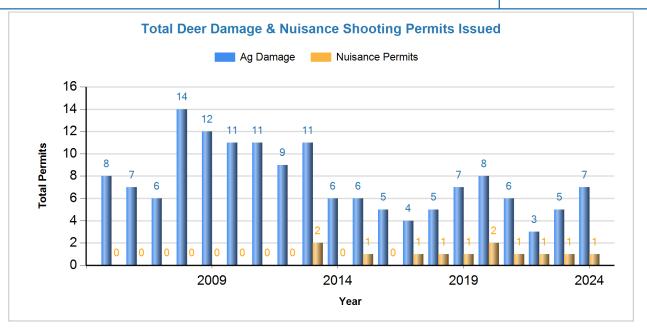
Deer herd abundance is estimated annually with hunter-collected data and a mathematical model to get post hunt deer population estimates.



## Deer Impacts - Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

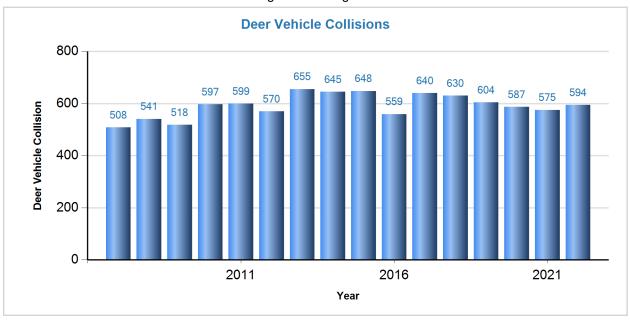
View trends in county and statewide enrollment, shooting permit, Ag Damage, and Nuisance harvest numbers over the years.





## **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.

