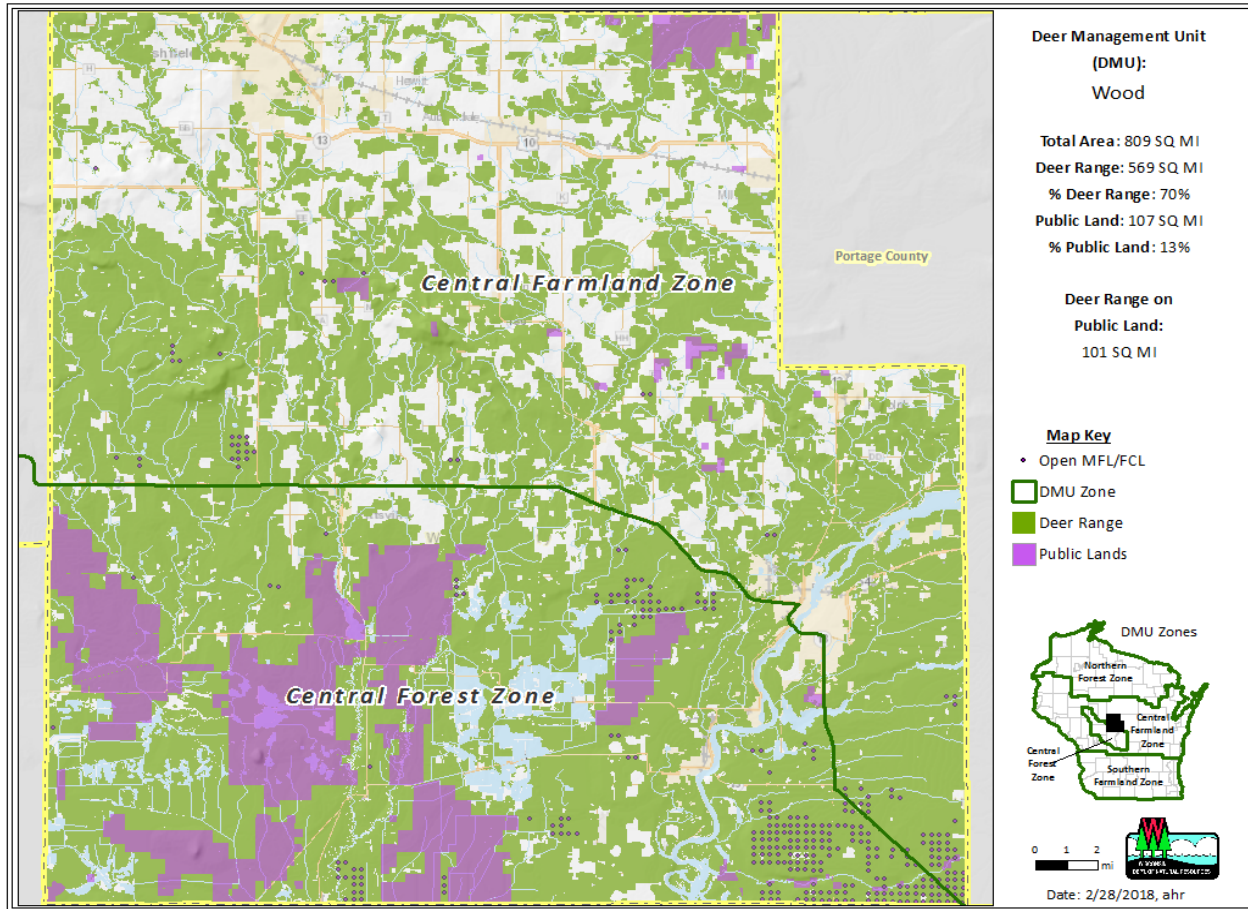


Wood County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Wood County Deer Management Unit is split into two different management zones. The area South and West of Hwy 73 and Hwy 13 is in the Central Forest Zone. The area North of this unit is in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 70 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. The two major cities in the unit are Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids. The terrain throughout the unit is primarily flat with occasional mounds or buttes of sandstone along with numerous wetlands. The unit is 809 square miles in area, of which 69 percent (557 square miles) is forested land, with the remaining landscape primarily agricultural lands dotted with fragmented woodlots. The majority of agricultural land lies in the northern one-third of the unit north of State Highway 73/13 and includes areas with center-pivot irrigation systems. Primary agricultural production includes cranberries, corn, soybeans, alfalfa and even Christmas trees. Forested lands are a mix of state-managed lands, county-managed forests and private forest lands enrolled in the open Managed Forest Law program. The unit offers ample public hunting opportunities on over 139 square miles of land open to the public that includes the Wood County Wildlife Area, a portion of the Meade Wildlife Area, and Wood County Forest lands. A considerable portion of the unit east of the Petenwell Flowage is industrial forest and managed forest law lands. With the recent Managed Forest law rule changes and the potential purchasing approximately 6,000 acres for future development of a CAFO in this area hunters should confirm whether the block of land they typically hunt has not changed its status from "open" to "closed". Vehicle-deer collisions as well as crop damage to both agricultural crops and ornamentals caused by deer do occur in this unit when populations are relatively high. Deer inhabiting the Central Forest Zone are susceptible to severe winters similar to deer in the Northern Forest Zone but with less frequency. The current deer herd management objective is to maintain the population in both the Central Forest and Central Farmland Zone portions of the County.

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 Forest Management Zone

Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 325.40

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 276.60

Central Farmland Management Zone

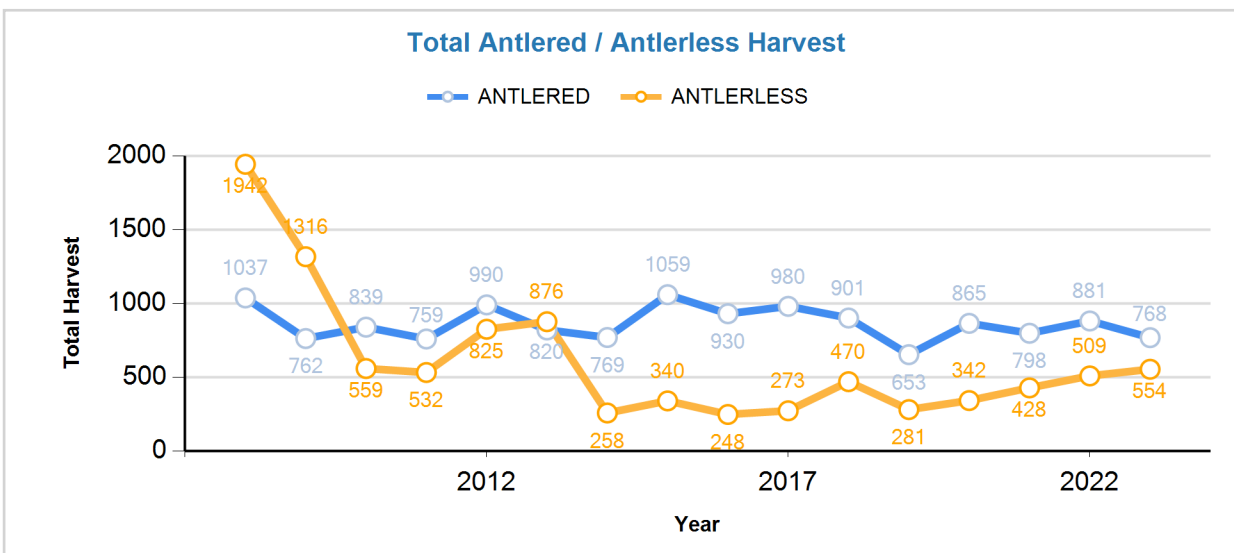
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 469.50

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 278.20

Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Forest Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	769	1059	930	980	901	653	865	798	881	768
Antlerless	274	340	248	273	470	281	342	428	509	554
Total	1043	1399	1178	1253	1371	934	1207	1226	1390	1322
Gun										
Antlered	519	679	607	607	612	378	479	452	585	470
Antlerless	216	273	211	231	354	227	290	327	417	432
Total	735	952	818	838	966	605	769	779	1002	902
Bow										
Antlered	166	231	172	174	115	120	155	144	119	106
Antlerless	37	40	15	19	53	24	17	36	40	49
Total	203	271	187	193	168	144	172	180	159	155
Crossbow										
Antlered	84	149	151	199	174	155	231	202	177	192
Antlerless	21	27	22	23	63	30	35	65	52	73
Total	105	176	173	222	237	185	266	267	229	265
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	130	154	101	82	118	97	103	71

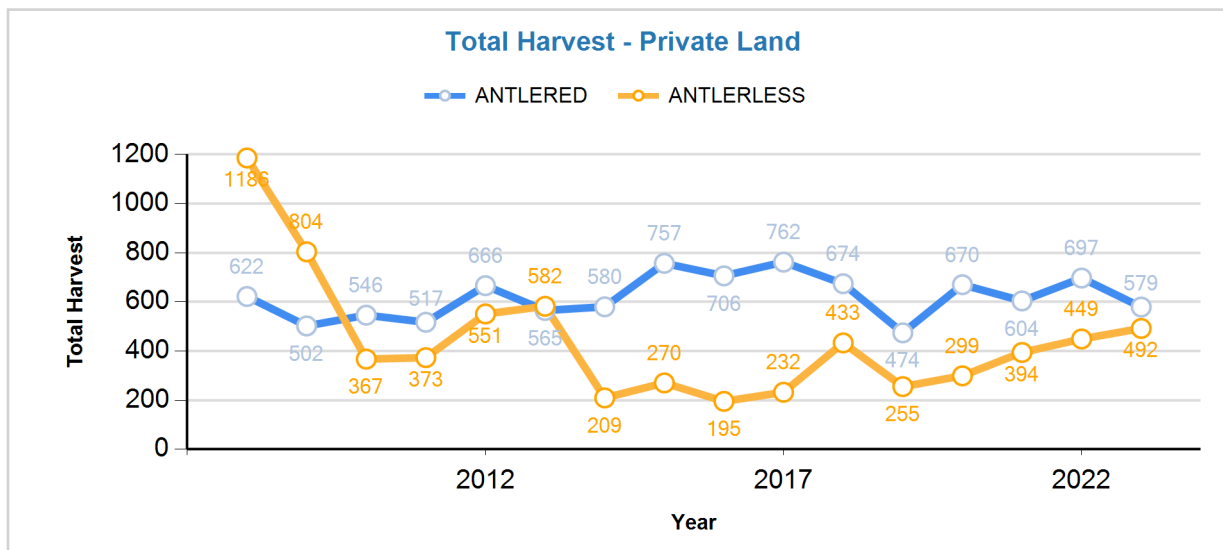
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Forest Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	580	757	706	762	674	474	670	604	697	579
Antlerless	217	270	195	232	433	255	299	394	449	492
Total	797	1027	901	994	1107	729	969	998	1146	1071
Gun										
Antlered	402	481	445	464	459	278	378	343	458	354
Antlerless	180	216	168	199	326	207	258	298	369	375
Total	582	697	613	663	785	485	636	641	827	729
Bow										
Antlered	118	163	133	136	82	83	116	105	93	74
Antlerless	21	30	11	15	50	22	12	35	37	48
Total	139	193	144	151	132	105	128	140	130	122
Crossbow										
Antlered	60	113	128	162	133	113	176	156	146	151
Antlerless	16	24	16	18	57	26	29	61	43	69
Total	76	137	144	180	190	139	205	217	189	220
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	107	124	78	73	99	79	77	56

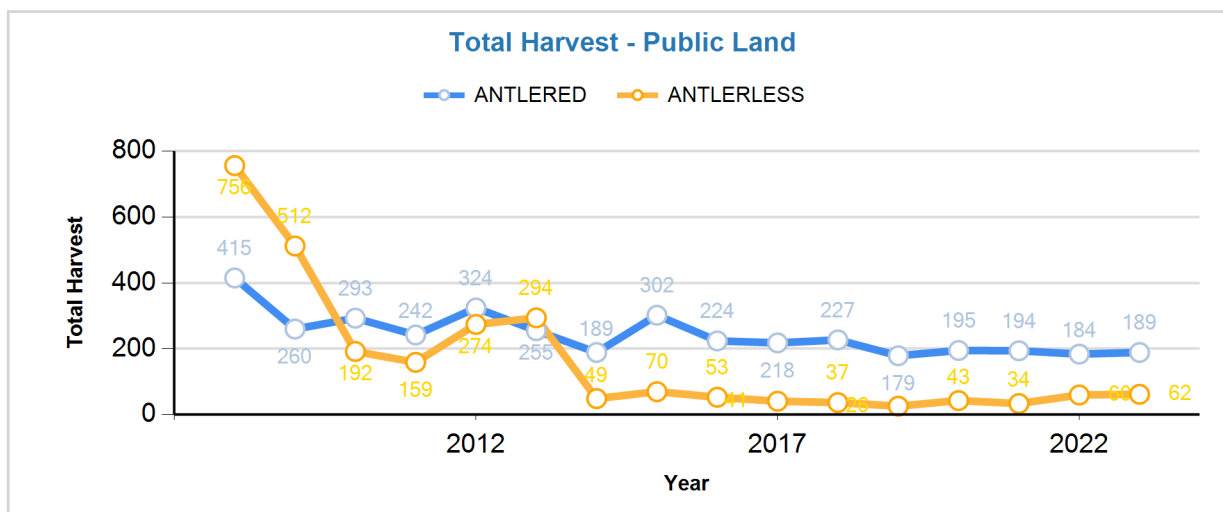
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Forest Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	189	302	224	218	227	179	195	194	184	189
Antlerless	57	70	53	41	37	26	43	34	60	62
Total	246	372	277	259	264	205	238	228	244	251
Gun										
Antlered	117	198	162	143	153	100	101	109	127	116
Antlerless	36	57	43	32	28	20	32	29	48	57
Total	153	255	205	175	181	120	133	138	175	173
Bow										
Antlered	48	68	39	38	33	37	39	39	26	32
Antlerless	16	10	4	4	3	2	5	1	3	1
Total	64	78	43	42	36	39	44	40	29	33
Crossbow										
Antlered	24	36	23	37	41	42	55	46	31	41
Antlerless	5	3	6	5	6	4	6	4	9	4
Total	29	39	29	42	47	46	61	50	40	45
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	23	30	23	9	19	18	26	15

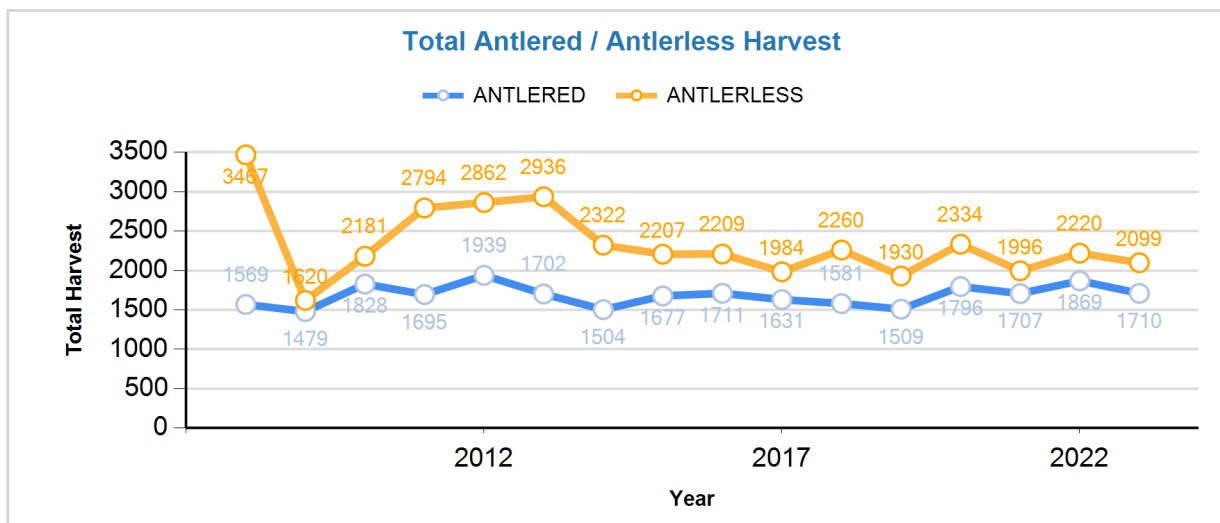
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1504	1677	1711	1631	1581	1509	1796	1707	1869	1710
Antlerless	2358	2207	2209	1985	2260	1930	2334	1996	2220	2099
Total	3862	3884	3920	3616	3841	3439	4130	3703	4089	3809
Gun										
Antlered	981	1032	1146	1059	1036	908	1072	1001	1209	1002
Antlerless	1722	1626	1637	1476	1632	1353	1630	1461	1631	1544
Total	2703	2658	2783	2535	2668	2261	2702	2462	2840	2546
Bow										
Antlered	311	370	286	234	219	206	259	241	203	228
Antlerless	387	311	272	222	255	220	262	184	186	178
Total	698	681	558	456	474	426	521	425	389	406
Crossbow										
Antlered	212	275	279	338	326	395	465	465	457	480
Antlerless	249	270	300	287	373	357	442	351	403	377
Total	461	545	579	625	699	752	907	816	860	857
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	181	122	150	121	148	125	128	72

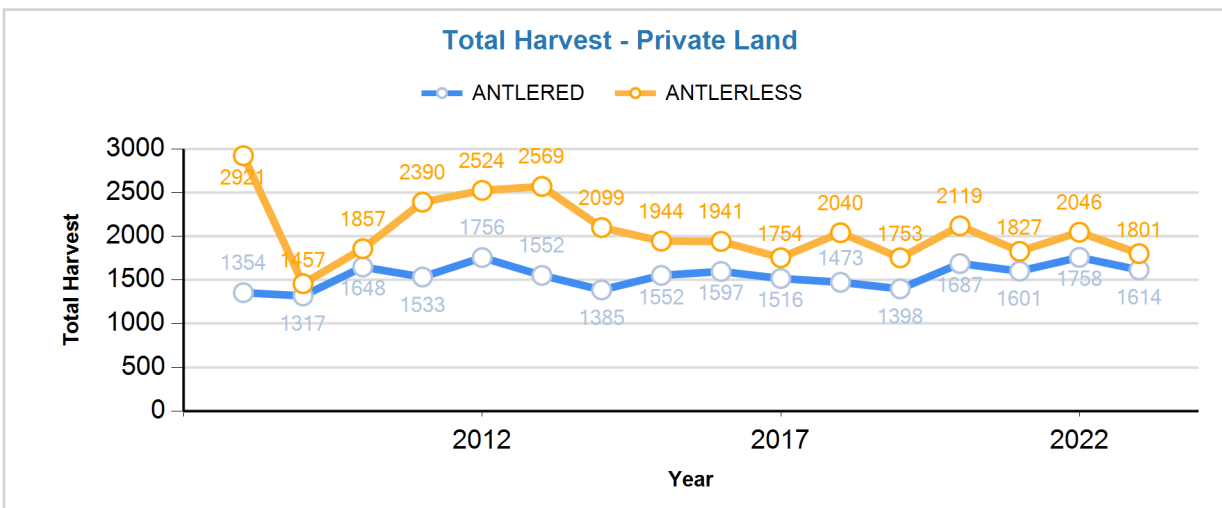
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1385	1552	1597	1516	1473	1398	1687	1601	1758	1614
Antlerless	2132	1944	1941	1755	2040	1753	2119	1827	2046	1801
Total	3517	3496	3538	3271	3513	3151	3806	3428	3804	3415
Gun										
Antlered	907	969	1070	994	971	839	1006	949	1142	955
Antlerless	1574	1438	1443	1315	1486	1250	1497	1349	1498	1324
Total	2481	2407	2513	2309	2457	2089	2503	2298	2640	2279
Bow										
Antlered	283	329	263	206	197	185	241	217	189	202
Antlerless	329	262	235	188	224	186	230	157	169	146
Total	612	591	498	394	421	371	471	374	358	348
Crossbow										
Antlered	195	254	264	316	305	374	440	435	427	457
Antlerless	229	244	263	252	330	317	392	321	379	331
Total	424	498	527	568	635	691	832	756	806	788
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	165	112	137	116	140	118	115	70

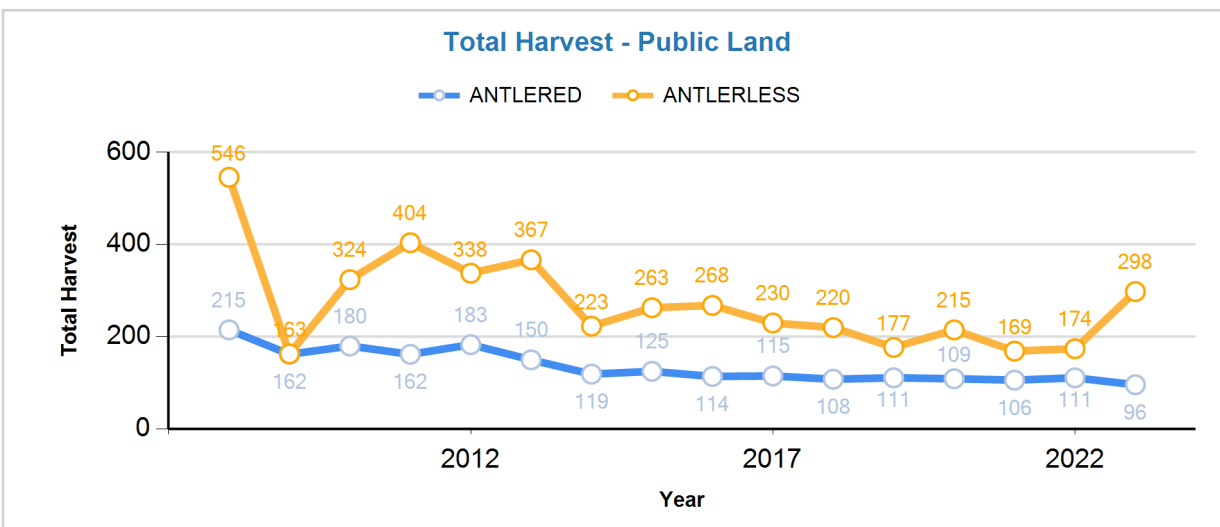
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



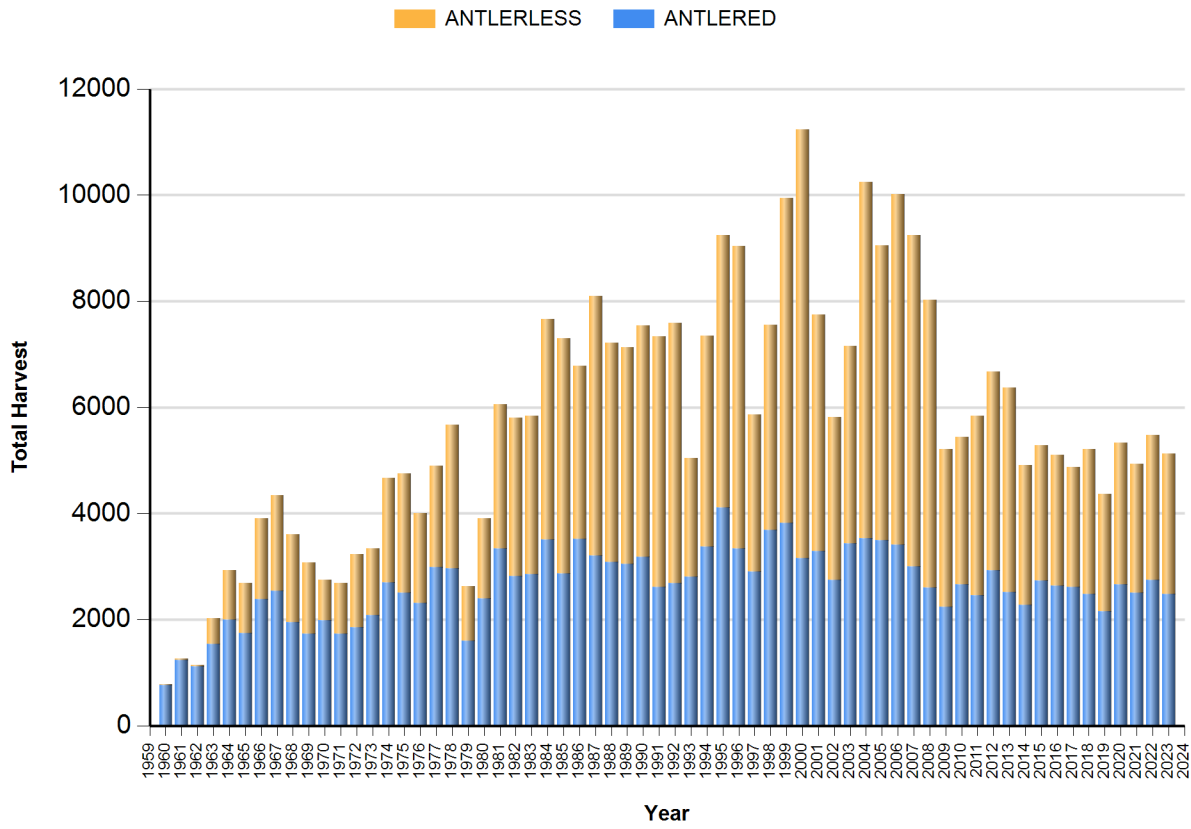
Total Harvest for Wood County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	119	125	114	115	108	111	109	106	111	96
Antlerless	226	263	268	230	220	177	215	169	174	298
Total	345	388	382	345	328	288	324	275	285	394
Gun										
Antlered	74	63	76	65	65	69	66	52	67	47
Antlerless	148	188	194	161	146	103	133	112	133	220
Total	222	251	270	226	211	172	199	164	200	267
Bow										
Antlered	28	41	23	28	22	21	18	24	14	26
Antlerless	58	49	37	34	31	34	32	27	17	32
Total	86	90	60	62	53	55	50	51	31	58
Crossbow										
Antlered	17	21	15	22	21	21	25	30	30	23
Antlerless	20	26	37	35	43	40	50	30	24	46
Total	37	47	52	57	64	61	75	60	54	69
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	16	10	13	5	8	7	13	2

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



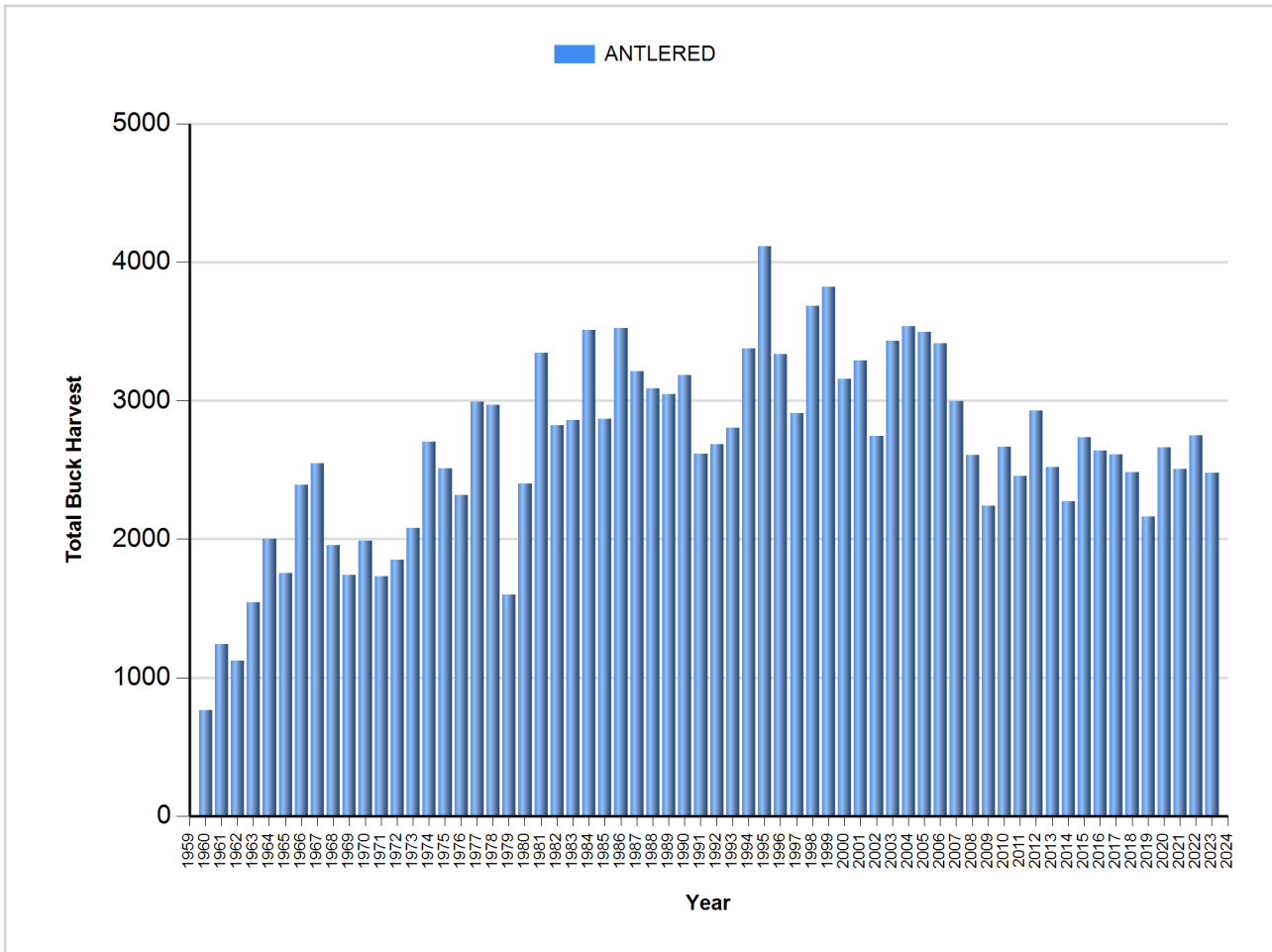
Total Deer Harvest 1960 - Present



Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 1995 - 4,114

Historic Low: 1960 - 765



Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Wood County - Central Forest

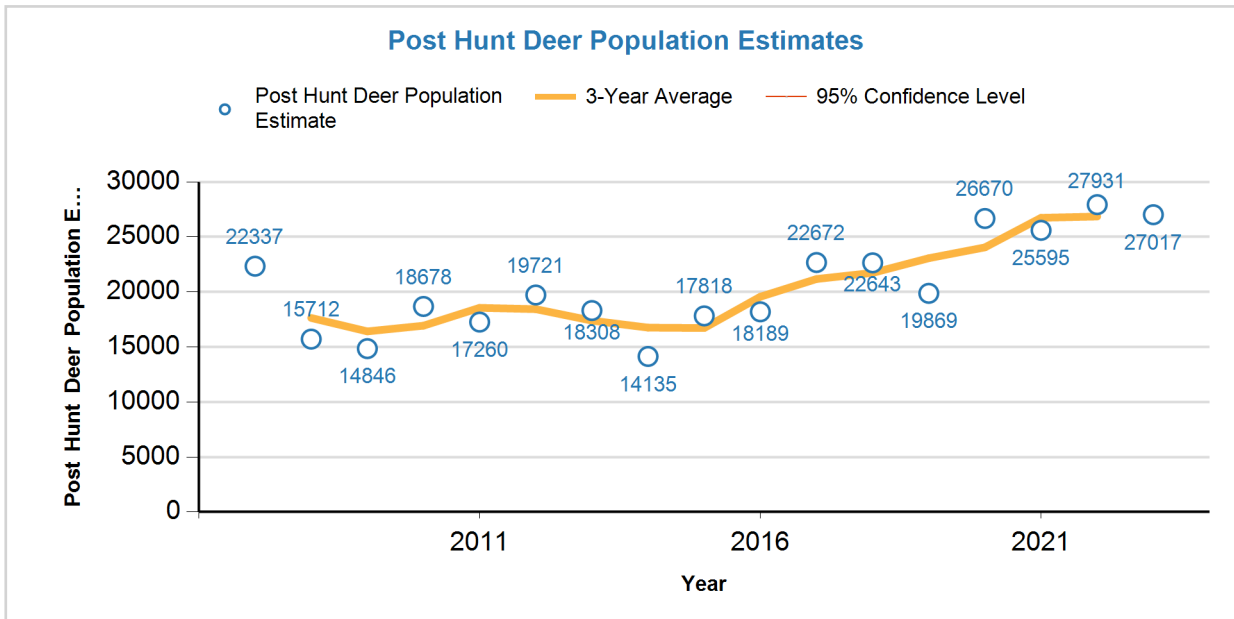
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
Farmland - Private				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
Farmland - Total				
Issued				
Killed				
Success Rate (%)				
Bonus- Public				
Available	50	50	75	125
Issued	50	50	75	125
Killed	21	14	29	35
Success Rate (%)	42.0	28.0	38.7	28.0
Bonus- Private				
Available	250	800	800	1,500
Issued	248	800	800	1,502
Killed	84	220	243	306
Success Rate (%)	33.9	27.5	30.4	20.4
Bonus- Total				
Available	300	850	875	1,625
Issued	298	850	875	1,627
Killed	105	234	272	341
Success Rate (%)	35.2	27.5	31.1	21.0

Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Wood County - Central Farmland

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued	2,684	2,501	2,401	5,154
Killed	204	160	155	198
Success Rate (%)	7.6	6.4	6.5	3.8
Farmland - Private				
Issued	10,144	9,851	9,838	19,254
Killed	1,653	1,378	1,559	1,627
Success Rate (%)	16.3	14.0	15.8	8.5
Farmland - Total				
Issued	12,828	12,352	12,239	24,408
Killed	1,857	1,538	1,714	1,825
Success Rate (%)	14.5	12.5	14.0	7.5
Bonus- Public				
Available		0		0
Issued	0	0	0	0
Killed	0	1	0	0
Success Rate (%)				
Bonus- Private				
Available	500	1,000	2,000	2,000
Issued	498	1,001	1,253	795
Killed	125	191	248	114
Success Rate (%)	25.1	19.1	19.8	14.3
Bonus- Total				
Available	500	1,000	2,000	2,000
Issued	498	1,001	1,253	795
Killed	125	192	248	114
Success Rate (%)	25.1	19.1	19.8	14.3

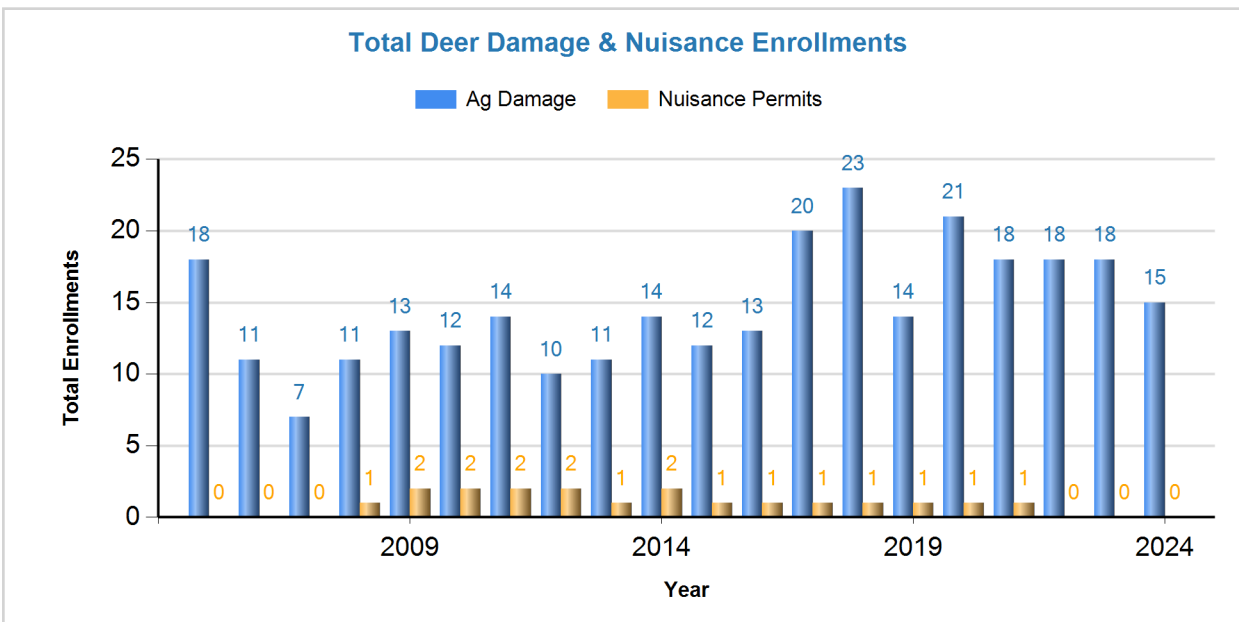
Herd Abundance

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

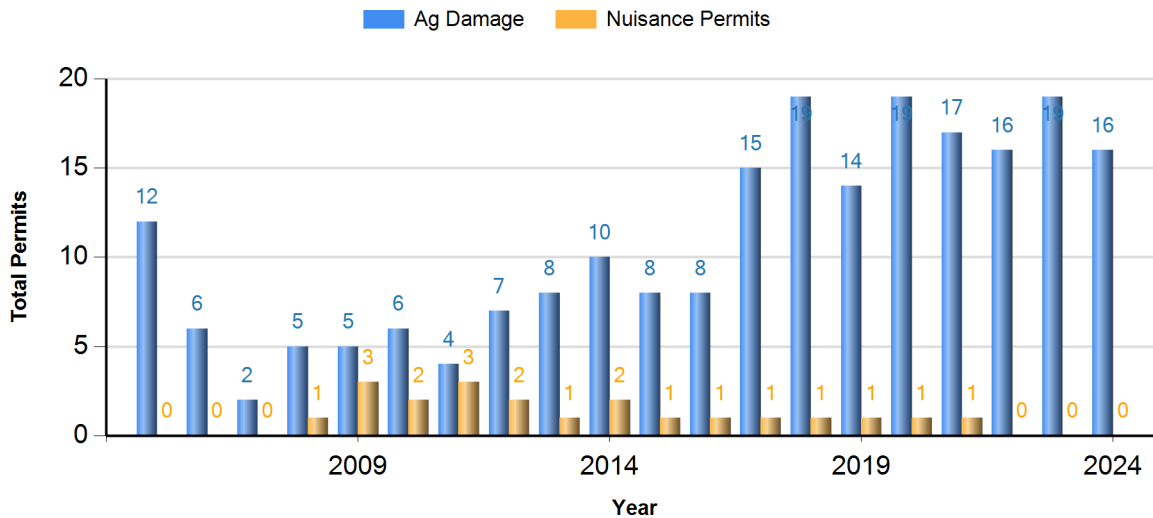


Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

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



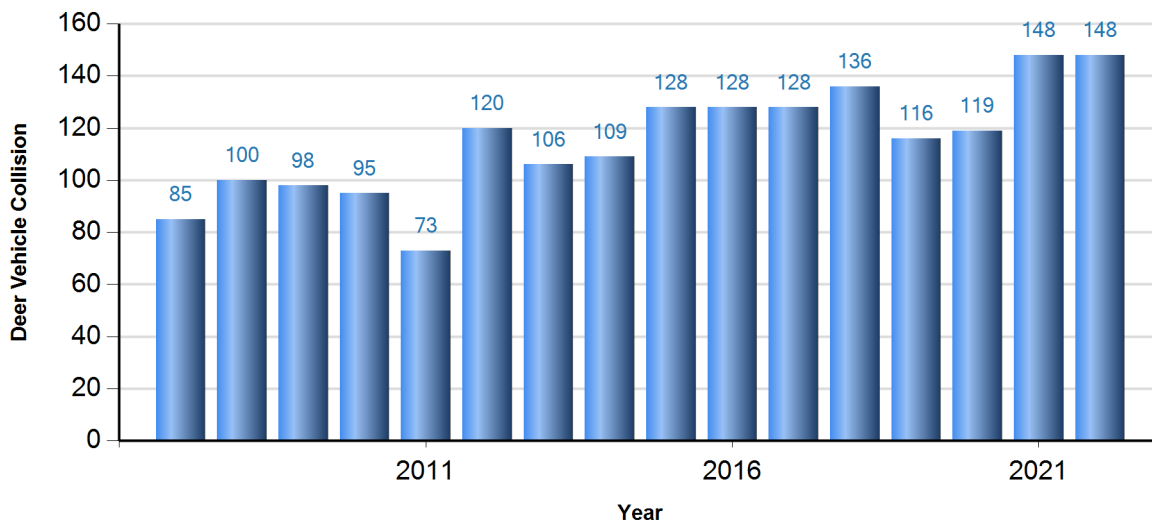
Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



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

