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2021 U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY

Information provided by cooperating deer camps in the U.P. Report prepared by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Staff February 2022

Thank You!

We extend our thanks to all of you who made this year's survey possible by recording your deer sightings, harvest, and comments for the 2021 firearm season. The information you provided helps us better understand the size, trend, and composition of the deer herd and the issues that are important to you concerning deer management. We will consult this information when formulating recommendations for antierless license quotas and other regulations pertaining to deer hunting. This report begins with information applicable to the entire U.P. region, and then looks at western and eastern sides of the U.P. Next, results by Deer Management Unit (DMU) are compared. A summary of written comments is located in the middle of the report, and the 22 DMU summaries are at the end. A summary of results with page references is available on page 5. We hope you enjoy reading the report and find the results interesting.

Background Information

The deer camp survey is used to monitor deer sightings, deer harvest, and hunter opinions during the 16-day firearm season. It provides hunters and DNR staff with feedback on the status of the deer herd and hunting satisfaction soon after the season ends. Because other surveys have indicated the majority of hunter effort and deer harvest occurs during firearm season, the results of this survey are considered a good predictor of herd size and hunting success throughout the archery and muzzleloader seasons as well. Beginning in the early 1990's, deer camps have been casually recruited into the survey by means like word-of-mouth, visiting camps, or sign-ups at meetings or banquets. Camp survey forms and postage-paid envelopes were mailed to 547 contact persons prior to the 2021 season.

To encourage responses and support the survey, several U.P sportsperson groups provided prizes for a random drawing of camp contact persons who responded. Thank you to the following sportsperson groups for providing the prizes:

Eastern U.P.

Drummond Island Sportsmen's Club
Raber Area Sportsmen's Club
Les Cheneaux Sportsmen's Club
Straits Area Sportsmen's Club
St. Mary's River Sportsmen's Club
Chippewa County Shooting Association
Mackinac Chapter of the
Quality Deer Management Association
Michigan Sharp-tailed Grouse Association

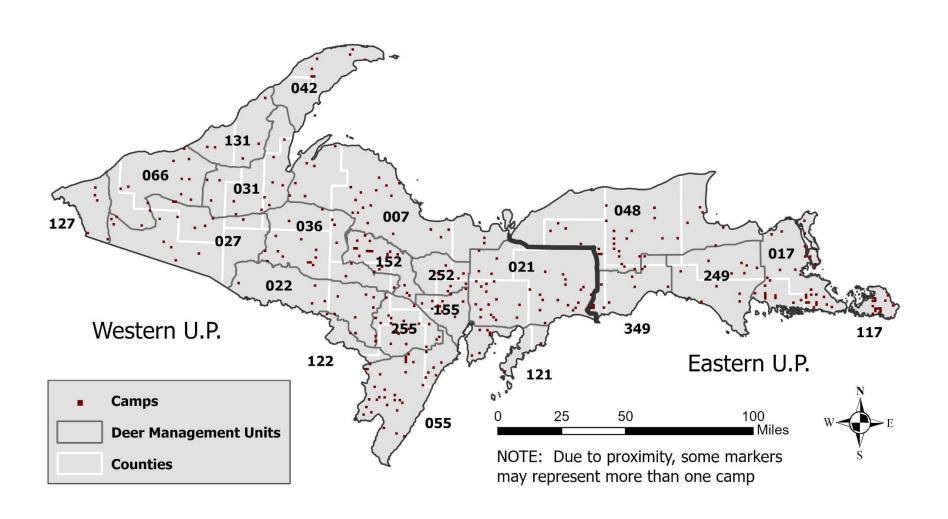
Western U.P.

Eastern Dickinson County Sportsmen's Club

U.P. Whitetails Association, Inc.

Wildlife Unlimited of Dickinson County

Upper Peninsula Deer Camp Survey Locations 2021 Firearm Season



Summary of the 2021 U.P. Deer Camp Survey

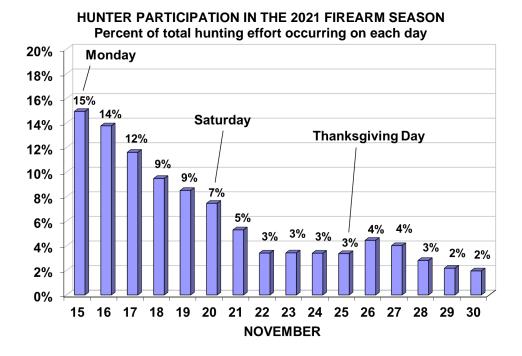
<u>U.P</u>	. Region Results		<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.	Deer seen per hunter day <i>increas</i>	ed:	2.6	3.0	6
2.	Percent of hunters harvesting a be		22%	26%	8
3.	Fawn observations per 100 does	increased:	49	56	9
			<u>rcent of camps in</u>	-	<u>Page</u>
4.	Deer herd trend:		Same number –		er – 44% 10
5.	Season rating: Excellent – 6%	Good – 23%	% Fair – 33	8% Poor	- 38% 10
Wes	stern U.P. (Page 11)		<u>2020</u>	2021	<u>Page</u>
6.	Deer seen per hunter day increas	ed:	2.7	3.2	11
7.	Percent of hunters harvesting a b	uck <i>increased</i> :	24%	29%	11
8.	Fawn observations per 100 does	increased:	50	58	11
		' <u></u>	rcent of camps in		
9.	Deer herd trend:	More – 23%	Same number –		er – 43%
10.	Season rating: Excellent – 7%	Good – 259	% Fair – 34	1% Poor	– 34%
Eas	tern U.P. (Page 12)		<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Page</u>
11.	Deer seen per hunter day remain	ned similar.	2.2	2.3	12
12.	Percent of hunters harvesting a b		18%	20%	12
13.	Fawn observations per 100 does		44	50	12
		<u>Pe</u>	rcent of camps in		
14.	Deer herd trend:	More – 19%	Same number –	34% Fewe	er – 47%
15.	Season rating: Excellent – 2%	Good – 219	% Fair – 30		- 47%

Other Information

- 16. Deer management units (DMU's) are compared with each other in terms of participation, daily deer sightings, buck kill success, and fawn-doe ratios (pages 13-15).
- 17. The ages of bucks harvested in the U.P. and brought to check stations during 2021 were: 29% 1.5-year-olds, 39% 2.5-year-olds, and 32% 3.5-year-olds and older (pages 15-16).
- 18. Winter snow conditions are summarized on pages 16-17.
- 19. Archery season participation is summarized on page 17.
- 20. Camps kept track of sightings of 11 wildlife species besides deer (page 18).
- 21. Camps wrote numerous comments on their survey forms. These comments were placed in categories, and updates on most common issues as well as other items are provided (pages 18-23).
- 22. Deer season statistics are provided in Tables 1-3 based on area (U.P. Region, West U.P., or East U.P.) (pages 24-26), and for each DMU in Table 4 (page 27).
- 23. Hunter-generated statistics and a summary of written comments are provided for each of the 22 DMU's (pages 29-39).

U.P. Region (Also see Tables 1 – 3 on pages 24 – 26)

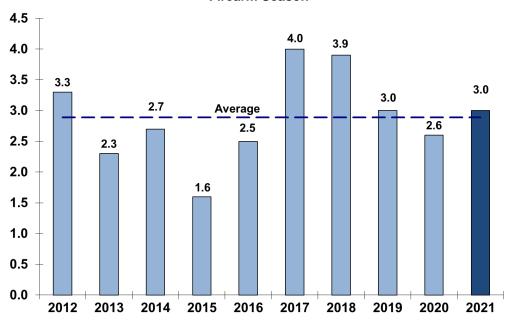
A total of 395 camps occupied by 1,572 hunters participated in the 2021 U.P. Deer Camp Survey. A map showing the distribution of participants is on page 4 and a table of summary statistics from across the region is on page 24. Eighty-one percent of the participating camps also participated in 2020. Hunters spent a total of 8,585 days hunting, 11% fewer days afield than in 2020. On average, 4 hunters occupied each deer camp, and each person hunted 5 days during the 16-day firearm season. Approximately 59% of the hunting effort was completed during the first five days of the season.



Deer Observations: The average number of deer observed per hunter during the entire 2020 firearm season was 16 deer (2 bucks and 14 antlerless), similar to the past 2 seasons. Note: unidentified deer are considered antlerless in the analysis of deer sighting data. Hunters observed 3.0 deer per hunter day, an increase from the 2.6 in 2020 and near the long-term average of 2.9.

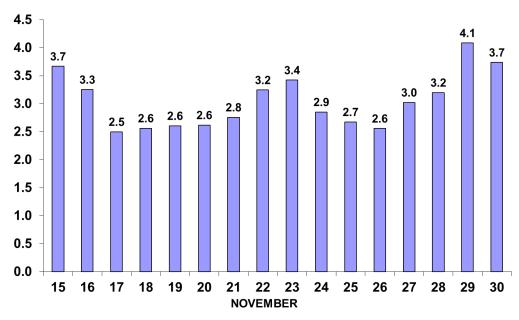
U.P. Region





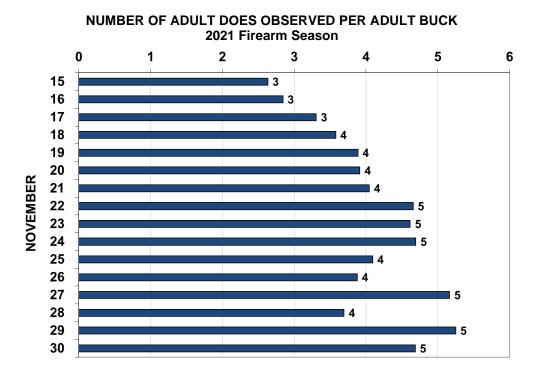
Hunters observed, on average, 2 to 4 deer per day during each day of the firearm season. As in past years, there was never a day in which deer activity "shut down" completely.

NUMBER OF DEER OBSERVED PER DAY 2021 Firearm Season



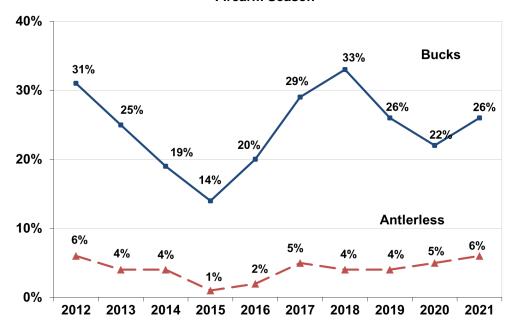
U.P. Region

Doe Sightings per Buck: Three <u>adult</u> does were observed per <u>adult</u> buck on opening day in 2021. The sex ratio skewed to a ratio of 4-5 does per buck as the season progressed and more bucks than does were removed from the population by hunters.



Harvest: Twenty-six percent of hunters harvested a buck, slightly above the 10-year average of 25%. One percent of hunters harvested a 2nd buck. Since 2003, 4% or less of participating hunters reported taking a 2nd buck each year.

HUNTER SUCCESS RATES AT U.P. COOPERATING DEER CAMPS Firearm Season



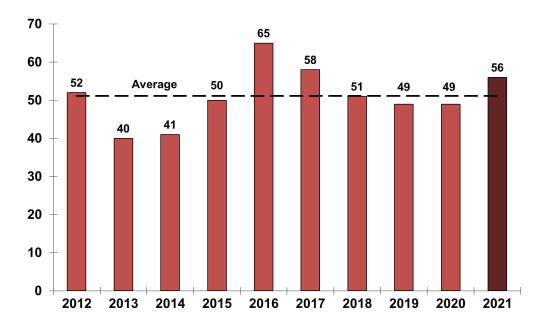
U.P. Region

There were changes to antlerless harvest opportunities in 2021. Universal antlerless licenses – available over the counter with no drawing involved – could be used in DMU's 022, 055, 121, 122, 155, and 255 in the south-central U.P. In the middle zone, a total of 2,000 hunting access permits were available via drawing (1,000 in the eastern U.P. DMU 351 and 1,000 in the western U.P. DMU 352). A hunter needed to have a hunting access permit to use a universal antlerless license in the middle zone. Hunters could not harvest an antlerless deer in the northern U.P., which included DMU's 007, 031, 042, 048, 066, 127, & 131.

Six percent of Deer Camp Survey participants reported harvesting an antlerless deer (doe or fawn) in 2021, a slight increase from 2020 when 5% harvested an antlerless deer. Antlerless deer accounted for 19% of the total harvest at camps in the U.P. in 2021 (down from 21% in 2020) whereas 81% of the take were bucks. Of the 92 hunters who harvested an <u>antlerless</u> deer, 93% took only 1, 5% took 2, and the remaining 1% took more than 2 antlerless deer. In the past, some hunters have taken antlerless deer during archery and muzzleloader seasons, but only those taken during firearm season are included in this survey.

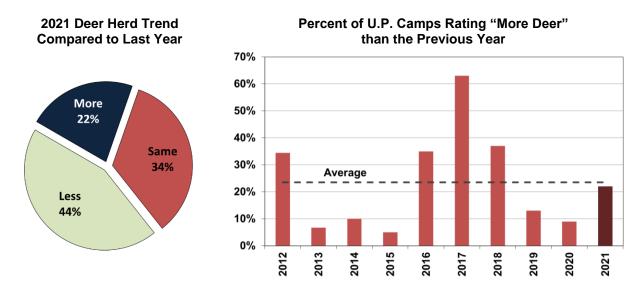
Fawn to Doe Ratio: Hunters observed 56 fawns per 100 does. This is an increase from the 49 observed in 2019 and 2020, and above the average since 2012 (51).

FAWNS OBSERVED PER 100 DOES Firearm Season

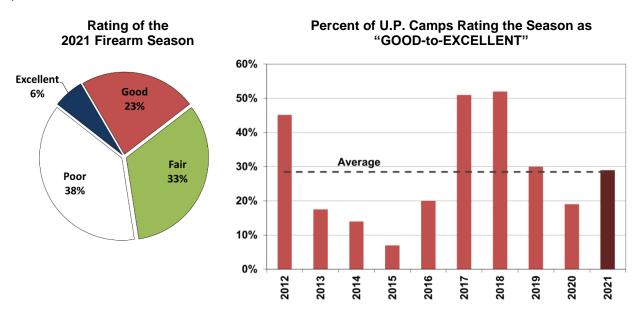


U.P. Region

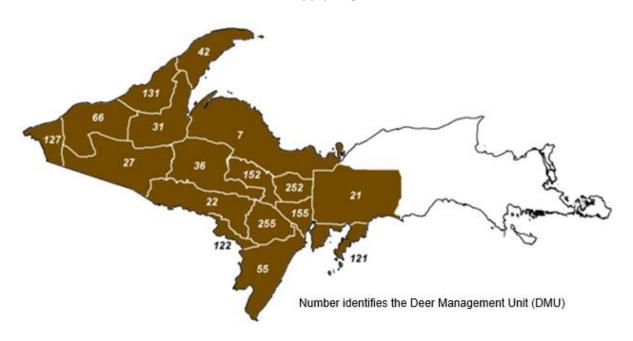
Deer Herd Trend: Forty-four percent of camps felt there were fewer deer compared to 2020, 34% felt that deer numbers were similar to 2020, and 22% felt there were more.



Rating of the Season: Camps were asked to rate the firearm season as excellent, good, fair, or poor. Seventy-one percent rated the season as fair to poor while 29% of camps rated the season as good to excellent in 2021. In 2020, 81% percent of camps rated the season as fair to poor.



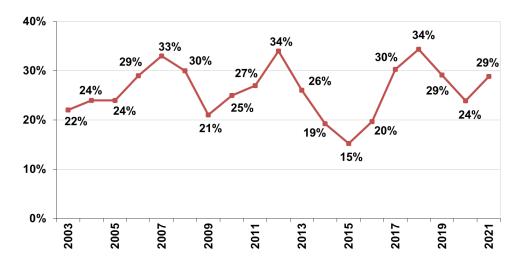
Western U.P.



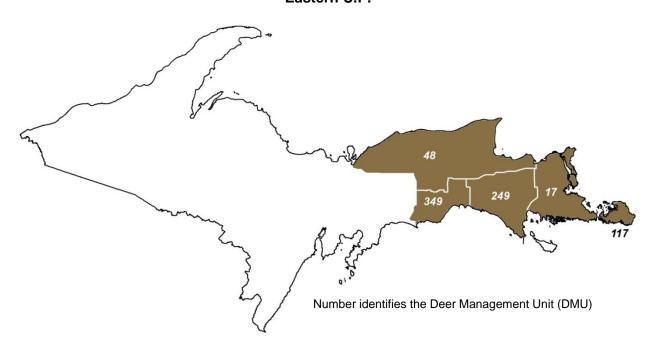
Results for the Western U.P. portion of the survey area (shown above) have been reported since the late 1990's. This portion includes the majority of DMU's in the U.P. Results for the Western U.P. are detailed in Table 2 on page 25. Some of these results are summarized here.

Western U.P. participants observed 3.2 deer per hunter day and 58 fawns per 100 does in 2021. The deer observation rate increased from 2.7 in 2020 and the fawn-to-doe ratio increased from 50 in 2020. Twenty-nine percent of hunters harvested a buck (see graph below) compared to 24% in 2020. Thirty-two percent of camps rated the 2021 season as excellent or good compared to 20% in 2020.

Buck Hunter Success Rates at West U.P. Cooperating Deer Camps Firearm Season



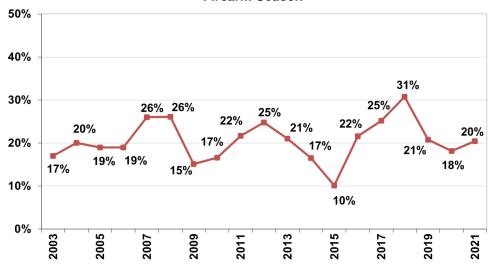
Eastern U.P.



Results for the Eastern U.P. portion of the survey area (shown above) have been reported since 2003. This area contains 5 of the 22 DMU's in the U.P. Results for the Eastern U.P. are detailed in Table 3 on page 26. Some of these results are summarized here.

Eastern U.P. participants observed 2.3 deer per hunter day and 50 fawns per 100 does in 2021. The sighting rate is similar to 2020 (2.2), while the fawns per 100 does increased from 44. Twenty percent of hunters harvested a buck (see graph below) compared to 18% in 2020. Twenty-three percent of camps rated the 2021 season as excellent or good compared to 15% in 2020.

Buck Hunter Success Rates at East U.P. Cooperating Deer Camps Firearm Season

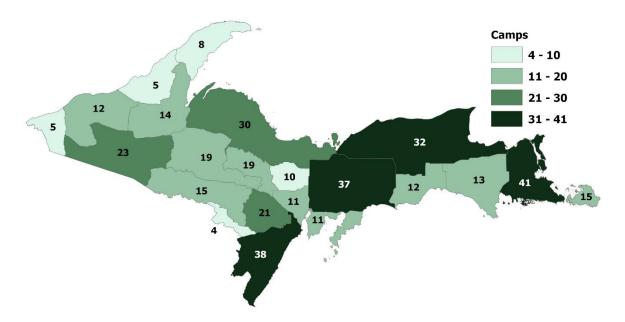


RESULTS BY DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT

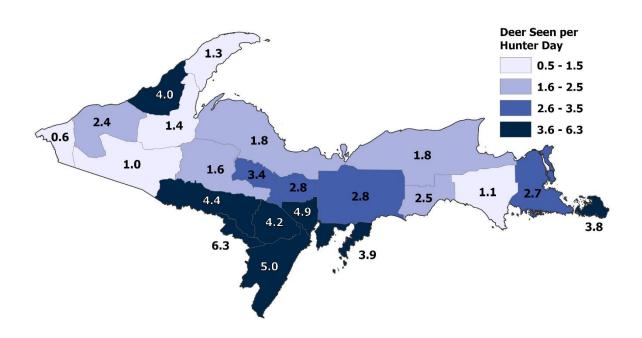
(Also see Table 4 on page 27)

Individual Deer Management Unit Statistics: Separate statistics and the most common camp comments are provided for each individual Deer Management Unit at the end of this report (pages 29-39). Please note that "does seen per buck" refers to opening day only on those pages. Refer to the map on page 2 for the location of the respective Deer Management Unit.

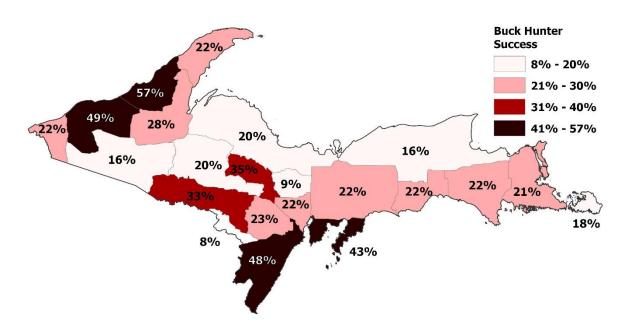
Participation: The map below shows camp participation in 2021 by DMU. Some DMU's had very light participation this year. We caution that the results presented here for individual DMU's with few participating camps may not be representative of the majority of hunters within the DMU. Furthermore, we encourage additional participation in DMU's with relatively few participants (particularly those with <15 camps or <50 hunters). Interested hunters can contact David Jentoft at the Sault Ste. Marie Customer Service Center (906-635-6161 ext. 4 or jentoftd@michigan.gov) or Colter Lubben at the Escanaba Customer Service Center (906-789-8204 or lubbenc1@michigan.gov) to receive survey materials next firearm season.



Deer Observations per Hunter Day: The number of deer seen per hunter day during the 2021 firearm season ranged from 0.6 in DMU 127 (based on only 5 camps) to 6.3 in DMU 122 (based on only 4 camps). Sighting rates increased in 13 DMU's compared to 2020, decreased in 6, and remained similar (within 0.1) in 3 DMU's.

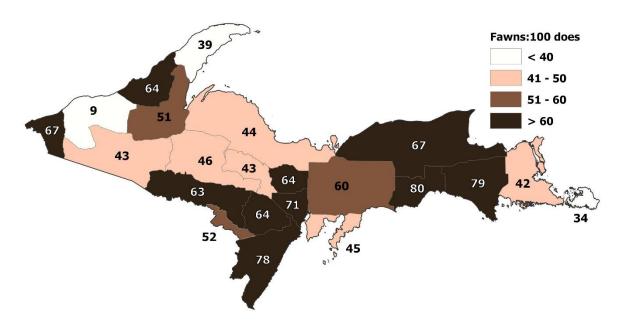


Buck Harvest: Buck kill success ranged from a low of 8% in DMU 122 (based on only 6 camps) to a high of 57% in DMU 131. The rate increased in 12 DMU's compared to 2020, decreased in 8, and remained similar (within 1%) in the remaining 2 DMU's. There has not been a clear relationship between deer population size (as measured by daily deer sightings) and the percent of hunters killing a buck. Sometimes a unit with low deer sightings will record a high buck kill success, and conversely, a unit with high deer sightings will record low success. This seems illogical on the surface but may be due to hunters passing on buck kill opportunities in DMU's where deer are plentiful, hunters being less choosy in low deer density areas, or hunters achieving high success rates in low deer density areas due to reduced competition from other hunters.



While buck harvest may not be clearly related to deer population size, results in previous reports have regularly suggested that hunters seem more willing to pass on bucks in areas where they have multiple buck sightings per season. In contrast, hunters appear less willing to "let 'em go" in areas where few, if any, bucks are seen. The decision to take a buck is often voluntary and based on the choice of the hunter at the time of the buck sighting. However, there are some restrictions based on license type (which the hunter chooses when purchasing) and hunting location (buck regulations in the core CWD surveillance area and in DMU 117 – Drummond Island – differ some from the rest of the U.P.) that are regulatory.

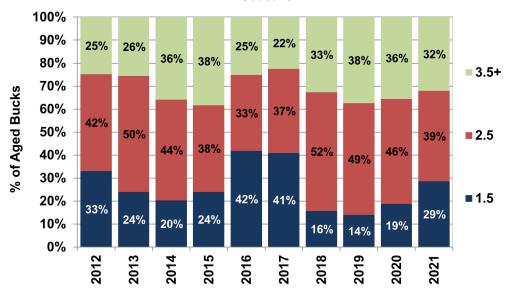
Fawn to Doe Ratio: The number of fawns observed per 100 does varied from a low of 9 in DMU 066 to a high of 80 in DMU 349. The ratio increased in 15 of the 22 DMU's compared to 2020, decreased in 5, and remained similar (within 1) in two DMU's (007 & 017). The fawn-to-doe ratio must be interpreted with caution because it can be sensitive to changes in doe observations rather than simply reflecting changes in fawn observations. For example, if doe sightings increase further than fawn sightings compared to the previous year, low rates can result. If doe sightings decrease further than fawn sightings, high rates can result.



Age Structure of Harvest: The camp survey does not collect information on the age structure of harvested deer, but we have included information that was collected at deer check stations. The following graph contrasts the age structure of bucks harvested across the entire U.P. during the 2012 – 2021 seasons (archery, firearm, and muzzleloader combined). Please note that check station availability in 2020 and 2021 was reduced compared to previous years. This should be considered when comparing 2021 results with those from past seasons.

U.P. Buck Harvest by Age Class

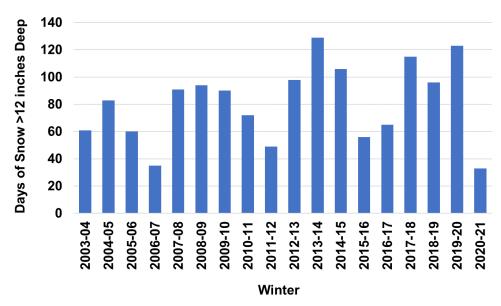
Age distribution of bucks seen at check stations
All Seasons



In 2021, a higher proportion of bucks aged at check stations were 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ year old (i.e. yearling) bucks than the past three seasons. Still, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ year old and older bucks comprised the majority of aged bucks.

Winter Conditions: Wildlife Division staff in the U.P. currently monitor snow conditions each winter using Snow Data Assimilation System (SNODAS) results from the NOAA National Weather Service's National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center. While any snow can impact wildlife, research has suggested that deeper snow can be more impactful to deer. Currently, the duration of snow greater than 12 inches deep is one of the tools used to monitor the intensity of winter. The graph below shows the duration of snow >12 inches deep by winter in the U.P. The winter of 2020-21 was mild by comparison to many other winters, including the previous three winters.

Duration of 'Deep' Snow in the U.P. by Year Number of days the average U.P. snow depth was >12 inches



As of February 7, 2022, there have been 32 days when the snow was >12 inches deep (near the long-term average of 30 days), and the average snow depth in the U.P. was approximately 17 inches (near the long-term average). These results suggest a near-average winter to date.

Antlerless Deer Harvest Opinions: Camps were asked whether they supported the availability of antlerless deer harvest opportunities in their location at this time. Forty-three percent of respondents answered yes, while 57% answered no. The percent of camps answering yes since 2018 is as follows: 2020 – 45%, 2019 – 48%, 2018 – 50%. Responses varied by area in 2021 as they have since 2018. Support for antlerless harvest opportunities was generally highest in the southcentral U.P. where deer population densities are highest and antlerless harvest opportunities have been greater than in other areas of the U.P.

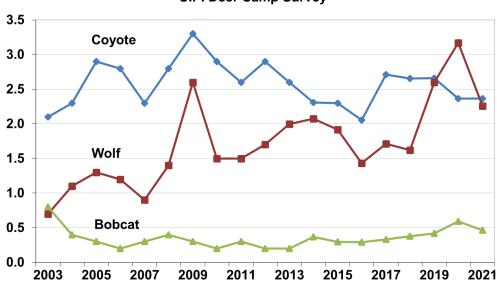
Archery Participation: Camps were asked to indicate how many hunters participated in the early archery season (Oct. 1 – Nov. 14) and how many planned to hunt in the late archery season (Dec. 1 – Jan. 1). Twenty-three percent of participants hunted in the early archery season, and 7% planned to hunt in the late archery season. These results are similar to past years as shown in the table below. Some hunters have expressed concerns about the effects of archery hunting on the deer population, particularly late season hunting. Results here suggest that few hunters (<10%) participate in the late portion of the archery season (December); the majority of archery hunting effort appears to be in the early part of the season (October and early November).

Archery Participation by Year % of Camp Survey hunters participating in archery season

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Early Archery (Oct. 1 – Nov. 14)	24%	21%	23%	22%	21%	22%	22%	23%
Late Archery (Dec. 1 – Jan. 1)	8%	7%	7%	7%	5%	6%	9%	7%

Other Wildlife Sightings: Deer camps kept track of furbearing mammals and other select species observed while hunting during firearm season (see tables 5 and 6 on page 28). Wild turkeys topped the list of all species observed once again with 1,878 sightings, a small increase from the 1,812 counted in 2020. Cougar observations have ranged from 0 to 7 per year during the past 10 years. In 2020, 1 sighting was reported. No feral pig sightings were reported during the firearm season.

When sightings are standardized to account for different numbers of hunter days each year, a sighting index can be developed (animals seen per 100 hunter days). See Table 6 on page 28 for index values by year. We do not know whether these sighting indices depict the actual population trends of these furbearer populations.



COYOTE, WOLF, & BOBCAT SIGHTINGS PER 100 HUNTER DAYS U.P. Deer Camp Survey

Comments by Hunters

Deer camps wrote many comments on their survey forms. To address these comments in a meaningful manner, we tallied each according to its subject matter. Comments mentioned by at least 5 camps were extracted from the forms and assigned to one of 5 major subject categories shown below. The subject matter receiving the greatest number of unsolicited comments was deer abundance. The most common individual comment related to fewer deer being observed this season. Updates and DNR thoughts on some of the subjects follow.

COMMENTS WRITTEN BY HUNTERS IN THE 2021 U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY

Deer Abundance Less Fewer deer observed this season 72 Worst season ever 35 Fawns were not abundant or fewer in number 23 Fewer bucks or buck sign 18 Fewer mature bucks on camera/seen 14 Hunted less in the U.P. due to low deer numbers 14 Less does seen 10 186 More More deer observed this season 24 16 More young bucks Bucks were abundant or higher in number 6 More does seen 6 Fawns were abundant or higher in number 5 57 **Predators** 42 Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area Wolves having a negative impact on deer 36 Control wolves or allow us to control them 34 Predators having a negative impact on deer 12 11 Numerous coyotes, tracks, or howls in my area Observed fewer wolves or wolf sign 9 144 **Hunting Conditions** 14 Less hunters in area Less shooting heard 13 27 Regulations Reduce or eliminate antlerless licenses in unit 15 Keep antlerless quota the same 8 Shorten the deer season 8 Like the old combination license rules (no APR on one tag) 7 Don't agree with the new DMU's and antlerless regs 6 Increase antlerless licenses in unit 5 Disagree with the bait ban 5 Limit hunters to 1 buck per year 5 59 Other 9 We let small bucks go

Updates on Comment Subjects & Other Items

Deer Abundance, Management, & Regulations: Deer abundance was the most popular comment thread in 2021, similar to 2020. Most of these comments related to lower deer numbers than in 2020 or recent years. Interestingly, daily deer sighting rates increased at the regional level (2.6 deer observations per hunter day in 2020 to 3.0 in 2021), in 13 of the 22 DMU's in 2021, and was just above the 10-year average for the U.P. Last winter (2020-21), deer experienced lower snow depths and shorter duration of snow cover than they have in a number of years. During the previous three winters, however, they experienced harsher conditions than average. Trends including the daily deer sighting rate and the buck hunter success rate decreased during this period of harsher winters, but increased this year after the first milder winter in a number of years.

Comments on regulations were also made by numerous camps. The most popular comments related to antlerless licenses. Deer management via regulations is a complicated subject. There are numerous ways to manage deer, and many hunters have an opinion on the best way. Many of the comments likely related to recent changes to antlerless regulations made by the Natural Resources Commission. Some of these changes are summarized below.



- "Allowed" (green): a universal antlerless license could be used to take an antlerless deer. Universal antlerless licenses could be purchased without an application, with a limit of 10 per hunter for the season.
- "Allowed if drawn" (blue): a deer hunting access permit needed to accompany the universal antlerless license (1 hunting access permit + 1 universal antlerless license for each antlerless deer harvested). In each new DMU 351 in the eastern U.P. and 352 in

- the western U.P. there were 1,000 hunting access permits available in 2021 through a drawing.
- "Not Allowed" (white): no antlerless harvest was allowed with a universal antlerless license.
- In addition to the above, archers could pursue antlerless deer in DMU's open to antlerless harvest with their deer or deer combination licenses. However, DMU's 127, 066, 131, 042, 031, 007, and 048 were closed to antlerless harvest during the archery seasons.

In 2021, online deer harvest reporting became available. Online harvest reporting was voluntary this year but will likely become mandatory at a future date. The DNR encouraged all hunters who were not submitting a deer head for disease testing to report their deer harvest online. Data collected through online harvest reporting will be used to help manage the deer population in Michigan. Hunters could go to www.michigan.gov/DNRHarvestReport to register a deer.

Wildlife Division staff hold sportsperson coalition meetings to provide regular interaction with local stakeholders on an array of topics in the U.P., including regular discussions of deer management issues. Contact your local DNR wildlife biologist for a meeting schedule if you are interested in attendance. A parallel group, the Upper Peninsula Habitat Work Group, was reformed in 2015 with a mission to focus on improving and conserving critical winter deer habitat.

Wolves and Coyotes: The second most popular comment thread in 2021 was predators, particularly wolves. The most numerous predator comments were about numerous wolf observations and/or sign around hunting locations, the view that their presence was having a negative impact on deer, and requests for their control. Similar comments about coyotes, and predators in general, were made by several camps.

Wolves

An order Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, from a federal court in California returns gray wolves, including those in Michigan, to the federal list of endangered species. The ruling means that two state laws governing the ability to kill wolves preying on livestock, pets and hunting dogs have been immediately suspended.

The ruling from U.S. District Judge Jeffrey S. White in the Northern District of California vacated a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service order from Nov. 3, 2020, which removed gray wolves from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in the lower 48 states, beginning Jan. 4, 2021. That original U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ruling did not include wolves in the northern Rockies, nor the Mexican wolf subspecies.

"The changes on wolf protections took effect immediately Thursday with the judge's signing of the U.S. District Court order," said Michigan Department of Natural Resources Public Information Officer Ed Golder. "Ongoing work to update the 2015 Michigan Wolf Management Plan will continue, with completion of that process expected later this year."

The now-suspended state laws are Public Act 318 of 2008, which allows hunting dog owners to remove, capture or use lethal means to destroy a wolf in the act of preying on the owner's dog, and Public Act 290 of 2008, which offers the same provisions to livestock owners.

Wolves in Michigan are classified as a protected game species. It remains illegal to kill a wolf, except in defense of human life. Livestock owners will continue to be compensated for wolf depredation losses. Hunting of wolves while they are on the endangered species list is not permitted.

The DNR had supported the federal rule to delist wolves because the state's wolf population has long surpassed federal and state goals for recovery.

The restoration of wolf protections comes as many wolf-hunt proponents have been advocating for a hunt across the Upper Peninsula. Decisions to implement and regulate hunts of state game animals reside with the Michigan Natural Resources Commission.

The DNR had said that before a wolf hunt should be considered, several things should take place, including updating the Michigan Wolf Management Plan, consulting with Native American tribes and that the legal status of wolves should be more permanently settled given a long history of legal challenges to delisting decisions resulting in a frequently shifting status of wolves.

The DNR had begun work to update the wolf management plan in 2021 and had met with tribal governments as the federal court challenges continued.

The court's order resolved cross motions for summary judgment in three related cases. Plaintiffs included Defenders of Wildlife, WildEarth Guardians and the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., while the defendants included the U.S. Department of the Interior and its Fish and Wildlife Service. Intervenor defendants included the state of Utah, National Rifle Association of America and Safari Club International.

Currently the DNR conducts a survey every other winter to estimate the wolf population. The most recent survey, completed in the winter of 2019-20, resulted in a minimum wolf population estimate of 695 wolves. The DNR is currently conducting the survey to produce a 2021-22 minimum population estimate. The minimum wolf population estimate has hovered between 600 and 700 wolves since 2011.

For more information on gray wolves in Michigan, visit www.michigan.gov/wolves.

Coyotes

Coyotes can be trapped from October 15 to March 1 and can be hunted year-round. Coyotes may be taken on private property at any time without a license if doing or about to do damage. Hunters have been able to harvest coyotes during firearm season since 2010. Camps reported harvesting an average of 32 (range 20-47) coyotes during firearm season annually from 2011 – 2017. These results suggest that up to 2% of hunters harvest a coyote during firearm season each year.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): Chronic wasting disease is a fatal nervous system disease found in animals of the family Cervidae, including deer, moose, and elk. A 4-year-old doe killed in Dickinson County's Waucedah Township on a deer-damage shooting permit in September 2018 tested positive for CWD. This event marked the first confirmation of CWD in the U.P.

A roughly 10-mile radius core surveillance area was set up in 2018 (totals 660 sq. mi.) and continues to be present, centered on Waucedah Township, where the DNR continues to test

deer to better determine the extent of possibly infected deer. The core CWD surveillance area testing goal for the 2021 season was 1,524. As of January 21, 2022, 340 deer within the core surveillance area from 2021 had been tested. However, since 2018 over 2,400 deer from the core CWD surveillance area have been tested, and additional deer have been tested from outside the core CWD surveillance area. No new positives have been detected since the original positive in September 2018.

Thanks to hunters and others involved for submitting samples to try to reach the surveillance goals and becoming actively involved in preventing the spread of CWD. Visit www.michigan.gov/cwd for more information and the latest updates on CWD

Deer Research Projects: Researchers from the DNR and the Camp Fire Program in Wildlife Conservation (CFPWC) at the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry have been involved with the following deer studies in the U.P. in recent years:

- deer fawn survival in the U.P., as influenced by predators, winter weather, and habitat https://campfirewildlife.com/projects/predator-prey/the-study/
- deer movement in the U.P. –
 https://campfirewildlife.com/projects/deer-movement/the-study/

Results and more information about this research can be viewed at the web sites indicated.

Acknowledgements: This survey was conducted through the DNR's Escanaba and Sault Ste. Marie Offices. Jo Ann Alexander and Kari Diffenderfer handled the many administrative aspects of the survey. David Jentoft and Colter Lubben coordinated the survey and prepared this report. This project was supported by the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Michigan Project W-147-R-5.

Table 1. SUMMARY OF THE U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY - ENTIRE UPPER PENINSULA

Firearm Season

		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of camps participating	in survey	551	543	492	547	522	486	468	443	420	395
Number o	of hunters	2,429	2,469	2,046	2,277	2,043	1,962	1,901	1,803	1,519	1,572
Total days spe	nt hunting	14,681	15,238	11,908	13,931	11,939	10,916	10,126	10,060	9,648	8,585
Days hunted p	per hunter	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	5
Percentage of hunters killi	ng a buck	31%	25%	19%	14%	20%	29%	33%	26%	22%	26%
Percentage of buck sightings resulting	ng in a kill	13%	14%	14%	16%	12%	9%	13%	14%	12%	11%
Percentage of hunters killing an antle	rless deer	6%	4%	4%	1%	2%	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%
Bucks killed per 100 hu	ınter days	5	4	3	2	3	5	7	5	4	5
Bucks observed per hunter - enti	re season	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	2	2	2
Antlerless observed per hunter - entil	re season	18	12	14	9	13	19	18	14	14	14
Total deer observed per hunter - enti	re season	20	14	16	10	15	22	21	16	16	16
Bucks observed per 10 hu	ınter days	4.3	3.1	2.4	1.5	3.0	6.0	5.2	3.6	3.0	4.5
Antlerless deer observed per h		2.9	2.0	2.5	1.4	2.2	3.4	3.4	2.6	2.3	2.5
Total deer observed per h		3.3	2.3	2.7	1.6	2.5	4.0	3.9	3.0	2.6	3.0
Fawns observed per	100 does	52	40	41	50	65	58	51	49	49	56
Does per buck (observed) on op		3	3	5	4	3	3	3	3	4	3
Size of deer herd compared to last year:	More	34%	7%	10%	5%	35%	63%	37%	13%	9%	22%
Olzo or door mora compared to last year.	Same	40%	19%	17%	13%	35%	25%	40%	33%	28%	34%
	Less	26%	74%	73%	82%	30%	12%	23%	54%	63%	44%
Rating of the deer season:	Excellent	9%	5%	3%	1%	1%	10%	11%	6%	3%	6%
	Good	36%	13%	11%	6%	19%	41%	41%	24%	16%	23%
	Fair	33%	30%	26%	17%	36%	33%	30%	30%	28%	33%
	Poor	22%	52%	60%	76%	44%	16%	18%	40%	53%	38%

Table 2. U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY – West U.P. Summary Firearm Season - All Deer Management Units Combined see map on page 11 for the West U.P. survey area

Mumber of camps participating in survey 305 316 362 357 369 414 402 412 400 405 341 404 383 354 334 312 304 282 104 405 345 405		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total days spent hunting Days hunted per hunter Days hunted per hunter Per Per hunter Per Per hunter Per hunter Per hunter Per hunter Per hunter Per hunte	Number of camps participating in survey	305	318	362	357	369	414	402	412	400	405	341	404	383	354	334	312	304	282
Percentage of hunters killing a buck 24% 24% 29% 33% 30% 21% 25% 27% 34% 26% 19% 15% 20% 30% 34% 29% 2	Number of hunters	1,462	1,510	1,744	1,738	1,740	1,930	1,790	1,805	1,780	1,837	1,490	1,694	1,478	1,430	1,323	1,254	1,101	1,064
Percentage of hunters killing a buck Percentage of buck sightlings resulting in a kill Percentage of buck sightlings resulting in a kill Percentage of hunters killing a maniferless deer 10% 8% 8% 7% 8% 5% 4% 6% 7% 4% 4% 26% 27% 6% 5% 5% 5% 7% Bucks observed per hunter - entire season Anterfess observed per hunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 13 17 21 15 18 19 13 15 9 14 21 19 15 15 15 Total deer observed per hunter day Anterfess observed per hunter day Anterfess observed per hunter day Anterfess observed per hunter day Deer observed per hunter day Fawns observed per hunter day Example 100 does Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Less Excellent Anterfess observed Fail 23% 31% 22% 28% 6% 38% 39% 6% 2% 4% 8% 11% 5% 4% 17% 17% 18% 15% 15% 15% 5% 4% 7% Backs observed per hunter day Anterfess observed per hunter day Less Excellent Anterfess observed per hunter day Ant	Total days spent hunting	9,960	9,152	11,107	10,709	11,397	13,233	11,306	11,056	10,947	11,809	8,825	10,417	8,826	8,102	7,282	7,363	7,159	6,028
Percentage of buck sightings resulting in a kill Percentage of hunters killing an antierless edeer 10% 8% 8% 8% 7% 8% 5% 4% 6% 7% 4% 4% 2% 2% 6% 5% 5% 5% 5% 7% 7% 8% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5%	Days hunted per hunter	7	6	6	6	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6
Percentage of buck sightings resulting in a kill Percentage of hunters killing an antierless edeer 10% 8% 8% 8% 7% 8% 5% 4% 6% 7% 4% 4% 2% 2% 6% 5% 5% 5% 5% 7% 7% 8% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5% 5%																			
## Percentage of hunter's killing an antileriess deer Bucks observed per hunter - entire season Antileriess observed per hunter - entire season 13 14 16 19 19 11 15 15 15 Total deer observed per hunter - entire season Total deer observed per hunter - entire season 13 14 16 19 19 11 15 15 15 Bucks observed per hunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 22 13 17 21 22 15 17 10 16 25 22 17 18 18 Bucks observed per hunter days Antileriess deer observed per hunter days Deer observed per hunter days Deer observed per hunter day Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Same Less Rating of the deer season: Excellent Good Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 33	Percentage of hunters killing a buck	24%	24%	29%	33%	30%	21%	25%	27%	34%	26%	19%	15%	20%	30%	34%	29%	24%	29%
Bucks observed per hunter - entire season Antilerless observed per hunter - entire season 13 14 16 19 19 11 15 18 19 13 15 9 14 21 19 15 15 15 Total deer observed per hunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 22 13 17 21 22 15 17 10 16 25 22 17 18 18 Bucks observed per hunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 22 13 17 21 22 15 17 10 16 25 22 17 18 18 Bucks observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per hunter day Antilerless deer observed per hunter day Antilerless deer observed per hunter day Deer observed per hunter day Deer observed per hunter day Excellent Same Less Bucks observed per 10 hunter days Size of deer herd compared to last year: Excellent Fair Bucks observed per 10 hunter entire season Excellent Fair 31 14 16 19 19 11 15 16 18 19 11 15 18 19 13 15 9 14 21 19 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 16 18 18 19 13 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	Percentage of buck sightings resulting in a kill										13%	13%	16%	11%	8%	12%	14%	11%	11%
Antilerless observed per hunter - entire season 13 14 16 19 19 11 15 18 19 13 15 9 14 21 19 15 15 15 15 Total deer observed per nunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 22 13 17 21 22 15 17 10 16 25 22 17 18 18 Bucks observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per hunter day Deer observed per hunter day Eawns observed per 100 does 46 57 55 55 47 44 58 54 52 41 40 50 66 60 52 52 50 58 Does per buck (observed) on opening day Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Same 20% 26% 38% 39% 30% 10% 12% 34% 36% 40% 15% 17% 17% 12% 33% 24% 41% 33% 28% 34% Rating of the deer season: Excellent 600 4 4% 6% 4% 9% 6% 2% 4% 8% 11% 5% 4% 1% 11% 11% 11% 11% 5% 4% 14% 26% 31% 26% 26% 43% Excellent 600 4 5% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 41% 26% 25% Fair Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 29% 29% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%	Percentage of hunters killing an antlerless deer	10%	8%	8%	7%	8%	5%	4%	6%	7%	4%	4%	2%	2%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%
Antilerless observed per hunter - entire season 13 14 16 19 19 11 15 18 19 13 15 9 14 21 19 15 15 15 15 Total deer observed per nunter - entire season 15 16 18 22 22 13 17 21 22 15 17 10 16 25 22 17 18 18 Bucks observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per hunter day Deer observed per hunter day Eawns observed per 100 does 46 57 55 55 47 44 58 54 52 41 40 50 66 60 52 52 50 58 Does per buck (observed) on opening day Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Same 20% 26% 38% 39% 30% 10% 12% 34% 36% 40% 15% 17% 17% 12% 33% 24% 41% 33% 28% 34% Rating of the deer season: Excellent 600 4 4% 6% 4% 9% 6% 2% 4% 8% 11% 5% 4% 1% 11% 11% 11% 11% 5% 4% 14% 26% 31% 26% 26% 43% Excellent 600 4 5% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 41% 26% 25% Fair Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 32% 33% 29% 29% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%																			
Total deer observed per hunter - entire season 15	Bucks observed per hunter - entire season	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	4	3	2	2	3
Bucks observed per 10 hunter days Antilerless deer observed per hunter day	Antlerless observed per hunter - entire season	13	14	16	19	19	11	15	18	19	13	15	9	14	21	19	15	15	15
Antilerless deer observed per hunter day 2 2 2 7 2.8 3.5 3.2 1.9 2.6 3.4 3.6 2.3 2.8 1.6 2.6 4.3 4.0 3.0 2.7 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2	Total deer observed per hunter - entire season	15	16	18	22	22	13	17	21	22	15	17	10	16	25	22	17	18	18
Antilerless deer observed per hunter day 2 2 2 7 2.8 3.5 3.2 1.9 2.6 3.4 3.6 2.3 2.8 1.6 2.6 4.3 4.0 3.0 2.7 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2																			
Deer observed per hunter day 2.2 2.7 2.8 3.5 3.2 1.9 2.6 3.4 3.6 2.3 2.8 1.6 2.6 4.3 4.0 3.0 2.7 3.2 Fawns observed per 100 does 46 57 55 55 47 44 58 54 52 41 40 50 66 60 52 52 50 58 Does per buck (observed) on opening day 3 4 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	Bucks observed per 10 hunter days	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.8	3.3	2.6	1.6	3.1	6.7	5.6	3.8	3.4	5.1
Fawns observed per 100 does 46 57 55 55 47 44 58 54 52 41 40 50 66 60 52 52 50 58 Does per buck (observed) on opening day 3 4 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	Antlerless deer observed per hunter day	1.9	2.4	2.5	3.1	2.8	1.6	2.3	3.0	3.1	2.0	2.6	1.5	2.3	3.6	3.5	2.6	2.4	2.7
Does per buck (observed) on opening day 3	Deer observed per hunter day	2.2	2.7	2.8	3.5	3.2	1.9	2.6	3.4	3.6	2.3	2.8	1.6	2.6	4.3	4.0	3.0	2.7	3.2
Does per buck (observed) on opening day 3																			
Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Same Less 75% 60% 38% 39% 30% 12% 43% 28% 26% 87% 43% 28% 26% 79% 74% 82% 32% 12% 24% 55% 62% 43% 78% 78% 60% 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% 54% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78	Fawns observed per 100 does	46	57	55	55	47	44	58	54	52	41	40	50	66	60	52	52	50	58
Size of deer herd compared to last year: More Same Less 75% 60% 38% 39% 30% 12% 43% 28% 26% 87% 43% 28% 26% 79% 74% 82% 32% 12% 24% 55% 62% 43% 78% 78% 60% 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% 54% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78% 78																			
Same Less 20% 26% 38% 39% 30% 12% 34% 36% 40% 15% 17% 12% 33% 24% 41% 33% 28% 34% Rating of the deer season: Excellent 4% 6% 4% 9% 6% 2% 4% 8% 11% 5% 4% 1% 11% 5% 4% 7% Good 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 25% Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 34%	Does per buck (observed) on opening day	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	2
Same Less 20% 26% 38% 39% 30% 12% 34% 36% 40% 15% 17% 12% 33% 24% 41% 33% 28% 34% Rating of the deer season: Excellent 4% 6% 4% 9% 6% 2% 4% 8% 11% 5% 4% 1% 1% 11% 5% 4% 7% Good 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 7% 34% 25% 33% 23% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 26% 16% 25% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% 25% 33% 32% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% </td <td></td>																			
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Rating of the deer season: Excellent Good 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%	Same	20%	26%	38%	39%	30%	12%	34%	36%	40%	15%	17%	12%	33%	24%	41%	33%	28%	34%
Good 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%	Less	75%	60%	39%	29%	60%	87%	43%	28%	26%	79%	74%	82%	32%	12%	24%	55%	62%	43%
Good 15% 13% 27% 34% 25% 9% 18% 29% 35% 12% 9% 7% 17% 43% 41% 26% 16% 25% Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%																			
Fair 23% 31% 32% 36% 33% 23% 33% 32% 33% 29% 25% 16% 37% 31% 29% 31% 27% 34%	Rating of the deer season: Excellent	4%	6%	4%	9%	6%	2%	4%	8%	11%	5%	4%	1%	1%	11%	11%	5%	4%	7%
	Good	15%	13%	27%	34%	25%	9%	18%	29%	35%	12%	9%	7%	17%	43%	41%	26%	16%	25%
Poor 599/ 509/ 379/ 379/ 329/ 569/ 469/ 319/ 319/ 519/ 509/ 769/ 469/ 469/ 409/ 309/ 539/ 349/	Fair	23%	31%	32%	36%	33%	23%	33%	32%	33%	29%	25%	16%	37%	31%	29%	31%	27%	34%
FUUI 30/0 30/0 31/0 21/0 30/0 00/0 43/0 31/0 21/0 34/0 02/0 10/0 43/0 13/0 13/0 30/0 33/0 34/0	Poor	58%	50%	37%	21%	36%	66%	45%	31%	21%	54%	62%	76%	45%	15%	19%	38%	53%	34%

Table 3. U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY – East U.P. Summary Firearm Season - All Deer Management Units Combined see map on page 12 for the East U.P. survey area

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of camps participating in survey	88	98	100	96	100	118	129	140	151	138	151	143	139	132	134	131	116	113
Number of hunters	398	403	444	458	490	535	561	567	649	632	556	583	565	532	578	549	418	508
Total days spent hunting	2,475	2,375	2,750	2,625	3,041	3,318	3,385	3,327	3,734	3,527	3,015	3,514	3,113	2,814	2,844	2,697	2,489	2,557
Days hunted per hunter	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	5	5	5	6	5
Percentage of hunters killing a buck	20%	19%	19%	26%	26%	15%	17%	22%	25%	21%	17%	10%	22%	25%	31%	21%	18%	20%
Percentage of buck sightings resulting in a kill	22%	25%	17%	17%	14%	17%	16%	15%	15%	16%	17%	15%	15%	11%	15%	14%	16%	12%
Percentage of hunters killing an antlerless deer	4%	6%	6%	5%	10%	3%	1%	0%	1%	3%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%	3%
Bucks observed per hunter - entire season	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2
Antlerless observed per hunter - entire season	9	10	10	12	11	7	10	11	13	10	12	8	10	14	15	13	12	10
Total deer observed per hunter - entire season	10	10	11	14	13	8	11	12	15	11	13	9	11	16	17	14	13	12
Bucks observed per 10 hunter days	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.8	3.2	1.5	1.7	2.4	2.9	2.3	1.8	1.1	2.6	4.2	4.1	3.0	1.9	3.3
Antlerless deer observed per hunter day	1.4	1.6	1.6	2.1	1.9	1.1	1.7	1.8	2.3	1.8	2.3	1.3	1.9	2.7	3.1	2.6	2.0	2.0
Deer observed per hunter day	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.2	1.2	1.9	2.1	2.6	2.1	2.5	1.4	2.1	3.1	3.5	2.9	2.2	2.3
Fawns observed per 100 does	56	61	54	47	41	43	57	51	52	39	47	49	60	51	48	41	44	50
Does per buck (observed) on opening day	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	6	4	3	4	4	5	5	3
, , , , , ,																		
Size of deer herd compared to last year: More	5%	7%	22%	38%	24%	4%	12%	24%	36%	10%	14%	3%	35%	61%	42%	16%	5%	19%
Same	24%	28%	38%	32%	30%	14%	32%	36%	40%	30%	15%	14%	40%	26%	38%	34%	30%	34%
Less	71%	65%	40%	30%	46%	81%	57%	36%	24%	61%	71%	83%	25%	13%	20%	50%	65%	47%
	.,																	
Rating of the deer season: Excellent	1%	2%	5%	10%	10%	1%	2%	2%	5%	4%	2%	0%	2%	7%	10%	6%	1%	2%
Good	11%	15%	23%	30%	29%	13%	10%	19%	37%	18%	18%	4%	24%	34%	40%	20%	14%	21%
Fair	25%	27%	26%	35%	31%	17%	33%	41%	34%	33%	27%	19%	35%	38%	36%	30%	30%	30%
Poor	63%	56%	46%	25%	30%	69%	55%	35%	24%	46%	53%	77%	39%	21%	14%	44%	55%	47%
1 001	0070	0070	7070	2070	0070	0070	0070	00 /0	L + /0	7070	0070	1170	0070	2170	1770	7-7/0	0070	71 /0

Table 4. SUMMARY OF 2021 U.P. DEER CAMP SURVEY

Firearm Season – Individual Deer Management Units see map on page 4 for DMU locations

										Deer Ma	anagem	ent Unit	<u>t</u>									
	007	017	021	022	027	031	036	042	048	055	066	117	121	122	127	131	152	155	249	252	255	349
Number of camps participating in survey	30	41	37	15	23	14	19	8	32	38	12	15	11	4	5	5	19	11	13	10	21	12
Number of hunters	124	196	139	45	73	61	69	37	128	160	37	76	42	12	9	23	72	36	54	35	90	54
Total days spent hunting	723	1,003	822	251	338	299	405	236	638	997	196	272	314	54	52	57	384	213	375	220	467	269
Days hunted per hunter	6	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	6	5	4	7	5	6	2	5	6	7	6	5	5
Percentage of hunters killing a buck	20%	21%	22%	33%	16%	28%	20%	22%	16%	48%	49%	18%	43%	8%	22%	57%	35%	22%	22%	9%	23%	22%
Percentage of buck sightings resulting in a kill	14%	11%	11%	10%	14%	7%	14%	14%	14%	10%	22%	8%	8%	1%	40%	26%	14%	5%	27%	7%	9%	16%
Percentage of hunters killing an antlerless deer	17%	5%	4%	2%	4%	5%	0%	0%	0%	22%	0%	0%	10%	17%	0%	0%	1%	8%	2%	17%	12%	6%
Bucks killed per 100 hunter days	4	4	4	6	4	6	3	3	4	8	9	5	6	2	4	23	7	4	3	1	5	4
Bucks observed per hunter - entire season	2	2	2	4	1	4	1	2	1	5	2	2	5	6	1	2	3	5	1	1	3	1
Antlerless observed per hunter - entire season	9	12	14	21	5	16	8	7	8	26	11	11	24	22	3	8	16	24	7	16	19	11
Total deer observed per hunter - entire season	10	14	16	25	7	20	9	8	9	31	13	14	29	28	3	10	18	29	7	18	22	12
Bucks observed per 10 hunter days	2.6	3.8	3.4	6.7	2.6	8.0	2.5	2.4	2.5	8.2	4.1	6.5	6.8	13.3	1.0	8.8	4.8	8.1	1.2	2.1	6.1	2.8
Antlerless deer observed per hunter day	1.5	2.3	2.4	3.7	1.2	3.3	1.3	1.1	1.5	4.1	2.0	3.2	3.2	4.9	0.5	3.1	2.9	4.1	0.9	2.6	3.6	2.2
Total deer observed per hunter day	1.8	2.7	2.8	4.4	1.4	4.1	1.6	1.3	1.8	5.0	2.4	3.8	3.9	6.3	0.6	4.0	3.4	4.9	1.1	2.8	4.2	2.5
Fawns observed per 100 does	44	42	60	63	43	51	46	39	67	78	9	34	45	52	67	64	41	71	79	64	64	80
Does per buck (observed) on opening day	4	3	3	2	5	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	1	1	2	4	3	3	5	2	4
Size of deer herd compared to last year: More	22%	16%	22%	15%	32%	38%	13%	38%	16%	18%	8%	27%	18%	0%	20%	40%	41%	18%	33%	44%	19%	8%
Same	44%	24%	24%	38%	21%	54%	24%	13%	42%	41%	34%	40%	64%	50%	20%	60%	24%	37%	25%	9%	33%	50%
Less	33%	60%	54%	46%	47%	8%	63%	49%	42%	41%	58%	33%	18%	50%	60%	0%	35%	45%	42%	33%	48%	42%
Rating of the deer season: Excellent	4%	3%	5%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	22%	0%	8%	10%	15%	0%
Good	19%	26%	19%	18%	11%	33%	19%	13%	9%	41%	36%	36%	55%	25%	20%	40%	17%	30%	17%	10%	20%	18%
Fair	44%	26%	30%	37%	61%	42%	37%	24%	39%	32%	19%	50%	27%	50%	20%	40%	28%	30%	0%	30%	25%	27%
Poor	33%	45%	46%	45%	22%	25%	44%	63%	52%	12%	45%	14%	18%	25%	60%	0%	33%	40%	75%	50%	40%	55%

Table 5. Number of furbearer and other wildlife sightings by Deer Management Unit 2021 Firearm Season

see map on page 4 for DMU locations

Deer Management Unit

	007	017	021	022	027	031	036	042	048	055	066	117	121	122	127	131	152	155	249	252	255	349	TOTALS
Turkey	34	216	68	43	68	42	48	72	0	619	46	0	114	74	20	34	36	52	19	16	250	7	1,878
Coyote	16	13	13	9	18	5	7	11	9	26	2	9	7	6	1	2	12	6	19	5	21	11	228
Wolf	23	23	18	0	8	18	12	18	20	10	16	2	2	0	4	0	2	7	20	3	9	3	218
Marten	25	2	6	0	5	4	6	12	21	1	9	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	0	1	100
Fisher	12	0	5	0	3	1	3	7	11	6	3	0	1	0	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	59
Bear	3	3	9	0	0	1	2	4	1	8	0	3	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	5	0	46
Bobcat	2	5	2	0	2	0	3	1	2	4	0	4	2	0	0	0	2	3	2	3	7	1	45
Fox	3	2	0	0	5	1	2	0	8	4	4	1	2	0	0	0		0	1	0	0	0	33
Moose	9	0	0	0	0	1	18	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	30
Cougar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Feral Pig	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sq. miles	1,780	792	1,471	897	1,237	818	987	798	2,024	909	862	135	284	163	328	538	385	249	859	297	463	468	16,744
Hunters	124	196	139	45	73	61	69	37	128	160	37	76	42	12	9	23	72	36	54	35	90	54	1,572

Table 6. Furbearer Sightings per 100 Hunter Days

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Coyote	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.8	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.4
Wolf	0.7	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.4	2.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.7	1.6	2.6	3.2	2.3
Fisher	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.6
Marten	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.5	1.2	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	8.0	0.8	1.0
Bobcat	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5
Fox	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.3
Cougar	0.0	<0.1	<0.1	0.0	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1

			D	EER	MA	NAG	EME	INT	UNIT	007	7					
•	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	39	35	38	41	41	38	39	40	23	33	36	33	33	32	31	30
Hunters	172	154	164	193	178	164	164	177	101	152	133	146	131	141	110	124
% killing a buck	23%	27%	32%	13%	26%	23%	36%	26%	12%	12%	22%	26%	34%	23%	17%	20%
Deer seen per day	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.3	1.6	0.9	1.3	2.0	2.6	2.4	1.6	1.7	1.8
Fawns seen per 100 does	34	48	45	50	69	52	52	36	41	65	67	58	46	39	43	44
Does seen per buck	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	9	4	3	2	4	4	4	4
More deer than last year	38%	26%	8%	0%	17%	44%	32%	3%	0%	6%	35%	66%	30%	3%	0%	22%
Same number deer	46%	40%	30%	26%	29%	41%	42%	21%	4%	6%	33%	19%	40%	26%	28%	44%
Fewer deer	16%	34%	62%	74%	54%	15%	26%	76%	96%	88%	32%	15%	30%	71%	72%	33%
Season good-to-excellent	17%	21%	24%	7%	10%	34%	43%	15%	5%	6%	12%	50%	52%	22%	4%	23%
Season fair-to-poor	83%	79%	76%	93%	90%	66%	57%	85%	95%	94%	88%	50%	48%	78%	96%	77%

Wolves having a negative impact on deer	6
More deer observed this season	5
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	4
Control wolves or allow us to control them	4

			DE	ER	MAN	NAG	EME	NT	UNIT	Γ 017	7					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	39	36	39	48	59	55	60	57	58	52	51	49	51	47	44	41
Hunters	163	165	192	216	244	229	253	246	211	193	205	193	212	191	171	196
% killing a buck	11%	25%	21%	12%	16%	19%	25%	21%	13%	13%	21%	26%	28%	20%	18%	21%
Deer seen per day	2.0	2.7	2.5	1.3	2.0	1.9	2.9	2.3	2.7	1.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7
Fawns seen per 100 does	51	43	41	37	56	49	52	41	54	56	69	50	50	42	42	42
Does seen per buck	0	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	8	4	3	4	4	4	4	3
More deer than last year	18%	33%	13%	6%	14%	20%	37%	13%	17%	6%	44%	54%	43%	19%	5%	16%
Same number deer	41%	34%	29%	15%	30%	36%	44%	36%	17%	17%	38%	33%	37%	30%	21%	24%
Fewer deer than last year	41%	33%	58%	79%	56%	44%	19%	51%	66%	77%	18%	13%	20%	51%	74%	60%
Season good-to-excellent	21%	42%	28%	10%	14%	17%	47%	19%	15%	8%	33%	45%	47%	27%	18%	29%
Season fair-to-poor	79%	59%	72%	90%	87%	79%	53%	81%	85%	92%	67%	55%	53%	73%	82%	71%

Fewer deer observed this season	9
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	7
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	6
Control wolves or allow us to control them	5
Fawns were not abundant or fewer in number	3

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 021															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	55	54	48	56	53	54	54	53	54	55	53	51	49	44	44	37
Hunters	253	240	200	255	223	221	222	236	226	223	196	177	195	165	146	139
% killing a buck	13%	20%	19%	12%	13%	14%	27%	13%	15%	9%	14%	27%	23%	22%	23%	22%
Deer seen per day	1.8	1.8	2.6	8.0	1.1	1.7	1.9	1.0	2.0	8.0	1.4	2.7	3.4	3.3	2.4	2.8
Fawns seen per 100 does	57	51	45	37	59	56	50	30	28	55	62	50	63	54	71	60
Does seen per buck	5	4	5	4	3	3	2	3	5	4	3	3	5	3	3	3
More deer than last year	21%	18%	25%	0%	13%	33%	42%	8%	13%	6%	33%	61%	28%	28%	8%	22%
Same number deer	24%	36%	33%	4%	31%	31%	35%	19%	31%	9%	28%	31%	42%	27%	47%	24%
Fewer deer	55%	46%	42%	96%	56%	36%	23%	73%	56%	85%	39%	8%	30%	45%	45%	54%
Season good-to-excellent	13%	22%	32%	2%	2%	25%	40%	10%	13%	5%	22%	54%	41%	40%	28%	24%
Season fair-to-poor	87%	78%	68%	98%	98%	75%	60%	90%	87%	95%	78%	46%	59%	60%	72%	76%

Fewer deer observed this season	4
Control wolves or allow us to control them	4
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	3
Keep antlerless quota the same	3
Less hunters in area	2
Less shooting heard	2
We let small bucks go	2
Observed fewer wolves or wolf sign	2

			DE	EER	1AM	NAG	EME	ENT	UNI	Γ 02	2					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	24	20	26	29	24	22	26	23	25	26	25	23	24	21	19	15
Hunters	116	104	137	138	108	87	109	99	95	104	100	74	78	79	68	45
% killing a buck	35%	43%	40%	41%	34%	28%	40%	33%	22%	13%	17%	32%	46%	42%	16%	33%
Deer seen per day	3.5	4.6	3.2	2.7	3.7	4.7	3.1	2.1	3.0	1.7	3.2	5.5	6.3	2.8	3.3	4.4
Fawns seen per 100 does	44	57	42	40	46	49	41	30	30	42	60	60	46	38	44	63
Does seen per buck	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	6	4	5	2	4	2	4	2
More deer than last year	29%	45%	4%	0%	17%	36%	12%	9%	8%	4%	42%	78%	75%	11%	16%	15%
Same number deer	25%	35%	38%	18%	48%	32%	46%	13%	12%	4%	33%	13%	20%	21%	16%	38%
Fewer deer	46%	20%	58%	82%	35%	32%	42%	78%	80%	92%	25%	9%	5%	68%	68%	46%
Season good-to-excellent	21%	55%	54%	20%	30%	37%	54%	39%	12%	4%	13%	61%	65%	30%	10%	18%
Season fair-to-poor	79%	45%	46%	80%	70%	63%	46%	61%	88%	96%	87%	39%	35%	70%	90%	82%

Most frequent comments received: no comments common between 2 or more camps, individual comments:

Less hunters in area

Less shooting heard

Reduce or eliminate antlerless licenses in unit

Predators having a negative impact on deer

Shorten the deer season

Did not hunt in the U.P. due to low deer numbers

Saw less deer because of the bait ban

Lots of illegal baiting going on

			DE	EER	MAN	IAG	EME	NT	UNIT	Γ 027	7					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	6	9	9	18	22	25	27	28	20	27	24	22	21	23	25	23
Hunters	31	41	39	69	86	102	108	117	86	92	71	74	72	78	82	73
% killing a buck	19%	37%	28%	20%	26%	25%	33%	25%	10%	9%	14%	27%	28%	31%	30%	16%
Deer seen per day	1.8	3.8	1.7	1.3	2.1	3.4	3.7	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.9	3.0	3.3	2.1	1.7	1.4
Fawns seen per 100 does	49	54	15	32	37	38	53	28	22	30	63	50	36	42	37	43
Does seen per buck	4	6	4	4	6	5	4	4	9	11	5	3	5	4	5	5
More deer than last year	33%	50%	22%	0%	32%	33%	30%	8%	5%	0%	24%	57%	42%	10%	14%	32%
Same number deer	34%	25%	11%	0%	41%	17%	44%	16%	16%	18%	24%	24%	47%	25%	31%	21%
Fewer deer	33%	25%	67%	100%	27%	50%	26%	76%	79%	82%	52%	19%	11%	65%	55%	47%
Season good-to-excellent	17%	56%	33%	5%	32%	30%	41%	19%	10%	13%	0%	38%	42%	20%	27%	17%
Season fair-to-poor	83%	44%	67%	95%	68%	70%	59%	81%	90%	87%	100%	62%	58%	80%	73%	83%

Fewer deer observed this season	4
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	4
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	3
Predators having a negative impact on deer	3
Weather was mild/poor for hunting conditions	2
More deer observed this season	2
Hunted less in the U.P. due to low deer numbers	2

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 031															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	7	8	7	12	6	16	16	13	12	14	14	11	14	12	11	14
Hunters	35	21	30	63	29	65	65	71	47	71	54	57	61	62	52	61
% killing a buck	46%	33%	27%	21%	24%	45%	32%	30%	28%	21%	24%	30%	44%	31%	15%	28%
Deer seen per day	6.3	5.9	4.3	1.4	5.0	6.0	4.3	2.2	4.8	1.6	2.2	4.3	3.9	3.3	3.1	4.1
Fawns seen per 100 does	54	39	48	33	69	49	54	46	37	53	71	53	55	45	47	51
Does seen per buck	6	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	5	3	5	2	5	3	4	2
More deer than last year	43%	37%	17%	0%	50%	71%	38%	8%	20%	25%	31%	73%	31%	0%	10%	38%
Same number deer	29%	63%	33%	0%	17%	22%	31%	8%	0%	25%	38%	0%	54%	55%	10%	54%
Fewer deer	28%	0%	50%	100%	33%	7%	31%	84%	80%	50%	31%	27%	15%	45%	80%	8%
Season good-to-excellent	57%	50%	50%	0%	33%	79%	40%	0%	8%	16%	15%	55%	54%	18%	27%	33%
Season fair-to-poor	43%	50%	50%	100%	67%	21%	60%	100%	92%	84%	85%	45%	46%	82%	73%	67%

More young bucks	3
Like the old combination license rules (no APR on regular tag)	2

			DE	EER	1AM	NAG	EME	ENT	UNI	Γ 036	6					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	26	30	32	31	33	35	32	33	25	32	26	26	23	19	20	19
Hunters	125	132	144	137	137	139	140	147	124	139	93	93	93	84	73	69
% killing a buck	31%	35%	29%	20%	33%	25%	38%	22%	15%	9%	8%	32%	40%	20%	15%	20%
Deer seen per day	2.5	3.8	3.4	1.5	3.1	3.9	3.3	3.0	2.6	1.2	1.8	4.2	3.8	2.0	2.3	1.6
Fawns seen per 100 does	47	53	42	34	61	52	38	36	30	43	70	57	41	43	50	46
Does seen per buck	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	6	13	3	3	4	5	3	2
More deer than last year	11%	52%	3%	3%	27%	36%	22%	6%	4%	0%	35%	84%	43%	6%	12%	13%
Same number deer	35%	31%	45%	19%	46%	49%	56%	25%	8%	13%	35%	16%	48%	44%	23%	24%
Fewer deer	54%	17%	52%	78%	27%	15%	22%	69%	88%	87%	30%	0%	9%	50%	65%	63%
Season good-to-excellent	36%	52%	29%	10%	21%	42%	53%	19%	0%	0%	4%	56%	57%	27%	11%	19%
Season fair-to-poor	64%	48%	71%	90%	79%	58%	47%	81%	100%	100%	96%	44%	43%	73%	89%	81%

Fewer deer observed this season	5
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	5
Reduce or eliminate antlerless licenses in unit	3
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	2
Control wolves or allow us to control them	2
Worst season ever	2
More deer observed this season	2
Less hunters in area	2

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 042															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	4	3	6	7	12	12	11	12	10	12	9	10	9	10	8	8
Hunters	21	21	34	45	78	73	77	75	48	59	49	58	38	42	37	37
% killing a buck	62%	38%	35%	24%	31%	42%	32%	32%	15%	10%	29%	33%	32%	19%	16%	22%
Deer seen per day	2.2	2.6	2.4	1.0	1.5	2.4	2.2	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.1	2.3	2.3	1.0	1.1	1.3
Fawns seen per 100 does	47	56	11	4	18	28	26	18	15	26	33	56	41	29	26	39
Does seen per buck	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	7	3	4	4	3	6	3
More deer than last year	50%	50%	20%	0%	33%	27%	9%	0%	10%	0%	33%	40%	43%	0%	0%	38%
Same number deer	50%	50%	20%	0%	34%	64%	82%	17%	10%	8%	23%	40%	28%	11%	13%	13%
Fewer deer	0%	0%	60%	100%	33%	9%	9%	83%	80%	92%	44%	20%	29%	89%	87%	49%
Season good-to-excellent	100%	100%	34%	0%	33%	64%	46%	33%	0%	0%	33%	30%	28%	0%	0%	13%
Season fair-to-poor	0%	0%	66%	100%	67%	36%	54%	67%	100%	100%	67%	70%	72%	100%	100%	87%

Fewer deer observed this season	3
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	3

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 048																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	26	27	26	24	23	33	37	31	34	36	36	36	36	38	30	32
Hunters	127	140	130	103	99	138	161	147	116	148	140	136	150	133	101	128
% killing a buck	22%	28%	29%	15%	19%	28%	29%	23%	17%	3%	23%	29%	31%	23%	11%	16%
Deer seen per day	1.3	2.7	2.2	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.6	1.6	2.1	0.9	1.4	2.9	2.9	2.4	1.3	1.8
Fawns seen per 100 does	54	47	47	51	58	55	52	25	47	54	51	48	57	51	43	67
Does seen per buck	2	4	3	5	3	2	4	3	6	3	3	5	4	5	15	3
More deer than last year	28%	48%	38%	4%	9%	30%	50%	13%	14%	0%	31%	81%	37%	13%	13%	16%
Same number deer	32%	36%	21%	4%	43%	48%	25%	19%	0%	13%	36%	5%	29%	27%	26%	42%
Fewer deer than last year	40%	16%	42%	92%	48%	21%	25%	68%	86%	87%	33%	14%	34%	60%	61%	42%
Season good-to-excellent	32%	44%	48%	13%	13%	36%	53%	22%	18%	0%	17%	44%	44%	33%	8%	9%
Season fair-to-poor	68%	56%	52%	88%	87%	63%	47%	78%	82%	100%	83%	56%	56%	67%	92%	91%

Fewer deer observed this season	7
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	4
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	4
Worst season ever	4
Control wolves or allow us to control them	3
More deer observed this season	2
Keep antlerless quota the same	2
Migration pushed deer out of area	2

			DE	ED				NIT	LINII	T OF	E					
			DE	EK	MAN	NAG	EME	:NI	UNI	ı US	<u>ာ</u>					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	58	55	57	54	56	57	54	52	46	52	52	51	45	43	40	38
Hunters	307	288	286	281	273	289	284	262	240	249	241	226	182	199	149	160
% killing a buck	38%	37%	34%	28%	31%	29%	40%	34%	30%	29%	29%	42%	37%	43%	38%	48%
Deer seen per day	3.8	3.9	3.6	2.8	3.4	3.5	4.5	3.2	3.0	2.6	3.6	6.0	4.8	4.4	4.3	5.0
Fawns seen per 100 does	63	60	49	48	63	64	61	59	50	62	67	74	60	65	61	78
Does seen per buck	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	4	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	2
More deer than last year	27%	22%	2%	4%	27%	27%	29%	6%	2%	8%	39%	56%	14%	20%	22%	18%
Same number deer	37%	41%	28%	7%	31%	39%	44%	14%	33%	25%	30%	36%	59%	43%	37%	41%
Fewer deer	36%	37%	70%	89%	42%	34%	27%	80%	65%	67%	31%	8%	27%	37%	41%	41%
Season good-to-excellent	48%	48%	30%	17%	33%	41%	52%	24%	20%	23%	37%	69%	61%	55%	43%	56%
Season fair-to-poor	52%	52%	70%	83%	67%	59%	48%	76%	80%	77%	63%	31%	29%	45%	57%	44%

Fewer deer observed this season	4
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	3
More deer observed this season	2
Less hunters in area	2
Like the old combination license rules (no APR on regular tag)	2
We let small bucks go	2
Bucks were abundant or higher in number	2
Overlogging on state land	2
We let small bucks go	2

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 066															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	3	7	8	13	14	16	14	18	9	16	16	14	11	13	10	12
Hunters	11	28	43	39	50	62	51	73	26	44	54	48	37	46	33	37
% killing a buck	64%	25%	14%	10%	14%	29%	35%	36%	12%	18%	24%	31%	32%	35%	27%	49%
Deer seen per day	3.7	2.0	2.1	1.2	1.8	3.3	4.3	2.0	0.7	0.8	1.3	1.9	1.9	2.1	1.4	2.4
Fawns seen per 100 does	46	31	47	33	62	65	51	21	42	42	39	23	24	26	43	9
Does seen per buck	5	5	13	31	3	5	3	3	9	2	3	4	5	5	6	2
More deer than last year	0%	43%	0%	0%	8%	37%	57%	6%	0%	0%	27%	31%	18%	15%	0%	8%
Same number deer	100%	0%	13%	0%	31%	50%	36%	11%	11%	0%	33%	31%	27%	23%	40%	34%
Fewer deer	0%	57%	87%	100%	61%	13%	7%	83%	89%	100%	40%	38%	55%	62%	60%	58%
Season good-to-excellent	33%	28%	25%	7%	7%	25%	50%	11%	0%	6%	7%	23%	19%	23%	10%	36%
Season fair-to-poor	67%	72%	75%	93%	93%	75%	50%	89%	100%	94%	93%	77%	81%	77%	90%	64%

Fewer bucks or buck sign 2
Wolves having a negative impact on deer 2

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 117															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	18	18	19	23	23	23	22	21	23	18	15	16	17	17	14	15
Hunters	56	60	71	93	97	85	89	103	92	97	72	78	87	91	45	76
% killing a buck	30%	27%	30%	30%	19%	21%	21%	20%	12%	12%	18%	19%	28%	18%	20%	18%
Deer seen per day	1.5	2.2	2.3	1.6	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.7	3.1	2.1	2.0	3.6	4.8	3.7	2.2	3.8
Fawns seen per 100 does	57	37	35	25	53	35	39	41	37	29	24	36	30	19	23	34
Does seen per buck	3	3	2	2	4	4	4	4	6	5	3	3	5	4	4	3
More deer than last year	17%	50%	21%	4%	4%	9%	10%	5%	14%	12%	14%	47%	57%	25%	0%	27%
Same number deer	44%	12%	32%	31%	22%	48%	45%	33%	23%	19%	43%	33%	43%	50%	83%	40%
Fewer deer than last year	39%	38%	47%	65%	74%	43%	45%	62%	63%	69%	43%	20%	0%	25%	17%	33%
Season good-to-excellent	39%	35%	42%	26%	8%	13%	23%	24%	23%	6%	21%	25%	64%	33%	17%	36%
Season fair-to-poor	61%	65%	58%	74%	92%	82%	77%	76%	77%	94%	79%	75%	36%	67%	83%	64%

Most frequent comments received: there was only one share comment (left), individual camp comments (right)

Support Drummond APR's and One Buck Rule	3	More deer observed this season
		Fawns were abundant or higher in number
		Less hunters in area
		Less does seen
		Overlogging on state land
		Increase antlerless licenses in unit
		Don't agree with the new DMU's and antlerless regs
		Increase bear permits
		Support only antlered harvest on combo license
		Open firearm season on a weekend

			DE	ER	MAN	IAG	EME	NT	UNIT	۲1 2 ′	1					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	19	16	14	14	15	13	13	16	16	18	17	14	11	11	10	11
Hunters	78	72	66	68	65	50	43	58	62	68	67	50	48	52	47	42
% killing a buck	33%	39%	36%	16%	15%	28%	42%	26%	21%	22%	22%	46%	54%	46%	45%	43%
Deer seen per day	2.1	2.3	3.8	1.9	2.3	3.4	3.6	2.1	3.1	1.7	3.0	5.2	4.7	4.2	4.5	3.9
Fawns seen per 100 does	31	34	24	31	40	45	29	23	30	39	47	60	56	54	38	45
Does seen per buck	3	2	2	2	5	3	3	2	4	4	3	3	4	2	2	3
More deer than last year	11%	19%	7%	0%	13%	38%	38%	13%	13%	0%	40%	54%	45%	0%	11%	18%
Same number deer	63%	44%	43%	0%	40%	39%	31%	13%	25%	12%	47%	38%	37%	82%	22%	64%
Fewer deer	26%	37%	50%	100%	47%	23%	31%	74%	62%	88%	13%	8%	18%	18%	67%	18%
Season good-to-excellent	47%	31%	28%	0%	7%	38%	31%	13%	25%	12%	13%	62%	64%	54%	50%	55%
Season fair-to-poor	53%	69%	72%	100%	93%	62%	69%	87%	75%	88%	87%	38%	36%	46%	50%	45%

Most frequent comments received: there was only one share comment (left), individual camp comments (right)

More young bucks

2 More deer observed this season
Fawns were abundant or higher in number
Bucks were abundant or higher in number

	DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 122															
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	5	7	5	10	7	6	3	6	6	6	7	6	7	5	5	4
Hunters	22	35	27	37	34	23	9	27	26	25	25	29	28	15	14	12
% killing a buck	9%	34%	37%	11%	24%	22%	22%	26%	27%	16%	16%	17%	29%	40%	14%	8%
Deer seen per day	6.0	7.1	4.3	4.8	5.1	6.8	6.1	4.9	5.6	3.6	4.8	7.1	5.1	3.8	4.3	6.3
Fawns seen per 100 does	56	61	35	76	49	56	58	72	57	63	74	83	63	48	75	52
Does seen per buck	7	3	5	3	4	4	2	4	3	3	2	2	3	3	1	1
More deer than last year	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	50%	67%	0%	0%	0%	43%	67%	29%	0%	0%	0%
Same number deer	80%	80%	40%	30%	29%	17%	0%	17%	0%	50%	57%	33%	14%	75%	25%	50%
Fewer deer	20%	20%	60%	70%	57%	33%	33%	83%	100%	50%	0%	0%	57%	25%	75%	50%
Season good-to-excellent	40%	40%	60%	20%	43%	50%	33%	17%	33%	0%	57%	50%	29%	25%	0%	25%
Season fair-to-poor	60%	60%	40%	80%	57%	50%	67%	83%	67%	100%	43%	50%	71%	75%	100%	75%

Most frequent comments received: no comments common between 2 or more camps, individual comments:

Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area Worst season ever

Less shooting heard

Fewer mature bucks on camera/seen

Numerous coyotes, tracks, or howls in my area

Shorten Crossbow season

			D	EER	1AM	NAG	EME	ENT	UNI	Г 127	7					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	11	10	10	17	14	17	10	12	9	14	11	7	6	6	6	5
Hunters	43	32	34	61	49	61	31	37	24	26	22	16	11	12	11	9
% killing a buck	23%	37%	35%	13%	35%	30%	42%	16%	25%	19%	27%	38%	27%	25%	9%	22%
Deer seen per day	2.2	4.9	4.0	1.2	1.6	1.9	3.6	1.5	1.4	0.5	0.7	1.2	1.6	0.4	0.5	0.6
Fawns seen per 100 does	52	72	52	51	53	31	33	34	10	44	71	84	46	17	46	67
Does seen per buck	5	5	3	4	6	4	6	10	4	N/A	1	4	12	2	N/A	1
More deer than last year	18%	22%	0%	6%	14%	6%	40%	0%	0%	20%	10%	57%	80%	17%	0%	20%
Same number deer	18%	67%	30%	12%	36%	47%	40%	9%	11%	10%	30%	14%	0%	33%	33%	20%
Fewer deer	64%	11%	70%	82%	50%	47%	20%	91%	89%	70%	60%	29%	20%	50%	67%	60%
Season good-to-excellent	9%	34%	10%	0%	21%	12%	50%	8%	0%	0%	10%	43%	40%	17%	0%	20%
Season fair-to-poor	91%	66%	90%	100%	79%	88%	50%	92%	100%	100%	90%	57%	60%	83%	100%	80%

^{*} no bucks were observed on opening day in 2015 and 2020

Most frequent comments received: no comments common between 2 or more camps, individual comments:

Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area

Worst season ever

Numerous coyotes, tracks, or howls in my area

More deer observed this season

Wolves having a negative impact on deer

Observed fewer wolves or wolf sign

Hunted less in the U.P. due to low deer numbers

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 131																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	3	5	4	7	7	6	8	8	6	10	8	8	7	5	6	5
Hunters	21	21	19	32	31	24	39	41	21	41	25	31	22	13	26	23
% killing a buck	33%	43%	37%	19%	23%	46%	36%	24%	33%	15%	4%	26%	27%	23%	23%	57%
Deer seen per day	1.2	1.9	2.0	1.4	4.5	5.0	4.6	1.9	1.6	0.7	2.1	3.0	4.9	2.2	2.5	4.0
Fawns seen per 100 does	23	21	46	42	87	54	47	34	47	28	50	72	68	88	43	64
Does seen per buck	3	5	2	2	3	1	2	5	7	3	4	5	5	2	5	2
More deer than last year	33%	60%	0%	0%	86%	100%	71%	0%	0%	10%	38%	78%	33%	40%	33%	40%
Same number deer	34%	20%	0%	0%	14%	0%	15%	14%	0%	10%	62%	11%	50%	20%	17%	60%
Fewer deer	33%	20%	100%	100%	0%	0%	14%	86%	100%	80%	0%	11%	17%	40%	50%	0%
Season good-to-excellent	33%	80%	50%	0%	71%	83%	61%	13%	0%	20%	14%	50%	66%	40%	17%	60%
Season fair-to-poor	67%	20%	50%	100%	29%	17%	29%	87%	100%	80%	86%	50%	34%	60%	83%	40%

Most frequent comments received: no comments common between 2 or more camps, individual comments:

Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area

Control wolves or allow us to control them

Keep antlerless quota the same

Make antler restrictions for all licenses

Like the APR's on combo license

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 152																
•	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	29	30	26	28	27	25	21	20	20	20	21	19	20	19	18	19
Hunters	155	153	137	142	134	115	105	98	91	93	91	93	96	71	70	72
% killing a buck	22%	23%	27%	21%	22%	27%	32%	28%	7%	16%	19%	22%	36%	18%	16%	35%
Deer seen per day	1.6	2.9	2.6	1.2	2.2	3.4	2.8	2.7	1.5	1.9	2.5	4.3	4.4	3.2	2.1	3.4
Fawns seen per 100 does	43	41	50	28	32	47	37	33	37	36	58	45	39	44	41	41
Does seen per buck	5	4	4	4	3	5	3	5	9	7	4	4	4	6	7	4
More deer than last year	24%	32%	8%	4%	23%	46%	28%	0%	5%	33%	26%	84%	37%	16%	0%	41%
Same number deer	35%	39%	23%	8%	35%	37%	28%	26%	10%	0%	53%	11%	42%	31%	19%	24%
Fewer deer	41%	29%	69%	88%	42%	17%	44%	74%	85%	67%	21%	5%	21%	53%	81%	35%
Season good-to-excellent	21%	38%	24%	15%	31%	37%	42%	21%	5%	16%	10%	53%	60%	42%	12%	39%
Season fair-to-poor	79%	62%	76%	85%	69%	63%	58%	79%	95%	84%	90%	47%	40%	58%	88%	61%

More deer observed this season	4
Control wolves or allow us to control them	2
Worst season ever	2

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 155																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	16	17	23	21	18	16	19	17	14	16	16	17	14	12	13	11
Hunters	78	71	106	90	71	75	80	69	52	67	59	63	51	42	39	36
% killing a buck	22%	24%	29%	21%	20%	28%	24%	28%	17%	13%	19%	25%	41%	26%	26%	22%
Deer seen per day	4.1	5.5	4.8	2.6	4.3	5.0	6.0	4.5	6.2	2.8	4.5	7.3	6.2	4.6	5.1	4.9
Fawns seen per 100 does	60	73	62	58	67	55	53	49	43	46	76	60	62	51	49	71
Does seen per buck	3	4	3	3	4	4	2	2	4	3	4	2	3	3	3	3
More deer than last year	19%	47%	14%	0%	29%	53%	55%	6%	14%	0%	25%	75%	58%	8%	17%	18%
Same number deer	50%	41%	18%	10%	47%	7%	28%	13%	22%	0%	44%	19%	34%	50%	0%	37%
Fewer deer	31%	12%	68%	90%	24%	40%	17%	81%	64%	100%	31%	6%	8%	42%	83%	45%
Season good-to-excellent	44%	53%	26%	10%	18%	40%	64%	24%	21%	0%	20%	75%	69%	25%	23%	30%
Season fair-to-poor	56%	47%	74%	90%	82%	60%	36%	76%	79%	100%	80%	25%	31%	75%	77%	70%

Control wolves or allow us to control them	2
Predators having a negative impact on deer	2
Fawns were not abundant or fewer in number	2

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 249																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	7	7	7	10	14	17	18	16	20	22	21	17	17	17	15	13
Hunters	52	46	45	68	72	73	86	85	65	76	81	72	72	81	55	54
% killing a buck	27%	39%	27%	10%	10%	22%	22%	20%	20%	12%	26%	19%	36%	16%	24%	22%
Deer seen per day	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.6	1.6	0.8	1.3	0.4	1.0	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.1	1.1
Fawns seen per 100 does	50	59	27	47	80	65	55	22	45	68	44	54	56	44	88	79
Does seen per buck	6	3	6	3	2	3	3	4	5	5	4	4	2	5	4	3
More deer than last year	29%	14%	14%	0%	14%	29%	44%	0%	7%	5%	37%	44%	29%	13%	0%	33%
Same number deer	57%	57%	43%	0%	15%	30%	50%	25%	20%	0%	47%	50%	64%	37%	29%	25%
Fewer deer than last year	14%	29%	43%	100%	71%	41%	6%	75%	73%	95%	16%	6%	7%	50%	71%	42%
Season good-to-excellent	14%	29%	0%	0%	7%	12%	28%	13%	12%	0%	25%	31%	47%	12%	20%	25%
Season fair-to-poor	71%	71%	100%	100%	92%	88%	72%	88%	88%	100%	75%	69%	53%	88%	80%	75%

Fewer deer observed this season	7
Control wolves or allow us to control them	3
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	3
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	3
Predators having a negative impact on deer	2
Less shooting heard	2
Hunted less in the U.P. due to low deer numbers	2
Less hunters in area	2
Don't agree with the new DMU's and antlerless regs	2
Shorten the deer season	2

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 252																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	19	21	21	22	20	23	21	21	15	18	17	13	13	13	14	10
Hunters	94	99	102	107	85	95	90	89	65	63	54	44	44	57	46	35
% killing a buck	31%	40%	28%	18%	20%	22%	33%	20%	18%	3%	13%	25%	25%	18%	17%	9%
Deer seen per day	2.6	3.2	3.1	1.1	2.4	2.7	3.4	1.6	2.5	8.0	1.7	2.6	2.5	1.8	1.9	2.8
Fawns seen per 100 does	60	48	35	34	54	55	55	29	39	57	78	49	38	41	35	64
Does seen per buck	3	2	3	1	6	4	2	7	6	8	2	7	4	5	5	5
More deer than last year	10%	33%	10%	0%	20%	18%	43%	0%	13%	0%	44%	42%	31%	8%	0%	44%
Same number deer	40%	29%	25%	9%	25%	32%	33%	5%	0%	0%	18%	25%	23%	9%	15%	9%
Fewer deer	50%	38%	65%	91%	55%	50%	24%	95%	87%	100%	38%	33%	46%	83%	85%	33%
Season good-to-excellent	29%	43%	24%	5%	10%	23%	48%	0%	7%	0%	13%	33%	24%	8%	0%	20%
Season fair-to-poor	71%	57%	76%	95%	90%	77%	52%	100%	93%	100%	87%	67%	76%	92%	100%	80%

Fewer deer observed this season	3
Numerous wolves, tracks, or howls in my area	2

DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 255																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	36	36	35	34	33	32	32	33	31	35	31	29	27	24	24	21
Hunters	182	196	172	173	159	160	163	161	156	178	144	151	136	96	98	90
% killing a buck	34%	40%	34%	24%	30%	31%	24%	29%	25%	16%	20%	26%	32%	24%	24%	23%
Deer seen per day	4.2	5.3	4.6	2.9	4.0	4.8	5.1	3.1	5.1	2.4	4.1	5.3	4.9	3.1	2.2	4.2
Fawns seen per 100 does	73	65	62	50	75	68	67	49	49	52	82	60	56	72	58	64
Does seen per buck	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	7	4	3	3	4	5	4	2
More deer than last year	17%	33%	9%	0%	24%	34%	26%	10%	23%	0%	48%	66%	37%	5%	9%	19%
Same number deer	47%	53%	31%	15%	33%	44%	35%	13%	20%	23%	26%	24%	37%	18%	41%	33%
Fewer deer	36%	14%	60%	85%	42%	22%	39%	77%	57%	77%	26%	10%	26%	77%	50%	48%
Season good-to-excellent	44%	61%	38%	20%	27%	37%	33%	19%	29%	6%	19%	55%	74%	18%	21%	35%
Season fair-to-poor	56%	39%	62%	80%	73%	63%	67%	81%	71%	94%	81%	45%	26%	82%	79%	65%

Disagree with the bait ban	5
Reduce or eliminate antlerless licenses in unit	4
More young bucks	3
Fewer deer observed this season	2
Control wolves or allow us to control them	2
Eliminate early "special" seasons	2

			БГ	-ED	ВЛАВ	140	C NAC	NIT.	LINII	T 240	2					
DEER MANAGEMENT UNIT 349																
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Camps	10	8	9	13	10	12	14	13	16	15	16	14	13	12	13	12
Hunters	46	47	52	61	49	42	60	51	72	69	67	53	57	53	46	54
% killing a buck	17%	19%	31%	13%	18%	17%	23%	12%	22%	10%	13%	25%	37%	25%	26%	22%
Deer seen per day	3.1	2.4	2.4	1.5	3.5	4.0	3.7	3.3	2.9	1.9	2.8	4.0	5.8	3.9	2.3	2.5
Fawns seen per 100 does	60	69	48	75	56	59	65	59	41	49	82	83	46	49	46	80
Does seen per buck	3	2	2	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	7	4	4
More deer than last year	30%	25%	33%	0%	20%	42%	31%	15%	14%	0%	38%	65%	47%	8%	0%	8%
Same number deer	20%	25%	34%	15%	60%	33%	38%	31%	21%	20%	43%	21%	38%	34%	15%	50%
Fewer deer than last year	50%	50%	33%	85%	20%	25%	31%	54%	65%	80%	19%	14%	15%	58%	85%	42%
Season good-to-excellent	40%	38%	67%	15%	10%	25%	46%	31%	43%	0%	31%	54%	61%	16%	15%	18%
Season fair-to-poor	60%	63%	33%	85%	90%	67%	54%	69%	57%	100%	69%	46%	39%	84%	85%	82%

Fewer deer observed this season	3
Wolves having a negative impact on deer	3
Numerous coyotes, tracks, or howls in my area	2
Predators having a negative impact on deer	2
Fewer mature bucks on camera/seen	2