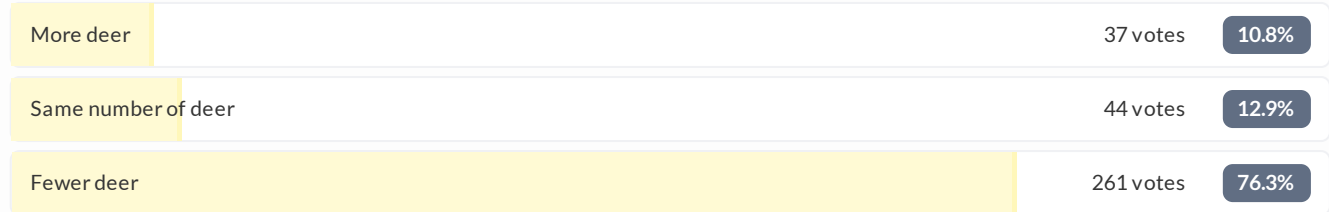


# 2021 Upper Peninsula Deer Season

Created on November 28, 2021

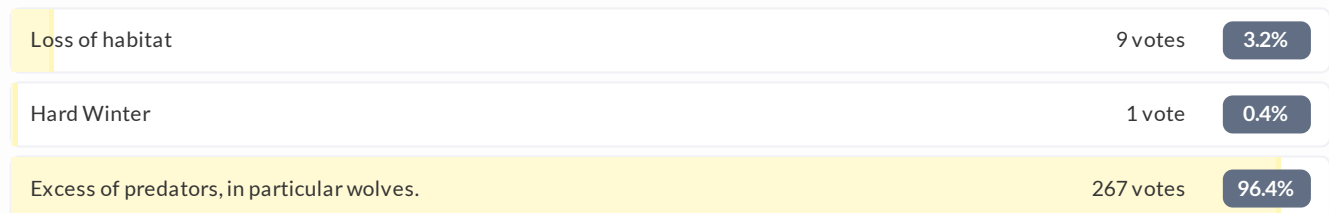
Now that the U.P. 2021 Firearm Deer Season is over, compared to the 2020 season do you feel there are;

**342 answers**



If you answered fewer deer please indicate what you feel is the main reason.

**277 answers**



## Comments

### 125 answers

Wolves. Even the coyotes are gone.

Many fewer live deer seen, this year. Have seen wolf kills which I never had before.

Need to really have a wolf hunt... it's bad out there the deer are really few and far in-between more wolf tracks than deer tracks ... deer tracks are dwindling away in the area I'm in and have been in the last 5 years same with the cam photos have to do something abt this problem before its too late

I live in Mackinac County and we have wall to wall wolves. I hunted 5 different deer blinds around my house and they are all in a 6 mile radius. Every one of my blinds have wolf tracks around them. No DNR biologist is going to tell me that doesn't have much effect on deer. They keep telling us to believe us and not your lying eyes.

The last two years have been horrible for me, I have seen more wolf sign than I have deer!

Wolves are not the only predator, coyotes, bear and mountain lions also play a role. Hard winter makes it easy prey for predators and over hunting does not help

More fawns and yearlings, but fewer older deer. Probably slightly more overall, but still depressed compared to the last 20 year average.

Too many wolves

I seen more packs of wolves in a 30 square mile radius then I ever have in my whole entire life

Over hunting. Natives Americans shooting everything. Youth hunts. Liberty hunts. Hunting before deer rut and breed.

Can't blame loss of habitat, it's the upper peninsula of Michigan. You can't blame it on a hard winter, by up standards it was mild with below average snow accumulation. The wolf population needs to be managed, by hunting, just like every other animal population in the state. C'mon man....

Please help.

The predator problem, mainly wolves, reminds me of the early days of the lamprey explosion. Without control either predator will wipe out it's main food source.

Need more doe tags in the up

Time to go back to the old tag system one for bow and one for gun and get rid of youth hunt and stop doe tags just like they did in the 60s to bring the heard back from over hunted just like it's is like now deer have been over hunted for to many years

Seen more wolves its unbelievable I buy 2 tags and a doe permit and Seen 1 deer a fawn at that never even seen it again probably got eaten this is crazy and the DNR say there's less than 700 wake up go in the woods see how many deer you see in a whole day riding the back roads in the UP bet you can count the deer you see on one hand definitely need the wolves at least half gone I'm done buying a license till this cha

It sucks when every time you go in the woods you see wolf tracks and every so often a wolf.

We normally see 6 to 14 deer per sit and this year we saw 6 deer in a week between the three of us. Coyotes and wolves were howling every morning and night. Any deer we saw was incredibly spooked.

Over 100 different pictures of wolves on trail camera

Own 80 acres in Luce county never seen a deer track all summer come October 3 does one day then gone never see another deer all gun season

Standard TWP. Ontonagon Co.

Need a reasonably priced season on wolves, 10\$ with purchase of deer license, limit 2

Buck to doe ratio was better this year. Only impart there being less does than 2020.

Too many wolves, too much logging and poor management by the DNR.

Last few years there seems to be fewer and fewer deer seen while out and with that statement how do we engage our youth when they don't see much anymore?

I am not sure why I saw less deer but last year I saw 6 all of bow season and rifle this year I only saw 4

I had the 1st week of rifle season off from work. I hunted every day. I heard wolves howling every one of those days. Sometimes in the morning, sometimes towards evening, and once in midday. I didn't see them but I didn't have to walk far before cutting tracks. I hope the owner of the miniature horse that was killed by wolves in Engadine last month takes this survey.

Wolfs can go fuck themselves

Biologists and Foresters should work together. Quit planting Jack Pine!! Quit plantomg

Seen more wolf sign than deer sign

Only change in our area is an increase in predators

Simply less deer and more wolf sign since spring scouting started.

The month before rifle season i found 3 wolf kills within 400 yds of my cabin. I had a pack of 5 wolves chase a doe past my bow stand on nov. 5th 2021. There were new wolf tracks everyday on the 2 tracks around my cabin. I had wolves on my 12 trailcams everytime i checked my cards which i checked weekly. We must be allowed to thin the wolves out.

We cant have 2 apex predators (humans and wolves) feeding on the same food source with out allowing us to compete over it. Either get rid of the wolves or us humans will never have a quality hunt.

Wolf scared deer off twice while the deer were at bait pile. Wolf that is. Seen him both times

Heard and seen wolf sign every day from bow season to riffle. Many of the camps near me were empty the hunters went home

Multiple doe permits.. everyone shooting anything

saw more bucks this year then last

Our doe sightings was very low compared to previous years

I have watched the number of deer in my area drop drastically over the last 3-5 years. Pictures on my game camera indicate this is in big part about the wolf problem in the UP.

Too many wolves!!

Needs to be more predator regulation and the dnr needs to find a better way to manage the deer herd itself. We r into much of a low to rely on just nature itself to bring the numbers back

Only there for 5 days , relatives that live there all year said about the same amount

See lots of wolf sign in the east UP, 3 deer seen in 3 days

7 different deer all season. Seen wolves as well. Almost as many as the deer.

A close second to the number of predators in the woods is the decimation of cedar swamps

Never had such widespread and frequent wolf activity in our areas as this year.

Deer sighting numbers were down but we did see nicer bucks. We had 7 guys in camp 4 "hunter" we shot one 8pt but saw a big 10pt and big 9pt. Just no opportunity for shots. All 4 of us saw atleast 2 spikes or forks.

Numbers are down Western end of Upper peninsula.

Deer hunting in the UP will never reach its full potential without wolf management.

Lots of wolf sign everywhere, more than deer sign in western u.p.

I seen more wolves than deer from my blind in 5 days of hunting.

Saw more wolf tracks than deer tracks each day

No brainer and to many bucks killed need 1 buck only in U.P

Only seen 3 bucks. Mostly doe

Natives in the UP - unlimited tags

Saw way less deer, still got lucky and got a buck but weird weather too.

Menominee county

Hunted around Michigamme there's always couple of spikes half rack a six point I'm waiting for the big ones to return

Loss of habit, wolves, and too many deer shot in a year reasons why hunting sucks now

The last 2 years I haven't even bought a tag, on my farm in Gogebic County I use to see some does and there little ones all summer long and now the last couple years the wolves have moved in heavy so I haven't been seeing shit!!!! That being said it used to be that every season I would have phenomenal up and commers, where I would have 4 or more 8 pointers, maybe a really nice 6, some forks, some spikes, and usually one huge Wallhanger and when I say huge I mean HUGE!!!! But not the last few years so what's the point in wasting all the money on deer season to not see anything and or even get a chance at one.... I rather put some or all that money into my trapping arsenal!!!!

I hunt in Houghton county the wolves have totally deviated my property... Just so sad

Can't be a hard winter had no snow, no coyotes to be seen, the wolves are nuts "should have a season", and the amount of doe tags being giving is outrageous for the amount of deer left

More wolf tracks then ever. Very few deer as a result. It's a shame we cannot manage our wolves

Hunting over several counties wolf sign was more abundant than deer. It has gotten ridiculous the area where our camp really doesn't have a huntable population of deer any more.

Doe and Buck numbers low and Wolf tracks abundant

I observed 12 migration trails that I have hunted for 25+ years. Yesterday there were wolf tracks on everyone. Two of them had more wolf tracks than deer tracks. Wolves are out of control. Our deer half to go through a gauntlet this time of year and when they reach deer yards it's worse. They have no business being in the U.P. Relocate them to the L.P. where at least it's fair chase.

In my area of northern Dickinson county we have a major wolf problem. Now that we have snow, overnight you can really see how it is affecting our deer heard. Something needs to be done. Quickly, before we no longer have anything left!

Wolves on camera for the first time. First season in 18 years infilled tag. North Delta county

Seemed to be higher quality bucks (more 3.5-4.5 year olds) compared to recent years.

Traditionally our property carries a good amount of does who usually have 2 fawns. I've seen fewer does this season, but most concerning is they do not have any fawns. A total of 2 button bucks were seen all season. The only things that has changed in this area is the multiplication of wolf encounters over the years. And it is NOT winter kill here as the last bunch have been mild. Get a wolf season and get their goal biological carrying capacity number originally set for recovery to 200!

Till we control the wolves in the deer yards in the upper peninsula the deer numbers will continue to decline

It was a really easy winter last year. The lack of bucks in our area shouldn't have been.. Also the poor management of the close to 2000 acres of state land behind our property doesn't help.. hardly a deer track on it.

More people out for rifle season this year. Deer shut down daylight activity. Was seeing 10 deer a day in archery leading up to firearm season then saw nothing at the same locations during firearm

Wolves put the mail in the coffin up here. Habitat loss and mismanagement by the DNR are a close second.

I keep a log of hours sat and deer seen and have had this log for 20+ years. Best year was 1 deer/ 1.15 hrs sat. This year 1 deer/52.5 hrs sat. Had more wolf tracks than deer tracks

Good year if you put in a lot of time. Many all day sits resulting in zero deer sightings. Good antler development on 2 1/2 and older bucks. More 1 1/2 old bucks this year. Fewer does than in years past

We have had several decently mild winters in a row. Also there are a ton of clear cuts in my area the deer have so much food but yet not that many deer. With this being said there are more wolves in the Eastern UP than ever! Lots of nights in my blind the wolves would be hollering wolf, tracks everywhere I would go hunting this year, such a shame!

Past time for a wolf season

Lots of young bucks and many does. In powers mi

I did not hunt the up this year. Ran cameras all year and seen less deer than ever. While bird hunting this year seen more predator sign than deer. Want to see change before I spend money to watch trees

I believe some folks started season over the weekend this year so that that took out some deer. The state really needs to switch to a one buck tag.

Last winter wasn't bad. I think it's always going to be a combination of all 3 of these things as far as the shape the deer herd is in. Anytime deer congregate due to winter food supply and shelter, the wolves will be there eating them. Don't believe supplemental winter feeding programs are a very good idea either. The wolves will wind up at these sights also and slaughter them.

Terrible year for hunting seen 5 deer in a least 110 hours of hunting

More wolf tracks then deer. 3rd year in a row.

Something has changed these deer to move only under the cover of darkness I personally believe it is the wolves lots of pictures on trail cam of wolves

Less and less deer every year!

Had the pleasure of seeing 13 wolfs in my hunting spot this year. Only seen 4 deer all season. Probably not going to hunt Deer next year.

Very poor deer season only saw 2 deer the whole gun season!

Didn't think it could be worse than last year, but I was wrong. 40 years hunting in the upper peninsula, this was the fewest deer we've seen.

Seen more wolves then deer

I belong to a 50 year old hunting camp in Menominee county. There were 12 hunters in camp this year, of which 3, did not even see a deer in 5 days of hunting. We record sightings all season long for each morning and evening hunts. Sightings have been decreasing constantly over the past 10 years. We have seen and heard numerous wolves over the years and feel strongly the decreases are from increased numbers of wolves in our area.

Numbers have been low the last few years. Had a wolf chase two does within 25 yards of my stand opening morning.

1 Buck taken out of 12 guys in Iron County camp this year.

More deer. Wolf population control is desperately needed!

Seeing wolves this year svg lots of tracks from wolves where I hunt near Moran

I did not see one deer all season

I saw more wolves than deer. At least open a wolf season!

Food plots minerals all spring summer fall manage coyotes but wolves take over

A great season - many bucks

Fewer deer, due to predation, and food habitat loss. Way too many wolves, and way too many oaks are harvested

If we don't start following proposal G and sound science with actual evidence this is our future. Its pathetic with the knowledge and technology we have today available. False narrative

Look like good size deer

Opening morning was a morgue. No shooting at all. One bucks per year per hunter, you choose the weapon. Abolish the youth hunt, combo tags doe tags archery for October only. Too many seasons bag limits are too liberal.

We had a much larger selection of bucks and the same amount of does as last year!

Too many tags, especially in the eup

Wolves are thick in my area. Lots of wolves heard and tracks observed

same two does all season, only deer I saw at my blind. sad

Hunted alot more good numbers in Delta and Baraga counties

We have a camp east of Pickford, 7 hunters saw 3 deer 2 yearling bucks and one doe , no fawns , lots of wolf and Coyote tracks , had a couple bear on trail cam , there was mother and 2 fawns on trail cam thanksgiving evening, but that was it , been hunting our property since 1962 , discouraging

Wolves primary, habitat 2nd, winter was mild in our area

Would be great wolf hunting

Wolves need managed. Period

Traveled all the way from Virginia, it would have been nice to see deer in the woods in addition to the wolves.

I have seen a single deer while sitting in the blind for the past 3 years. Have never had this problem before this.

I saw more hunters, more predators in wolves, coyotes, and bear this year.

Way tlo much logging going on on state land. Loggers ruined bear and deer season. Come in at peak times and leave at peak times

Only reason I saw more deer is I moved to where the deer were for deer season. My cameras in my spit from last year ( out all of October and November) showed less deer. Alger county. Last year we had an early snow in October where they moved out of the area. This year there's less deer and less hunters. We saw two wolves on camera and saw one of them in bear season. Last year we only saw one wolf in person and on camera and tracks.

Seems more quality bucks this year than in a long time. Central UP

We need a wolf hunt, seen more wolves than deer

Wolves ate every spot I hunt actually witnessed 2 wolves chasing a doe and fawn

Sat 13 full days and saw a total of 10 deer and 4 wolves. Hunting out of the same area that 5-7 years ago was not big deal to see 15-20 deer a day. Had a great season still! Not all about killing deer

I had 6 cameras in 6 different spots since late August and have pics of 2 fawns for the entire fall, TWO!

I have two weeks of hunting I seen eight though three bucks all bucks were young

The wolves will wipe out the population if something dont get done and will decrease revenue for the up