

2022 Upper Peninsula Deer Season

The U.P. 2022 Deer Firearm Deer Season is over; compared to the 2021 season, do you feel there are;

387 answers

More deer	31 votes	8.0%
Same number of deer	72 votes	18.6%
Fewer deer	274 votes	70.8%
Other	10 votes	2.6%

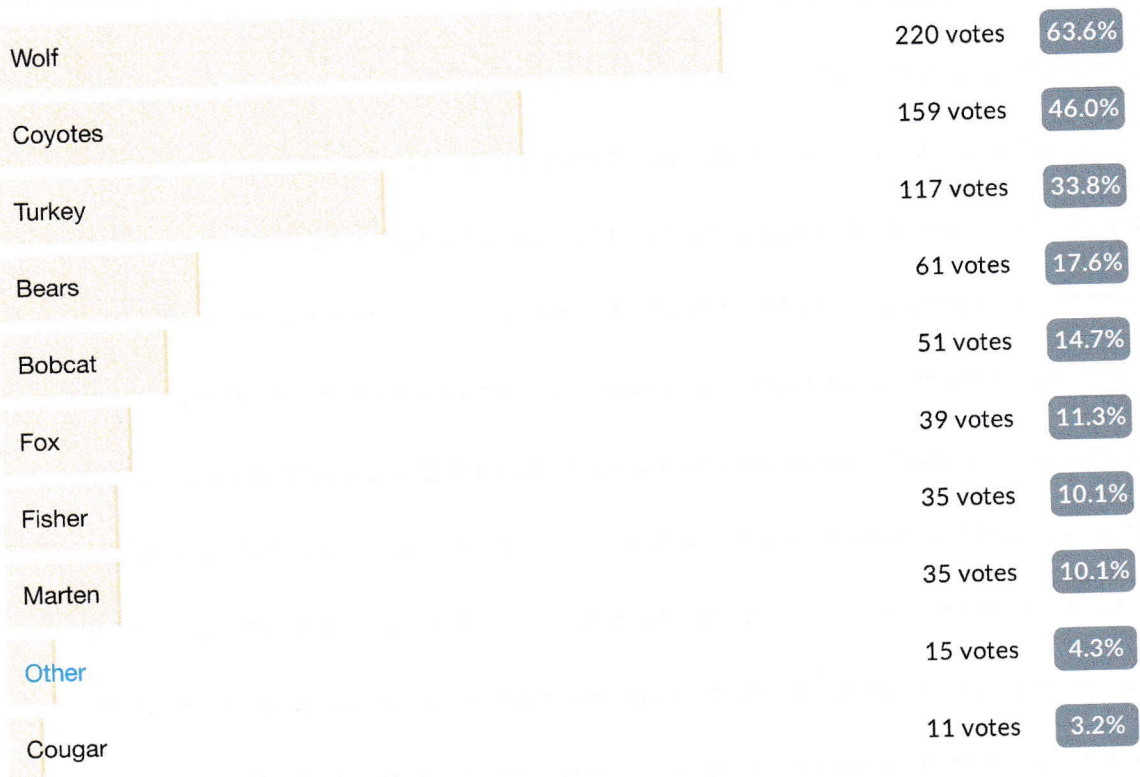
If you answered fewer deer, please, indicate what you feel is the main reason.

388 answers

Excess of predators, in particular wolves.	ranking: 0.9 / 4
Hard Winter	ranking: 2.0 / 4
Loss of habitat	ranking: 2.0 / 4
Fewer hunters	ranking: 2.7 / 4

What other observations did you see while hunting?

346 answers - 743 votes



How many days did you hunt this season?

385 answers



How do you deer hunt?

387 answers - 770 votes

I hunted during the bow season.

230 votes

59.4%

I hunted during the rifle season.

363 votes

93.8%

I hunted during the muzzleloader season.

177 votes

45.7%

Comments

175 answers

I saw 2 wolves on the morning of the 17

I have been deer hunting in the east U.P. For over 45 years and I have never seen so few deer. Wolf tracks all over the place. We need to do something with these predators. We have been seeing less deer every year I can't imagine it getting any worse. It is hardly worth buying a hunting license. We need wolf control.

I photograph wolves most days of the week and see their tracks all the time. We have way too many

Wolves are getting out of control

We hv way too many wolves. DNR needs to get their heads out of theirs and whitemers ass and get a wolf hunt done now.

Hunted the Gould City area north of US2. Been for 26 years. Fewest deer and most predators. Something has to be done

Definitely need to go to one buck tag

Fewer deer than I have seen in the last 10 years but there are lots of predators around

It was a disappointment this year. I typically see deer when others are not.

Overall a good season

5 days of hunting and saw two doe.

I had deer around this year and I was successful, but I've seen more wolf tracks and wolf sign than any other animal

Too many wolves

Very few deer

Need wolf control and the UP needs its own NRC that is staffed with outdoor people familiar with the UP.

Seems to be a lot more wolfs than in years past. Always knew they were there, but didn't see them. Now they are trail camera much more and actually see them in person. Hearing them more at night also. All year round.

there are too many wolves

We had wolves on all of our trail cameras so I decided to hunt somewhere other than our camp

Saw 5 to 7 deer a day.. second day I saw 5 does and 2 bucks

More deer this year and more mature bucks. Hope it continues 👍

I believe we need to switch to one buck with 4 points on one side

to many wolf!! need to reduce them now!

Too many years of baiting allows the deer to pattern hunters. I saw the same 5 does and 1 point which is still walking.

I say equal number of does. Lots of 1 1/2 & 2 1/3 year old bucks. And some nice ones My harvest 2 1/2 yr buck 4 1/2 yr buck and a 5 1/2 yr doe.

We need to limit the number of bucks being shot if we ever want to see the class of White Tails ever increase. Shooting one buck is plenty per person.

I saw lots of bucks. Nine different ones on 11/15/22. Just couldn't get a clean shot at the one I was after. Very happy with the deer herd in the area were I hunt.

Poor QDM in the U.P. Need APR's!! Too many hunters shooting small bucks!

Between the Indians and the predators, Whitetails don't stand a chance.

It is horrible there are no bucks of any age we need to have both tags back to 4 on one side and we need to have a wolf hunt simple as that

A considerable increase of predators over the previous 48 years.

Very poor season only a few deer maybe not any seen during a whole day sit.

Lots of wolf and very little good feeding areas as compared to lower peninsula. Christmas tree farms make poor feed. Plant more oak, chestnut, apples, pear, and food plots folks

Killed 2 bucks.

8 pt archery- 8pt muzzle loader

Too much poaching, Indian tags, poor deer management. State is run by liberal scum bureaucrats.

We need to start eliminating the wolf population had bait out since august at 3 different sites not one single deer on cameras bait not touched at dad shot a bear gave it a couple hours before tracking wolves got to it first now it's time to handle the problem

For question 2, more hunters (not fewer hunters) should be included. I had more hunters near me and more hunters shooting yearling and 1.5 year old deer than years past. This idea of celebrating the harvest no matter size the deer is needs to stop. Celebrate taking a doe during bow season to feed the family and celebrate the 3.5 year old bucks shot. Nothing to celebrate shooting immature bucks.

I'm starting to see a few more deer than recent years. I'm thinking all of the logging going on around us is helping.

I hunted for 7 full days and only saw 7 deer and 3 wolves.

Too many wolves in Luce and West Mackinac counties

Deer mainly nocturnal increased wolf pressure

To many predators

Wolf hunt

Besides predator sign the weather was God awful this year

Deer seasons are too long and the predators are the number one killer

Doe to buck ratio is off, and there appeared to be a lower number of fawns.

Need to go to a one buck tag

Way to many wolves

Seen a lot less small bucks this year

Few less deer then last until the second day of rifle, then the wolfs moved in. Same as always, see the deer till the wolfs show up then the deer disappear. They ain't stupid.

Michigan needs to got 1 any deer with a bow an 1 any deer with a gun to many young 8 pt bucks being shot an young scrub buck passing on bad genetics I believe the ppl that are hunting bucks would be more likely to hunt bigger mature bucks if they could only shoot 1 an more likely to pass a small buck an take a old doe if given the option at least in the UP I don't believe the wolves are completely to blame for the lack of deer or hunters over harvesting by the tribes an just a poor class of whitetail genetics are part of it to

More small bucks

Wolves are all over and I had more pictures of them then deer I had the same 3 deer almost all year then had a yearling killed by them in the bait so I gave up hunting

Numbers seem to be down for hunters and deer but up for wolves

Stop clearcutting cedar swamps

The wolf population increased exponentially this year over the last few years many kills on my 40

Your DNR officers are out of control. I now hunt out of State, better hunting and better management. You hand out baiting tickets but give out doe permits. Ridiculous.

Saw plenty of Does. Snow cover was very manageable. Lots of predator tracks over that 10 days.

Go to 1 buck per person, tribal or not

Saw plenty of doe (10-12) and saw several 1 and 2 year old bucks. Spikes, forks, and 3 different 6 pts, 2-8 pts. We harvested 2-6pt and a 8 on the 15th and 16th. Had deer around while hunting full days all but about an hour each day. 17th saw 2 doe and spike. 18th the wolves moved in and we didn't see a single deer after that

Something needs to be done..

Tribal tags are killing us!!

Better woke up and stop shooting does and have a wolf hunt soon!!! I've been hunting the UP for 40 years and it use to be a fabulous place to hunt!!

Increase 2 gallon baiting limit

They already where migrating by muzzleloading season

Lots of wolves just west of my property, deer are moving out of the area earlier in the year to stay away from predators.

5 cams spread out over all of schoolcraft county. One buck over 2 1/2 years old in 3 months between them .. terrible

DNR need to change the license to one buck tag and 1 doe tag.

Doe population was lower than our normal, more younger bucks than what we normally see.

We kill too many deer, seasons are too long. 1 buck tag and APR'S could save UP deer hunting.

Early antler shed last year and again this year. Shed by the end of firearm. Poor nutrition???

I walked around my hunting area, and observed many predator tracks. I hunt closer to lower lying areas. Other hunters within my group hunt in the highland and seen 3 x the deer. Bottom line, wolves and coyotes are pushing deer from their natural cover and they are forced to be near highways, this isn't good and will lead to more car/deer accidents. There needs to be massive reduction in predators. I have also observed deer being stressed in wintering areas from predators.

One buck, has to have 3 or more on one side and a doe with a combo

We need to go to one buck and have a wolf season

shot a 10 in UP on the 12th of November and then went downstate to hunt family farm and shot an 8 so I was tagged out and hunted less than last year

I feel the two buck tags are too much if you need two deer get a doe tag and a buck tag and the wolves are bad in Delta and Schoolcraft county's

Why do this survey? Nothing is going to change with the wolves, everyone knows this is the main problem

Significant reduction in deer seen in southern Delta county. More wolf activity. Hunter pressure seemed to be the same as previous years

Need to have a way to regulate the wolves

The deer population in Schoolcraft county is falling fast. I'm almost done hunting in Michigan. I spend a lot of money on deer hunting here and it's disappointing. Going to save money and hunt Kenora Canada

Last year had 78 bucks on cam this year 55 bucks on cam more bigger ones 3.5 to 6.5

One buck tag is what I see needs to happen, and doe tags where the population allows.

Wolves need to go

None

We need a wolf season

Get rid of 2 buck tags

Only seen 7 deer 2 spikes never even pulled the trigger hardest I ever to hunt to try to get one I even bought a combo first time I never tagged a deer since I was 15 yrs old I'm 50 yrs old now

The wolves and cougars have ruined the upper peninsula, paired with long winters the deer don't stand a chance. The MNR should be ashamed that they have done this to the upper peninsula. I've hunted in the upper for almost 30 years and have never seen it this bad. I'm at the point of selling my cabin I have had for 20 plus years and hunting out of state. I have never worked so hard and seen so few of deer in my career of upper hunting.. get rid of the wolves and make the UP good again.

I don't care for the tribal privileges, they take more than their share. I also do not believe the wolves are much of an issue. I've been hunting since 1984 and total numbers for the deer seem about the same as back then.

Over abundance of wolves, maybe some could be delivered below the bridge

The truth about the impact the wolves are making on the deer herd needs to be told.

First time in years myself or family didn't harvest a deer. Very few young bucks, very few does

All these extra seasons and doe tags aren't helping at all!!!

To many wolves and too many little bucks getting killed

Control the wolves!!

I had more coyote and wolves pictures then I had deer they come threw and check bait all hours not just after dark

Small bucks. Nothing Mature

Saw around 8 deer to-date. Lots of coyotes.

Lots and lots of wolf sign!! Not many deer at all!!

Menominee county was good as usual. Northern Iron, and Houghton counties were poor at best

Saw wolves but no mature bucks

Overall more deer due to field being fresh planting. Over 30 deer per sit. Of them, only 6 different year and half old bucks. Zero 2 1/2+. Doe harvest needs to increase in the area and stop shooting 1 1/2 year old bucks, in my opinion

No luck at all

Excessive amount of wolves. Way too many!

Saw a fair number of does, just no bucks! Usually I have 5-6 bucks on my farm, this year one spike, zero sign of mature bucks

Fewer corn crops in my area. Seems like a lot less deer.

Hunted Gogebic County last year seen way fewer deer left year.

Antler restriction let them grow and limit to one buck per person. Predators are getting out of hand

Clearly too many predators. Wolves, coyotes, and bear number are all through the roof.

Deer left my area before rifle season,Wolfs

Fewer deer sightings in all seasons hunted

Time to relocate the wolves to lower Michigan, they have too many deer so it would make sense.

Areas in delta county that were very plentiful with deer last year had less than half as much deer activity as this year

This is the fewest amount of deer our camp has seen in 15 years. We run trail cameras from June-December and hunt bow, rifle and muzzle

We need predator control!

There's so few deer left up there... it's hardly worth the trip.

I think the DNR is doing a terrible job managing the U.P. deer herd and find every excuse they can come up with to divert their poor management.

Overall we saw a few more deer than last year but not much. When wolves moved in the deer moved out.

It's time to make some changes, these seasons are way to long

I saw the most deer I ever have in a rifle season since I started rifle hunting 15 years ago. Endless does and fawns. Shot a 5pt and let 3 spikes walk. Sincerely hoping and begging for more antlerless permits in the county next season. Would love the chance to shoot 2 does.

Crossbow hunting is to long. Everything mature is dead before breeding

Sad the population of whitetails is to where it is today !

Get YOUR SHIT TOGETHER.. ONE buck all season and Bring back supplemental feeding. and get rid of the damn 2 gallon policy. it's ridiculous.

The only things that have change in the last 30 years I've hunted in Chippewa county is wolves and all the permits the local tribes get, before either we always had an abundance of deer wether we had a bad winter or not

Didn't see as much wolf problems this year, but when they were around deer sighting went down tremendously!

Pockets of deer. The winters bring them down, wolves keep them there.

Wolf season needed

Too many does observed. The buck to doe ratio is skewed.

Too many doe permits too many predators

4 yrs since we harvested a deer at our camp in the area where Alger, Delta, Menominee meet.

Much higher wolf populations than last year. Counted about 3 times as many tracks this year.

I personally found 3 wolf kills on one of the properties I hunt. On the other property, a huge farm, From July-December I only saw 2 bucks with 4 trail cameras up.

Lots of does and fawns. Less bucks

Saw more wolves than deer in our camp. No bucks shot out of 8 guys.

Still believe that there are way more wolves than necessary. Time for a season for a massive reduction in population.

Hunted 3 days, saw 3 bucks, took a doe. Saw maybe a dozen different deer while hunting.

Seeing more wolves, bigger wolves. And why am I seeing wolves with collars?! 3k small businesses were put out of business because of state Covid mandates and they had money for this?!

Way more wolf and coyotes at all the areas I hunted this year along with more human pressure. That coupled with the lack of food due to logging oaks nearby and warmer weather made for a tough season

There's still a good deer population around residential homes. I spent time out in the big woods away from year around residential and deer numbers are down 70 to 90% from what they were 10 years ago. My personal observation regarding wolves and sign. They usually don't come within 300 yards of a year around residential home, so the deer that are surviving predation are mainly living within this protective buffer, granted I am seeing coyote sign within 300 yards of homes or buffer.

Need a wolf hunt

The deer population is hurting

Deer sightings were much lower than last year. Many coyotes on camera. Many wolf tracks seen but did not have any sightings this year.

We got 2 bucks out of four hunters 8 pt and 3 pt deer were nocturnal sightings low

I was a skeptic as to how much damage the wolves were doing to the deer population. I still am kind of a skeptic however, we saw less deer than ever this year and more wolf tracks than I can imagine. They were probably 50/50 wolf/deer track.

I hunt near the Seney Refuge, very few deer on the marshes anymore, too many wolves. Now

Saw way less deer then the last 3 seasons hunted 12 days. Didn't see anything for 5 days straight. Wolves everywhere worst season I've ever had to date and I've been hunting up here for over 20 years

Still really low deer numbers in the big woods... lots wolf pictures... deer are hanging around residential areas more

There was fewer deer. I hunt in an area where I normally here 40 to 50 shots on opening day and 10 to 15 each day after that. This year I heard less than 20 shots the whole rifle season

Need a wolf hunt

Almost all night movement.

Very few deer.

Hunted every day from Oct 20 to Nov 30 seen 6 deer

Wolf sign abundant with numerous wolf pics on cameras. Deer herd numbers are way down, if something doesn't happen soon we won't have to worry about buying licenses any longer.

Too many doe tags for Indians. There is no loss of habitat there's no loss of good food source there's actually more and there's more hunters but let's do the hunt

Northern schoolcraft

I watched the same 7 deer all year. Cameras up all year and only 1 8point which was taken by the neighboring camp.

Fresh snow, fresh wolf tracks on deer tracks 1 week before fresh piece of deer hide

Seen more doe than in years. Plenty of yearling bucks, but only 3 mature (2 1/2) or older all season.

We have way too many Wolves.

Need to stop logging thermal cover and need to reduce the amount of wolves.

Predators ruined my hunting. Will have to go to another state next year

Saw very few fawns from this year.

Too many licenses being used by Native American hunters near us. That along with wolves, coyotes, and the "regular" poaching...we get what's left.

Hunted all seasons. Bow, gun, musket, bow. 93 days of season plus 10 antlerless permits per hunter is too much human pressure and predation. License sales in Michigan has evolved to a revenue tool rather than a herd management tool. Sad, irresponsible, and corrupt.

I saw 4 deer in 6 days. Our camp only saw a total of 7 different deer between 6 people.

47 days hunting 27 different bucks

More wolves than any year past

2 out of 4 people got deer at my camp. The two got bucks in bow season. Nobody saw a buck in rifle season. Need to have one buck tag and 3" antler or bigger. Too many deer taken with two tags.

Hunted bow, rifle, and muzzle

Need to limit to one buck tag with 3+ on one side

Saw lots of year and a half old bucks

too many hunts, bow, rifle, black powder, youth hunt, ect. fines too high for some violations of rules. Have to memorize 60 plus pages of rules to enjoy outdoors. another long set of rules for fishing, mistakes can be made.

Lots of wolf sign/tracks

Can't click more than one season to hunt? What about those of us who dabble in all 3 seasons?

At least 80% decrease in deer from 2021 season in northern Dickinson county. More wolf sign than deer. Hunted both bow season and rifle