

West Virginia
Wildlife Resources

Big Game Bulletin



2012

www.wvdnr.gov



West Virginia

BIG BUCK

c  n t e s t

Presented by



TOYOTA

For more West Virginia Big Buck Contest information,
contact Gene Thorn at (304) 924-6211 or go to:
www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/BigBuckContest.shtm

Also supported by:

Izaak Walton League of West Virginia
West Virginia Bowhunters Association
West Virginia Muzzleloaders Association
Physically Challenged Advisory Board



TUNDRA



*Let's
Go
Places*

Visit buyatoyota.com for special offers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BLACK BEAR	1
Season Results and Highlights.....	1
Non-hunting Mortalities	2
Damage Payments and Nuisance Complaints	2
Tooth Collections.....	3
Reproductive Tract Collections.....	3
Black Bear Research.....	4
WILD TURKEY	11
Spring Harvest.....	11
Fall Harvest	12
Surveys	13
Spring Gobbler Survey	13
Bowhunter Survey	14
Brood Survey	14
Mast Survey.....	15
WILD BOAR	22
WHITE-TAILED DEER	24
Deer Season 2012	24
Special Deer Management Areas.....	28
Nonseasonal Mortalities	29
Deer Hunting Outlook.....	30

This bulletin was made possible through hunting and fishing license monies and funds from Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration. Project W-48-R-28 Statewide Wildlife Research

BLACK BEAR

By
Colin P. Carpenter

Season Results and Highlights

West Virginia hunters harvested a record 2,691 black bears during the combined 2012 archery and firearms seasons (Tables 1 and 2). This is the fourth time the kill has topped 2,000 in the past 5 years. The harvest of 2012 was 34% higher than the 2011 harvest of 2,009 bears and is 13% higher than the previous record harvest of 2,392 set in 2010 (Figure 1).

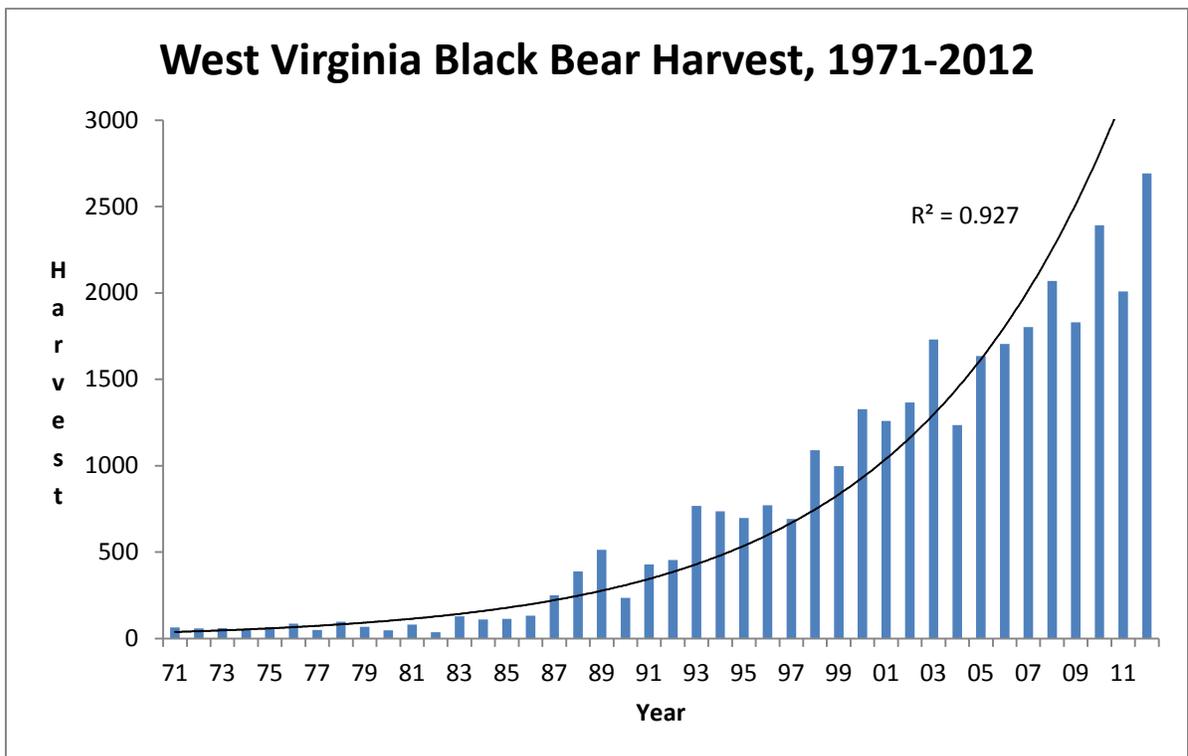


Figure 1. West Virginia black bear harvest, 1971–2012.

Scattered but abundant oak mast and an additional 2 weeks of archery hunting in 2012 allowed archers to pattern bears more effectively. Abundant oak mast also kept many bears from denning and led to an increased firearms harvest. The fact that numerous counties were open to extended seasons

designed to help those counties reach management objectives, helped bolster the bruin harvest.

Hunters took 747 (479M: 268F) bears during the 2012 archery season (Tables 1 and 2). Biologists predicted that the archery harvest would not decrease in 2012 as it normally would when mast is abundant due to the spotty distribution of acorns and the additional 2 weeks of hunting opportunity. The top five counties were Webster (71), Nicholas (67), Randolph (57), Fayette (55) and Preston (51).

Firearms hunters harvested 1,944 (1,185M: 759F) bears during the 2012 combined gun seasons. This is a 40% increase over the 1,389 bruins killed in 2011 (Table 3). Hunters took 681 bears in September, 266 during the concurrent buck/bear season and 997 during the traditional December season (Table 1). Top five counties were Pocahontas (183), Pendleton (179), Randolph (163), Webster (152) and Greenbrier (148).

Non-hunting Mortalities

As a rule, non-hunting mortalities decrease in years of above-average mast production. One-hundred eighty-three bears were killed on highways, died as a result of illegal or marauder activities, or succumbed from other non-hunting causes (electrocution, accidental poisoning, etc.; Tables 3 and 4). This is down 13% from the 206 non-hunting mortalities recorded in 2011 (Table 3). There were 72 deaths from vehicles in 2012 compared to 107 in 2011. The number of illegal and miscellaneous deaths was down from 8 to 5 and 6 to 2 from 2011 to 2012, respectively. The only increase in non-hunting deaths was in bears killed for nuisance or damage activity, which was up from 85 in 2011 to 104 in 2012. The combined seasonal and non-seasonal deaths (2,874) is the largest recorded in West Virginia (Table 3).

Damage Payments and Nuisance Complaints

All hunters who pursue bears are required to buy bear damage stamps (Class DS). As specified by state law, funds derived from stamp sales are deposited in a special bear damage account to reimburse property owners for real and personal property damage caused by bears.

The number of bear damage claims was down 9% from 229 in 2011 to 210 in 2012 (Table 5). Total payments of \$274,329 were 26% lower than the \$345,007 paid out in 2011. Claims were reported in 33 counties in 2011 and 32

counties in 2012. There were 65 claims for bees (compared to 54 in 2011) totaling \$34,446, 22 for livestock at \$10,606 (31 in 2011), 64 for corn at \$202,095 (88 in 2011) and 59 (56 in 2011) miscellaneous claims at \$27,182.

Greenbrier County had the greatest dollar amount in compensations at \$63,572 followed by Preston (\$33,158), Pendleton (\$32,054), Tucker (\$28,289) and Hardy (\$28,052). Greenbrier County had the highest number of claims (24) followed by Pocahontas (22), Pendleton (17), Hampshire (15) and Nicholas (15).

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) employees received 823 nuisance bear calls in 2012 compared to 826 in 2011. The 5 counties with the most complaints were Hampshire (81), Greenbrier (80), Raleigh (59), Pocahontas (53) and Kanawha (44).

Tooth Collections

Age data from the 2011 tooth samples have been received and hunters have been notified of their bear's age. Hunters only submitted 645 useable teeth (correct tooth, identification matched check tags, etc.) for age consideration. Five (<1%) were cubs, 24% (156) were yearlings, 34% (217) were 2-year olds, 10% (63) were 3-year olds and the remaining 32% (204) were 4-years old or older. Biologists use age data from hunter-harvested bear teeth to calculate population estimates and mortality rates for black bears in West Virginia. The low numbers of bear teeth submitted by hunters for age analysis may lead to reduced precision in estimation of vital rates that are critical for managing and monitoring West Virginia's black bear population. We urge successful hunters to participate in the tooth collection.

Reproductive Tract Collections

Black bears have one of the lowest reproductive rates of any land mammal in North America. The fact that black bears usually reproduce every 2 years, have relatively small litters and may take several years to reach sexual maturity, all can lead to slow population growth. Litter size, adult female survival and interbirth interval are the three factors that influence black bear populations. However, adult female survival is the only demographic factor that managers may control. Hunting season timing and length are adjusted to manipulate adult female survival. Wildlife managers and biologists have been collecting female reproductive tracts to estimate litter size around the state. The data gathered from reproductive tracts (cubs/female) mirrors data collected from visiting the dens of radio-tagged females.

Managers collected 15 reproductive tracts that supplied useful information in 2011. Reproductive tract data lags one year behind because researchers are waiting on age data. Information from reproductive tracts obtained in 2012 cannot be fully analyzed until ages are determined. Five yearling tracts were examined with the possibility of none of them being bred in 2011. Four sows over the age of 3 showed evidence of breeding and averaged 2 corpora lutea per female. Six females showed evidence of giving birth in 2011 and averaged 2.5 placental scars.

Black Bear Research

Reproductive tracts and tooth collections from harvested bears provide the most cost-effective way to monitor the black bear population and are being used to help make decisions about changes in hunting regulations. Therefore, radio collars have only been left on 8-10 females in the northern part of the state. In 2012, managers handled 3 litters of cubs with an average of 2.33 cubs per litter ($\bar{x} = 2.33$). Managers worked 1 yearling den and tagged 1 yearling.

We urge all hunters who harvest a bear to submit a tooth for age determination. In addition, we ask that hunters who harvest female bears submit reproductive tracts. These data are now more important than ever in monitoring the black bear population.

A new black bear research project was initiated in 2011. West Virginia is participating in a study with Pennsylvania and New Jersey to examine movements, home range, survival and harvest vulnerability of bears that live in and around urban areas. Satellite collars have been deployed on black bears around the cities of Charleston, Beckley and Morgantown. These collars transmit the daily locations of the bears by text message. The data collected by all 3 states is being analyzed by a student at West Virginia University to complete a doctoral dissertation (PhD).

Nine satellite collars were deployed in West Virginia in 2011. Two collars were deployed in Charleston (2 males), 5 in Beckley (5 males) and 2 in Morgantown (1 male, 1 female). Two collared bears were harvested by hunters (2 males) and 1 was struck by a vehicle (1 male). There were 6 bears wearing satellite collars (2 in each city) at the end of 2011. Two of the 6 collars had stopped functioning and 1 was shed by the bear who had been wearing it.

One additional collar was deployed in Charleston in 2012 (1 male), 4 in Beckley (4 males) and 5 in Morgantown (5 males). There were 15 bears wearing satellite collars during summer 2012. One bear with a non-functioning collar from 2011 was recaptured and destroyed for persistent nuisance activity and 1 collar quit working during the summer. Thirteen bears were wearing satellite collars

prior to the 2012 bear hunting seasons (12 were working properly). Of the 12 collars that were working properly, 1 collar fell off prematurely and 1 quit working. One bear from the Beckley study area was harvested during archery season and 1 bear from the Morgantown study area was harvested during the concurrent buck gun bear season. The remaining collars will be removed during den checks in 2013.

In August 2007, 23 GPS (Global Positioning System) radio collars were deployed on bears in southern West Virginia. Eighteen of these collars have been retrieved with useful data. A Wildlife Resources Section Wildlife Manager is attending West Virginia University and using these data as part of the requirements for a Master of Science degree. These data will help wildlife managers better understand movement patterns of female black bears in and around active mine sites in southern West Virginia.

Table 1. West Virginia 2012 black bear harvest by season and county.

County	Bow	September	Buck Gun	December	TOTAL
	Total	Total	Total	Total	
Barbour	27	2	0	13	42
Brooke	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0	0	0
Harrison	3	0	0	0	3
Marion	0	0	0	1	1
Marshall	0	0	0	0	0
Monongalia	3	0	5	0	8
Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
Preston	51	15	37	28	131
Taylor	7	0	0	0	7
Tucker	17	38	0	37	92
Wetzel	1	0	0	0	1
Dist. I Subtotal	109	55	42	79	285
Berkeley	3	0	0	0	3
Grant	18	46	0	50	114
Hampshire	16	0	46	10	72
Hardy	17	44	0	85	146
Jefferson	1	0	0	1	2
Mineral	5	0	0	10	15
Morgan	2	0	11	5	18
Pendleton	16	84	0	95	195
Dist. II Subtotal	78	174	57	256	565
Braxton	15	5	0	22	42
Clay	11	5	0	33	49
Lewis	7	0	0	6	13
Nicholas	67	31	0	40	138
Pocahontas	11	56	0	127	194
Randolph	57	58	0	105	220
Upshur	11	0	0	11	22
Webster	71	73	0	79	223
Dist. III Subtotal	250	228	0	423	901
Fayette	55	46	59	32	192
Greenbrier	38	50	0	98	186
McDowell	34	21	0	12	67
Mercer	13	0	0	1	14
Monroe	19	0	0	15	34
Raleigh	21	21	23	7	72
Summers	13	0	0	0	13
Wyoming	32	12	0	7	51
Dist. IV Subtotal	225	150	82	172	629
Boone	17	32	44	20	113
Cabell	0	0	0	0	0
Kanawha	24	29	41	26	120
Lincoln	1	0	0	1	2
Logan	30	10	0	11	51
Mason	0	0	0	0	0
Mingo	6	3	0	2	11
Putnam	0	0	0	0	0
Wayne	1	0	0	1	2
Dist. V Subtotal	79	74	85	61	299
Calhoun	1	0	0	1	2
Doddridge	0	0	0	0	0
Gilmer	1	0	0	2	3
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasants	0	0	0	0	0
Ritchie	0	0	0	3	3
Roane	4	0	0	0	4
Tyler	0	0	0	0	0
Wirt	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	0	0	0	0	0
Dist. VI Subtotal	6	0	0	6	12
State Total	747	681	266	997	2,691

Table 2. Sex ratios of West Virginia black bears for September or November gun season, bow season, and December gun season, 1964-2012.

Year	Bow or gun season Late September		Bow season and/or Early Nov. gun season		Late Nov. or December gun season		Annual Kill		Total*
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1964-1978	0	0							
15-Yr Total	0	0	318	345	178	71	496	416	912
Sex Ratios	0	0	48%	52%	71%	29%	54%	46%	
1979	0	0	0	0	50	18	50	18	68
1980	0	0	2	2	34	9	36	11	47
1981	0	0	3	2	59	16	62	18	80
1982	0	0	11	5	16	4	27	9	36
1983	0	0	11	6	78	34	89	40	129
1984	0	0	8	8	51	43	59	51	110
1985	0	0	14	7	68	24	82	31	113
1986	0	0	31	14	61	26	92	40	132
1987	0	0	40	14	146	51	186	65	251
1988	0	0	21	16	198	165	219	181	400
1989	0	0	81	96	198	135	279	231	510
1990	0	0	41	20	114	60	155	80	235
1991	0	0	72	57	186	111	258	168	426
1992	0	0	112	89	169	85	281	174	455
1993	0	0	141	96	340	190	481	286	767
1994	0	0	111	73	290	258	401	331	732
1995	0	0	152	75	310	153	462	228	690
1996	0	0	114	101	355	198	469	299	768
1997	0	0	225	198	178	85	403	283	686
1998	0	0	167	97	481	337	648	434	1,082
1999	0	0	256	168	369	201	625	369	994
2000	0	0	196	102	655	364	851	466	1,317
2001	0	0	302	165	482	301	784	466	1,250
2002	0	0	540	321	327	169	867	490	1,357
2003	0	0	605	422	450	222	1,055	644	1,699
2004	0	0	319	219	479	218	798	437	1,235
2005	0	0	432	285	616	301	1048	586	1,634
2006	0	0	399	266	727	312	1,126	578	1,704
2007	0	0	521	328	637	318	1,158	646	1,804
2008	348	322	292	187	589	331	1,229	840	2,069
2009	108	76	607	428	416	195	1,131	699	1,830
2010	214	248	310	144	939	537	1,463	929	2,392
2011	330	301	362	258	478	280	1,170	839	2,009
2012	374	307	479	268	811	452	1,664	1,027	2,691
34-Year Total	1,374	1,254	6,977	4,537	11,357	6,203	19,708	11,994	31,702
Average Sex Ratios	52%	48%	61%	39%	65%	35%	62%	38%	
2012 Sex Ratios	55%	45%	64%	36%	64%	36%	62%	38%	

*Represents bears of known sex and not the total harvest in each year.

Table 3. Number of black bears killed each year in West Virginia and cause of death.

Year	Hunting Season		Illegal Kill	Road Kill	Marauders	Others	Total
	Bow	Gun					
70's Subtotal	14	523	70's Average Annual Bag: Bow 2; Gun 65				
80's Subtotal	261	1,542	80's Average Annual Bag: Bow 26; Gun 154				
1990	61	174	14	23	13	10	295
1991	131	297	18	21	13	2	482
1992	201	254	17	48	18	8	546
1993	239	529	24	40	4	6	842
1994	185	550	10	31	5	5	786
1995	227	470	14	37	6	8	762
1996	214	558	6	23	15	7	823
1997	420	272	13	58	30	10	803
1998	265	825	12	30	8	6	1,146
1999	420	577	9	24	8	15	1,053
90's Subtotal	2,363	4,506	90's Average Annual Bag: Bow 236; Gun 450				
2000	305	1,023	6	16	8	4	1,362
2001	475	785	18	43	22	1	1,344
2002	726	670	14	82	28	10	1,530
2003	774	958	17	87	61	7	1,904
2004	374	861	7	55	22	11	1,330
2005	585	1,076	15	62	18	10	1,766
2006	516	1,188	8	61	36	10	1,819
2007	728	1,076	4	62	155	7	2,032
2008	479	1,590	3	38	34	6	2,150
2009	1,035	795	11	70	184	9	2,104
2000's Subtotal	5,997	10,022	2000's Average Annual Bag: Bow 600; Gun 1,002.				
2010	454	1,938	6	66	35	5	2,504
2011	620	1,389	8	107	85	6	2,215
2012	747	1,944	5	72	104	2	2,874
10's Subtotal	1,821	5,271	10's Average Annual Bag: Bow 607; Gun 1,757				

*November Gun Seasons held in 1989, and 2002 - 2012 in certain counties.

**September Season held in 2008-2012 in certain counties.

***Check tags without season (<0.05%) marked were assumed gun kills for this table.

Table 4. West Virginia 2012 nonseasonal black bear mortalities by county and type.

County	Roadkills	Illegal	Marauders	Misc.	Total
Barbour	3	1	0	0	4
Brooke	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0	0	0
Harrison	1	0	0	0	1
Marion	2	0	0	0	2
Marshall	0	0	0	0	0
Monongalia	1	0	2	0	3
Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
Preston	1	0	0	0	1
Taylor	0	0	0	0	0
Tucker	3	0	2	0	5
Wetzel	0	0	0	0	0
Dist. I Subtotal	11	1	4	0	16
Berkeley	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	3	0	5	0	8
Hardy	1	0	5	0	6
Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral	0	0	0	0	0
Morgan	1	0	0	0	1
Pendleton	0	0	3	0	3
Dist. II Subtotal	5	0	13	0	18
Braxton	10	0	2	0	12
Clay	0	0	2	0	2
Lewis	4	0	0	0	4
Nicholas	20	0	6	1	27
Pocahontas	0	0	29	1	30
Randolph	4	0	1	0	5
Upshur	0	0	1	0	1
Webster	0	0	4	0	4
Dist. III Subtotal	38	0	45	2	85
Fayette	1	1	1	0	3
Greenbrier	6	0	22	0	28
McDowell	1	0	5	0	6
Mercer	1	0	0	0	1
Monroe	1	0	0	0	1
Raleigh	1	1	4	0	6
Summers	1	1	0	0	2
Wyoming	2	0	1	0	3
Dist. IV Subtotal	14	3	33	0	50
Boone	0	0	4	0	4
Cabell	0	0	0	0	0
Kanawha	2	0	3	0	5
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0
Logan	1	0	1	0	2
Mason	0	0	0	0	0
Mingo	0	0	1	0	1
Putnam	1	0	0	0	1
Wayne	0	0	0	0	0
Dist. V Subtotal	4	0	9	0	13
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	0
Doddridge	0	0	0	0	0
Gilmer	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0
Pleasants	0	0	0	0	0
Ritchie	0	0	0	0	0
Roane	0	0	0	0	0
Tyler	0	1	0	0	1
Wirt	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	0	0	0	0	0
Dist. VI Subtotal	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
State Total	72	5	104	2	183

Table 5. Black bear damage claims paid and payments by county 2008-2012.

County	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Claims	Payments	Claims	Payments	Claims	Payments	Claims	Payments	Claims	Payments
Barbour	3	\$1,607	3	\$832	1	\$88	1	\$609	0	\$0
Berkeley	0	\$0	1	\$274	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Boone	6	\$5,319	2	\$764	3	\$4,968	3	\$2,835	2	\$587
Braxton	8	\$3,139	3	\$5,775	7	\$3,205	4	\$4,664	1	\$383
Brooke	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Cabell	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Calhoun	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$55	0	\$0
Clay	5	\$2,322	3	\$977	7	\$6,900	1	\$43	1	\$225
Doddridge	0	\$0	1	\$150	0	\$0	1	\$350	0	\$0
Fayette	4	\$1,105	5	\$6,202	0	\$0	1	\$3,600	4	\$1,672
Gilmer	1	\$397	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,040
Grant	6	\$4,570	5	\$3,066	11	\$9,811	6	\$14,983	5	\$9,064
Greenbrier	9	\$16,770	35	\$82,867	12	\$16,031	19	\$51,660	24	\$63,572
Hampshire	2	\$1,575	10	\$7,421	4	\$2,089	13	\$11,619	15	\$8,993
Hancock	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Hardy	9	\$9,060	9	\$12,317	11	\$4,055	13	\$50,839	13	\$28,052
Harrison	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$804	1	\$228	0	\$0
Jackson	0	\$0	1	\$274	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Jefferson	0	\$0	1	\$833	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Kanawha	3	\$2,691	2	\$114	5	\$681	0	\$0	2	\$199
Lewis	4	\$1,329	2	\$1,163	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$888
Lincoln	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$328
Logan	5	\$1,694	7	\$5,004	2	\$809	3	\$2,167	8	\$3,256
Marion	2	\$218	1	\$126	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$834
Marshall	1	\$776	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Mason	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
McDowell	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	3	\$1,031	1	\$2
Mercer	0	\$0	2	\$1,438	1	\$390	2	\$530	2	\$580
Mineral	2	\$1,327	7	\$1,793	10	\$5,320	11	\$12,341	8	\$4,107
Mingo	2	\$1,292	0	\$0	2	\$666	0	\$0	1	\$313
Monongalia	5	\$2,114	2	\$150	3	\$785	0	\$0	0	\$0
Monroe	1	\$177	1	\$29	4	\$8,062	1	\$232	3	\$10,753
Morgan	0	\$0	4	\$2,789	1	\$129	3	\$1,088	1	\$1,150
Nicholas	6	\$9,199	36	\$23,123	11	\$4,269	12	\$7,080	15	\$5,039
Ohio	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Pendleton	12	\$5,115	17	\$18,895	7	\$5,133	25	\$29,434	17	\$32,054
Pleasants	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Pocahontas	4	\$2,050	23	\$41,204	19	\$18,420	18	\$29,782	22	\$22,211
Preston	9	\$5,857	15	\$27,690	9	\$6,080	26	\$74,074	11	\$33,158
Putnam	0	\$0	1	\$268	0	\$0	1	\$1,193	1	\$1,000
Raleigh	6	\$3,000	8	\$3,932	4	\$1,344	5	\$1,558	6	\$1,447
Randolph	10	\$3,077	23	\$10,263	24	\$6,499	19	\$7,773	9	\$1,651
Ritchie	1	\$125	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Roane	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Summers	1	\$399	4	\$1,094	0	\$0	2	\$1,396	2	\$742
Taylor	1	\$203	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$70	0	\$0
Tucker	5	\$4,437	12	\$24,477	4	\$2,966	8	\$25,319	12	\$28,290
Tyler	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Upshur	2	\$258	2	\$738	0	\$0	6	\$1,299	0	\$0
Wayne	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$484	1	\$299
Webster	6	\$1,530	21	\$8,725	7	\$1,159	8	\$2,096	9	\$7,471
Wetzel	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$410	7	\$3,100	5	\$4,154
Wirt	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,041	0	\$0
Wood	1	\$105	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Wyoming	0	\$0	1	\$683	4	\$3,127	2	\$434	3	\$815
Total	142	\$92,837	270	\$295,450	176	\$114,201	229	\$345,007	210	\$274,329

WILD TURKEY

**By
Keith D. Krantz**

Spring Harvest

The 2012 spring gobbler harvest was 8,303 (Table 1). The total was 9.6% lower than the kill in 2011 (9,190). Total turkey brood observations were 42.6% less than 2011, 26.7% less than 2010 and 38.8% less than the 5-year average. There is a direct correlation between turkey brood observations and the spring turkey harvest 2 years later.

The 2012 spring kill was the lowest since 1989, when 7,245 birds were harvested by hunters. While all the other districts saw a decline in harvest, hunters in District 1 (northern counties) registered a 7 percent increase over last year. The southern districts saw the greatest reduction in harvest, with Districts 5 and 4 declining by 25 and 21 percent, respectively.

The top counties were Mason with a kill of 343, Preston (330), Harrison (282), Wood (236) and Greenbrier (235). Rounding out the top 10 counties were Jackson (244), Marshall (224), Upshur (224), Monongalia (221) and Kanawha (214).

Table 2 depicts the harvest by Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The top four WMAs were all part of the Monongahela National Forest; Potomac had the highest kill (41), followed by Cranberry and Little River which tied for second (31) and last year's leader Neola dropped to fourth with a harvest of 21 gobblers. Higher total harvests are expected on these areas as they are orders of magnitude larger than our state owned or managed WMAs. Comparing the harvests on these areas on an acreage basis reveals that the Potomac WMA had a harvest of one gobbler per 6,962 acres, while our state owned or managed property with the highest total harvest, Bluestone WMA had a harvest of one gobbler per 928 acres. While the National Forest offers large tracts of huntable acreage, our state owned or managed properties are comprised of better turkey habitat.

The first week of the spring season accounted for 56% of the harvest while 20% of the toms were harvested the second week, 11% the third week and 6% the fourth week, less than 1% of the hunters recorded an unknown or unrecognizable harvest date (Table 3). The one-day spring gobbler youth hunt, which occurred the Saturday preceding the regular Monday opening, yielded a harvest of 432, up 10.2% from the 392 killed in 2011 (Table 3).

Fall Harvest

A total of 36 counties were open during the fall 2012 season. Counties open to fall turkey hunting include the following:

- Fourteen (14) traditional fall hunting counties were open to a four-week split season (October 13 – October 20 and October 29 – November 17, 2012).
- Seven (7) counties were open to a two-week split season (October 13 – October 20 and October 29 – November 3, 2012).
- Fifteen (15) counties had a one-week season (October 13 – October 20, 2012).

The 2012 fall harvest (1,272) was four percent higher than the 1,186 birds checked in during the 2011 fall season and three percent higher than the five-year average (Table 4). Three districts saw increases above average harvests, while the other three districts had slight decreases. Fall wild turkey harvests are highly influenced by hunter participation, annual recruitment of young turkeys and hard mast conditions. The above-average but scattered acorn crop of 2012 concentrated birds in areas of abundant mast, making those birds somewhat more susceptible to harvest, especially in our non-traditional, fall hunting counties.

Top counties for 2012 were Greenbrier (138), Nicholas (98), Monroe (89), Randolph (77) and Summers (71). The traditional fall hunting counties, including Preston County, the Eastern Panhandle and the mountain regions of the state, accounted for 56 percent of the total fall kill, which was almost identical to last year. The harvest on WMAs (Table 5) made up approximately 12% of the 2012 fall harvest. The top WMA was Bluestone (21) followed by Monongahela National Forest units Little River (13), Neola (11) and Rimel (11), Blackwater and Otter Creek (9).

Almost identical to last year's opening day harvest of 201 birds, 203 were taken this year (Table 6). Sixteen percent of the season's total harvest was taken on opening day. The first week of the fall season contributed 49% of the total kill which was up from the 45% in 2011 and 44% in 2010. This year an early October antlerless deer season was implemented during what is normally the second week of the fall season. Because fall hunting mortality can be additive to total mortality and negatively impact the number of females available for breeding in the spring, turkey hunting was closed that week resulting in a split fall season. After the October antlerless deer season closed, the fall turkey season reopened in select counties and ran continuously through the third week of November. Each of these remaining weeks added approximately 10-12% to the total fall harvest.

The combined spring and fall harvests in 2012 was 9,575 - this ranks 24th in total wild turkey kill since 1966 (Table 7) and was 8% lower than last year.

Surveys

Spring Gobbler Survey

The Wildlife Resources Section and the West Virginia Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation conduct an annual survey of spring gobbler hunters. The survey is done entirely by volunteer sportsmen that donate their time and effort to gather information to help the DNR manage wild turkeys. Typically, the West Virginia Chapter sends survey forms to its members and the Wildlife Resources Section compiles the data from these and other participants. A survey report is written and provided free to cooperators. Due to waning hunter participation and a lack of observers in certain counties, surveys were sent to a random selection of successful spring gobbler hunters from the year before.

During 2012, results were compiled from 238 hunters, representing a 42% increase in hunter participation from last year. Cooperators took 1,822 hunting trips and heard 2,398 gobblers. Interestingly, the addition of 70 cooperators only added 376 trips to the total this year. The gobbling rate (34.8 gobblers heard per 100 hours) was 17% lower (Figure 1) than 2011 (42 per 100 hours) and down 34% from the 30-year average (52.6 gobblers heard/100 hours).

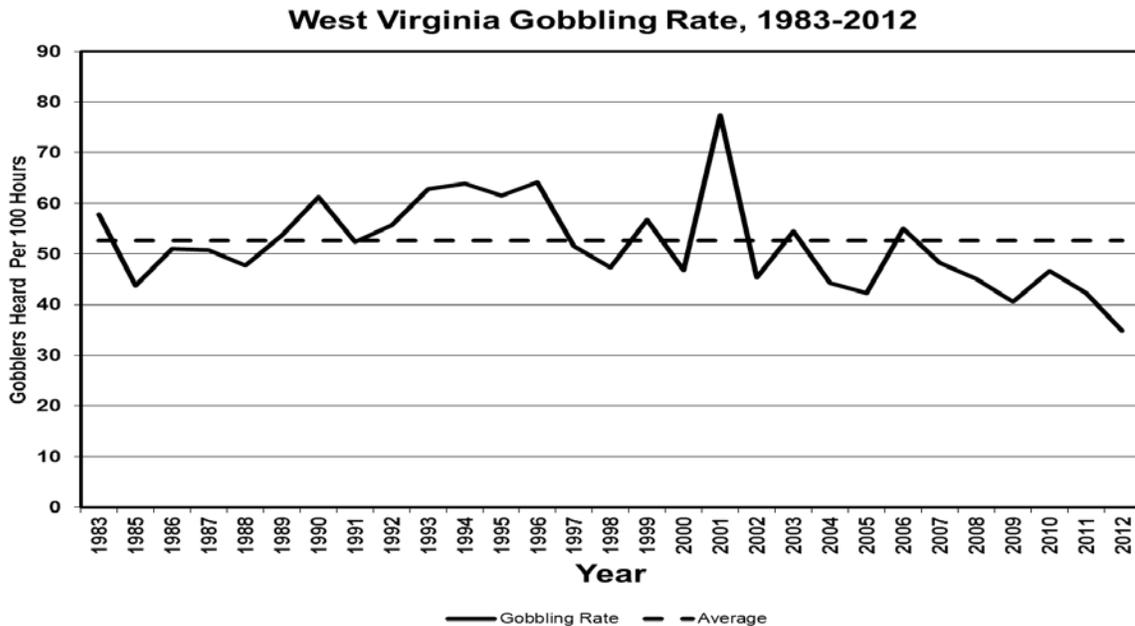


Figure 1. Gobblers heard per 100 hours by cooperators in West Virginia from 1983-2012.

Similar to last year the highest number of gobblers heard was in the Southwestern (66.2 gobblers per 100 hours) and Western (48.5 per 100 hours) regions of the State. On average, hunters heard 2.3 gobblers per trip in these regions. The survey also provides DNR biologist's important data on overwinter losses of turkeys and deer, observation rates of ruffed grouse and coyotes as well as providing a forum for hunters to express their opinions and ideas. The data may provide accurate population trend information on white-tailed deer.

Hunters desiring a copy of the annual survey report need to participate in the survey. Spring gobbler hunters wanting to help are encouraged to contact Tammie Thompson, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241, phone 304-637-0245. Those wishing to participate will be sent necessary forms and a questionnaire prior to the spring hunting season. The survey is simple to conduct and a hunter does not have to harvest a gobbler to provide useful data. Most of the information collected deals with what hunters hear, see, or has an opinion on.

Bowhunter Survey

Due to timing of the season and analysis of data, results from the Bowhunter Survey lag one year behind other surveys. This survey not only monitors white-tailed deer, it is also valuable in determining population and harvest trends of other wildlife species, including wild turkey.

Turkey sightings by bowhunter cooperators during the fall of 2011 were slightly lower than in 2010. The rate of approximately 28 turkeys seen per 100 hours of bowhunting is 53% lower than the record rate (59 per 100 hours in 1999) and 29% below the long term average (39). If these observations are at all representative they paint a fairly bleak picture for the spring harvest in 2013.

Brood Survey

Recent studies have shown that the quantity of gobblers born two years prior to a spring turkey season is a pretty good forecaster of that spring's gobbler harvest. In the near term, the number of turkey broods observed helps inform the fall hunter outlook. Turkey brood observations in 2012 were the lowest in 5 years, but some of that is attributable to a change in methodology. Broods were counted only from Game Management employees during work time. Total turkey brood observations were 42.6% less than 2011, 26.7% less than 2010 and 38.8% less than the 5-year average. The number of poults per hen varied by ecological region with the Mountain Region having the greatest average (5.9 poults/hen) but likely was a reflection of sample size and time of year the observers saw the broods. The other regions poult/hen ratio varied from 3.7-3.8 and the statewide recruitment average was 4.1 poults per hen.

Total broods seen varies by ecological region for a wide variety of reasons including habitat and effort. In the past 5 years, the Western Region has led the state in broods seen. The second place regions alternated between the Southern and Mountain Regions with the Eastern Panhandle bringing up the rear. This year, employees in the Southern Region submitted the greatest number of brood reports, followed by the Western, Eastern Panhandle and Mountain regions. On the surface this could mean that we actually had an unusual year in the distribution of turkey recruitment, only time will tell.

Fall harvests are more of a challenge to accurately forecast. Regional mast conditions, brood success in fall hunt counties, the number of eligible counties open to a fall season and hunter participation need to be considered in fall harvest predictions. Brood counts have accurately forecasted fall turkey harvests about two-thirds of the years since 1968. Due to the lower number of brood reports and the spotty distribution of acorns, black cherry and other wild foods, biologists predicated the kill to be similar to that experienced in 2011, and the fall harvest was 86 birds higher.

Mast Survey

The Wildlife and Law Enforcement Sections of the Division of Natural Resources and the Division of Forestry have conducted surveys for abundance of wild foods since 1970. Foods of 18 tree and shrub species that are important wildlife mast are monitored. Compared to the 2011 survey, mast this year increased slightly. All hard mast species except walnut and beech increased from last year's estimate. Several soft mast species were also monitored. The apple index decreased considerably (28 percent), greenbrier essentially remained the same and sassafras increased the most. Compared to the 42-year average, the 2012 mast index for all species combined increased 5 percent above the long term average. The statewide index for combined hard mast species (beech, hickory and oaks) and black cherry was 9 percent above the 42-year average.

While the overall relative abundance of mast increased, the distribution of it was inconsistent across and within ecological regions. This year's crop was best described as consistently inconsistent. Some areas were similar to the bumper crop of 2010, while other areas mast was virtually lacking as in 2009. Given this spotty distribution, hunters may have had to change hunting techniques and areas to be successful.

Table 1. Spring harvest of wild turkeys in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	224	209	157	160	182
Brooke	79	86	91	93	74
Hancock	71	98	109	107	92
Harrison	291	310	265	242	282
Marion	178	175	179	135	163
Marshall	222	214	316	253	224
Monongalia	247	215	257	218	221
Ohio	53	64	94	92	87
Preston	371	378	321	325	330
Taylor	115	101	86	76	93
Tucker	85	68	68	56	62
Wetzel	253	213	199	125	210
Dist. I Subtotal	2,189	2,131	2,142	1,882	2,020
Berkeley	70	83	89	86	88
Grant	115	121	102	102	114
Hampshire	165	194	149	119	120
Hardy	141	172	158	123	101
Jefferson	34	44	27	42	43
Mineral	107	135	121	78	86
Morgan	88	63	68	70	56
Pendleton	101	114	98	100	95
Dist. II Subtotal	821	926	812	720	703
Braxton	199	226	186	172	119
Clay	77	89	65	85	77
Lewis	243	241	237	201	181
Nicholas	210	157	163	166	161
Pocahontas	102	117	106	108	124
Randolph	163	198	197	142	94
Upshur	288	298	241	213	199
Webster	98	113	102	99	94
Dist. III Subtotal	1,380	1,439	1,297	1,186	1,049
Fayette	279	255	215	234	176
Greenbrier	292	266	226	253	235
McDowell	250	181	270	228	154
Mercer	253	215	175	186	146
Monroe	142	178	145	158	162
Raleigh	221	227	182	215	185
Summers	258	219	231	210	176
Wyoming	209	227	287	242	132
Dist. IV Subtotal	1,904	1,768	1,731	1,726	1,366
Boone	118	111	185	185	144
Cabell	138	157	236	134	129
Kanawha	247	219	261	311	214
Lincoln	188	183	278	188	157
Logan	157	160	194	169	133
Mason	394	419	551	445	343
Mingo	82	95	115	138	92
Putnam	232	256	323	236	196
Wayne	145	146	234	182	92
Dist. V Subtotal	1,701	1,746	2,377	1,988	1,500
Calhoun	141	129	120	96	138
Doddridge	144	135	150	121	111
Gilmer	139	147	135	137	132
Jackson	310	257	286	290	244
Pleasants	89	63	72	68	81
Ritchie	208	206	239	212	233
Roane	229	219	207	195	193
Tyler	174	167	196	135	133
Wirt	185	175	166	157	164
Wood	315	279	279	277	236
Dist. VI Subtotal	1,934	1,777	1,850	1,688	1,665
State Total	9,929	9,787	10,209	9,190	8,303

Table 2. Spring turkey harvest by locality in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

Land Type	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Monongahela NF	Beaver Dam	8	16	11	3	8
	Blackwater	18	17	21	8	14
	Cheat	8	14	11	7	2
	Cranberry	32	47	33	27	31
	Little River	14	26	22	29	31
	Neola	26	28	19	36	21
	Otter Creek	19	8	13	10	8
	Potomac	31	34	28	28	41
	Rimel	15	13	16	17	15
Tea Creek	19	13	14	5	17	
Monongahela NF Total		190	216	188	170	188
George Washington NF	Shenandoah	9	7	12	11	10
	Wardensville	26	52	17	24	15
George Washington NF Total		35	59	29	35	25
Jefferson NF		5	8	8	7	0
Jefferson NF Total		5	8	8	7	0
National River		25	21	7	9	7
National River Total		25	21	7	9	7
State Land	Allegheny	3	10	8	7	3
	Amherst/Plymouth	19	11	16	10	13
	Anawalt	5	5	5	6	4
	Becky Creek	1	2	3	2	0
	Beech Fork	26	19	13	21	10
	Berwind	11	3	5	0	1
	Beury Mtn	4	8	3	5	2
	Big Ugly	1	2	2	1	1
	Bluestone	25	19	26	28	19
	Burnsville	13	12	14	12	12
	Cabwaylingo Sf	4	3	3	1	1
	Calvin Price Sf	2	0	4	5	1
	Camp Creek Sf	2	3	3	0	2
	Castleman	2	2	2	2	3
	Center Branch	2	1	0	0	1
	Conaway Run	1	0	2	0	0
	Coopers Rock Sf	5	10	13	3	6
	Cornstalk	15	19	22	23	14
	Cross Creek	6	2	6	6	3
	East Lynn	6	9	16	11	6
	Edwards Run	0	1	0	0	0
	Elk Creek	1	4	3	7	0
	Elk River	12	19	9	13	6
	Fork Creek	4	2	0	0	0
	Fort Mill Ridge	0	1	0	1	0
	Frozen Camp	5	3	1	4	0
	Greenbrier Sf	3	1	0	3	0
	Handley	0	0	1	0	0
	Hillcrest	7	11	14	21	11
	Horse Creek	3	1	3	0	0
Hughes River	5	8	6	5	10	
Huttonsville	2	1	0	1	0	

Table 2. Continued.

Land Type	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
State Land	Kanawha Sf	5	7	8	14	8
	Kumbrabow Sf	10	2	5	4	1
	Laurel Lake	4	4	9	7	2
	Lewis Wetzel	7	5	3	2	10
	Little Indian Creek	2	1	3	2	3
	McClintic	17	16	15	13	15
	Meadow River	0	0	1	1	1
	Mill Creek	1	0	1	2	1
	Morris Creek	2	1	3	3	4
	Nathaniel Mnt	4	3	5	3	3
	O'Brien	0	0	0	1	0
	Panther Sf	12	7	11	12	3
	Pedlar	1	0	1	2	5
	Pleasants Creek	2	3	0	5	4
	Plum Orchard	5	2	0	1	5
	Pruntytown	1	2	2	5	0
	R D Bailey	26	24	47	5	3
	Ritchie Mines	4	6	7	3	3
	Sand Hill	0	2	0	3	1
	Seneca Sf	0	4	4	5	0
	Shannondale	1	3	1	4	3
	Short Mnt	4	3	3	8	2
	Sleepy Creek	13	16	13	21	19
	Snake Hill	0	0	1	3	4
	South Branch	0	1	0	0	0
	Stonecoal	2	3	2	6	1
	Stonewall Jackson	20	20	17	22	14
	Stumptown	0	0	1	0	0
	Summersville	6	6	6	3	4
	Tate Lohr	0	1	1	1	0
	The Jug	8	6	5	4	1
	Tug Fork	4	3	1	0	0
	Underwood	1	0	1	1	2
	Upper Mud River	5	4	1	1	1
	Wallback	4	6	1	5	8
	Widmyer	0	0	0	0	2
State Land Total		366	353	382	370	262
Private Land		9,308	9,129	9,595	8,599	7,821
Unknown		0	1	0	0	0
State Total		9,929	9,787	10,209	9,190	8,303

Table 3. Spring wild turkey harvest in West Virginia by week of season, 2011-2012.

Week of Season	2011		2012	
	N	%	N	%
Youth	392	4%	432	5%
Week 1	5,329	58%	4,642	56%
Week 2	1,757	19%	1,690	20%
Week 3	1,028	11%	976	12%
Week 4	630	7%	523	6%
Unknown	54	1%	40	1%
State Total	9,190	100%	8,303	100%

Table 4. Fall harvest of wild turkeys in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	0	0	0	0	30
Brooke	12	14	6	6	7
Hancock	9	14	24	8	11
Harrison	34	25	0	20	26
Marion	0	0	12	0	15
Marshall	9	15	15	11	28
Monongalia	30	0	24	13	18
Ohio	0	7	16	12	12
Preston	89	83	80	76	63
Taylor	0	0	7	0	11
Tucker	31	25	28	17	25
Wetzel	0	0	9	0	14
Dist. I Subtotal	214	183	221	163	260
Berkeley	31	30	18	35	18
Grant	74	51	42	31	31
Hampshire	61	49	30	22	22
Hardy	74	58	33	27	30
Mineral	38	27	17	32	22
Morgan	26	24	14	18	5
Pendleton	47	51	38	38	46
Dist. II Subtotal	351	290	192	203	174
Lewis	0	0	12	22	0
Nicholas	39	116	46	61	98
Pocahontas	74	53	47	68	79
Randolph	115	75	58	142	77
Upshur	35	38	40	42	43
Webster	36	66	37	44	58
Dist. III Subtotal	299	348	240	379	355
Greenbrier	84	103	92	90	138
McDowell	0	0	16	0	0
Mercer	0	0	0	52	0
Monroe	60	105	59	63	89
Summers	35	0	36	31	71
Wyoming	0	0	31	0	0
Dist. IV Subtotal	179	208	234	236	298
Cabell	0	0	6	5	10
Lincoln	0	0	41	0	0
Mason	101	81	46	57	37
Putnam	0	0	38	21	21
Dist. V Subtotal	101	81	131	83	68
Calhoun	0	0	0	0	14
Jackson	0	0	19	33	35
Pleasants	4	0	2	2	5
Ritchie	0	0	12	0	0
Tyler	0	0	17	9	6
Wirt	30	36	21	34	22
Wood	28	61	37	43	35
Dist. VI Subtotal	62	97	108	121	117
Unknown	0	1	0	1	0
State Total	1,206	1,208	1,126	1,186	1,272

Table 5. Fall turkey harvest by locality in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

Land Type	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Monongahela NF	Beaver Dam	6	3	3	2	4
	Blackwater	8	9	9	3	9
	Cheat	2	2	2	5	1
	Cranberry	12	14	3	9	8
	Little River	20	14	11	18	13
	Neola	12	15	11	9	11
	Otter Creek	4	3	8	6	9
	Potomac	5	5	5	9	8
	Rimel	13	9	7	6	11
	Tea Creek	6	5	2	12	7
Monongahela NF Total		88	79	61	79	81
George Washington NF	Shenandoah	11	7	11	4	8
	Wardensville	22	10	5	8	6
George Washington NF Total		33	17	16	12	14
Jefferson NF	Potts Creek	2	1	0	0	0
Jefferson NF Total		2	1	0	0	0
National River	New River Gorge	0	0	0	1	0
National River Total		0	0	0	1	0
State Land	Allegheny	0	1	1	2	0
	Amherst/Plymouth	0	0	1	2	6
	Bluestone	20	1	11	17	21
	Calvin Price SF	0	0	4	1	1
	Camp Creek SF	0	0	0	2	0
	Coopers Rock SF	0	0	1	0	0
	Cornstalk	13	7	3	3	3
	Cross Creek	3	2	0	2	0
	Edwards Run	0	1	0	1	0
	Fort Mill Ridge	1	0	0	0	1
	Frozen Camp	0	0	3	0	1
	Greenbrier SF	1	0	0	0	0
	Hillcrest	1	1	1	2	0
	Hughes River	1	1	0	1	1
	Kumbrabow SF	5	2	2	3	1
	Little Indian Creek	1	0	0	1	0
	McClintic	5	5	6	3	1
	Meadow River	0	0	0	1	0
	Mill Creek	0	0	0	0	1
	Nathaniel Mnt	1	0	0	0	1
	Pleasants Creek	0	0	1	0	1
	R D Bailey	0	0	1	0	0
	Seneca SF	3	2	2	0	4
	Short Mnt	1	1	0	0	0
	Sleepy Creek	11	4	2	10	4
	South Branch	0	0	0	0	1
	Stonecoal	0	0	0	3	0
	Stonewall Jackson	0	0	0	3	0
	Summersville	1	2	1	0	1
	Tate Lohr	0	0	0	0	2
Underwood	0	0	0	0	1	
	Widmyer	0	0	0	3	1
State Land Total		68	30	40	60	53
Private Land		1,015	1,081	1,009	1,034	1,124
State Total		1,206	1,208	1,126	1,186	1,272

Table 6. Fall wild turkey harvest in West Virginia by week of season, 2011-2012.

Week of Season	2011		2012	
	N	%	N	%
Opening Day	201	17%	203	16%
Week 1	531	45%	623	49%
Week 2	185	16%	154	12%
Week 3	136	11%	149	12%
Week 4	125	11%	122	10%
Unknown	8	1%	21	1%
State Total	1,186	100%	1,272	100%

Table 7. Total spring and fall wild turkey harvest, West Virginia, 1966-2012.

Year	Spring	Fall	Total	Rank
1966	12	1,334	1,346	46
1967	42	989	1,031	47
1968	134	1,697	1,831	45
1969	243	3,430	3,673	35
1970	370	3,020	3,390	38
1971	421	2,374	2,795	42
1972	589	2,353	2,942	41
1973	554	3,038	3,592	36
1974	596	2,158	2,754	43
1975	585	2,827	3,412	37
1976	721	1,860	2,581	44
1977	719	2,998	3,717	34
1978	566	2,803	3,369	39
1979	873	2,421	3,294	40
1980	1,459	3,696	5,155	31
1981	1,970	3,135	5,105	32
1982	2,458	5,684	8,142	27
1983	2,627	2,224	4,851	33
1984	3,387	2,414	5,801	30
1985	4,215	2,343	6,558	29
1986	4,774	3,130	7,904	28
1987	5,665	4,114	9,779	23
1988	6,526	2,939	9,465	25
1989	7,245	2,204	9,449	26
1990	9,152	3,504	12,656	15
1991	10,097	3,690	13,787	13
1992	11,299	3,518	14,817	8
1993	13,428	3,536	16,964	6
1994	15,501	3,351	18,852	4
1995	16,770	3,211	19,981	2
1996	16,618	2,870	19,488	3
1997	14,021	3,385	17,406	5
1998	12,467	1,678	14,145	11
1999	11,241	2,901	14,142	12
2000	12,794	1,541	14,335	10
2001	17,875	3,505	21,380	1
2002	13,385	2,808	16,193	7
2003	12,535	1,841	14,376	9
2004	10,573	1,357	11,930	17
2005	10,957	1,130	12,087	16
2006	11,735	1,186	12,921	14
2007	9,965	1,511	11,476	18
2008	9,929	1,206	11,135	20
2009	9,787	1,208	10,995	21
2010	10,209	1,126	11,335	19
2011	9,190	1,186	10,376	22
2012	8,303	1,272	9,575	24
Total	324,582	117,706	442,288	

WILD BOAR

By

Travis G. Bowman

Hunters killed 62 European wild boars during the 2012 season. This is a significant increase from the harvest of 32 in 2011 and is the highest harvest since 1999 (Table 1). The early snow storm brought on from Hurricane Sandy dropped 4 inches or more of snow in southern West Virginia in October, making it easier for hunters to spot and track wild boars. This is the primary reason the harvest increased in 2012. In addition, mast was good but spotty in the boar area which resulted in concentrations of boars in good mast producing areas making it easier for hunters to hunt these elusive creatures.

Firearms hunters took 39 (12 in Logan County and 27 in Boone County) and archers killed 23 (11 in Logan County and 12 in Boone County). Raleigh and Wyoming counties had no reported kills. The bulk of the harvest came from Boone and Logan counties close to the original release site in the Spruce-Laurel Fork of the Little Coal River.

Boars were introduced in 1971 to supplement big game populations and did well enough to accommodate a hunting season in 1979. Harvests have ranged from 3 that year to 158 in 1995. The decline in the population since the late 1990's led to the removal of the December season in 2003. The single October firearms season is designed to reduce the harvest, allow the population to grow, and allow boars to move into unoccupied habitats. Traditionally, hunters have been less successful during October when weather conditions are warm and dry, and leaf fall makes boar sign more difficult to find.

Biologists do not believe that hunting contributed to the population decline. Hunting seasons have been short and hunter participation was restricted by permits. The main reason for fewer animals in Boone, Logan, Raleigh and Wyoming counties is loss of habitat resulting in poor reproduction and survival. Impacts from mining and logging operations continue to decrease the mature oak-hickory forest favored by the boar.

Boar harvests will likely remain lower than the 2012 season, but will fluctuate depending upon mast and weather conditions. The good acorn crop of 2010 led to increased reproduction and a higher harvest in 2011, and then 2012 saw an increase in harvest due to favorable boar hunting conditions. The 2013 harvest will likely dip in response to the availability of food over the past 2 years. Hunters should not expect to achieve the harvest of the 1990's. Wildlife personnel will continue to monitor the wild boar population and will make management recommendations accordingly.

Table 1. Wild boar harvests in West Virginia, 1979–2012.

Year	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Gun</u>		Archery	Total
	Permits Available	Early Season	December		
1979	200	3	0	0	3
1980	600	9	0	1	10
1981	1200	31	0	2	33
1982	1500	69	0	3	72
1983	1500	50	0	4	54
1984	3000	76	0	5	81
1985	3000	52	0	6	58
1986	4000	29	0	6	35
1987	5000	63	0	11	74
1988	5000	29	0	5	34
1989	6000	29	79	8	116
1990	6000	16	62	8	86
1991	6000	20	38	1	59
1992	6000	39	72	19	130
1993	6000	13	61	8	82
1994	6000	21	53	12	86
1995	6000	34	105	19	158
1996	6000	51	56	32	139
1997	6000	43	61	37	141
1998	6000	16	30	12	58
1999	6000	19	56	21	96
2000	6000	7	36	3	46
2001	4000	11	14	18	43
2002	4000	3	26	9	38
2003	Permit Not Required	3	0	2	5
2004	Permit Not Required	3	0	4	7
2005	Permit Not Required	10	0	2	12
2006	Permit Not Required	10	0	4	14
2007	Permit Not Required	7	0	15	22
2008	Permit Not Required	9	0	5	14
2009	Permit Not Required	15	0	20	35
2010	Permit Not Required	8	0	8	16
2011	Permit Not Required	17	0	20	37
2012	Permit Not Required	39	0	23	62
Total		854	749	353	1,956

WHITE-TAILED DEER

By

JAMES M. CRUM

Deer Season 2012

The following Tables 1 through 9 contain the 2012 white-tailed deer hunter harvest information for each of West Virginia's 55 counties and the various public lands scattered across the state. In 2012, deer hunters harvested a total of 132,261 deer in the combined deer seasons. This is a 2.5% decrease from the 2011 harvest and 6.5% less than the previous five-year harvest average of 141,390. The combined deer season harvest for 2012 is the 23rd largest total deer harvest on record for West Virginia. The 2012 total deer harvest represents one deer killed for every 111 acres of deer habitat in the state (Table 9), and a 48% harvest decrease from the record harvest of 255,356 deer in 2002. From 1945 through 2012, a total of 5,740,153 deer have been recorded as harvested in West Virginia (Fig.1). Sixty-two percent (3,533,162) of the total recorded deer harvest of the past 67 years has occurred in the last 20 years.

WV DEER HARVEST 1945-2012

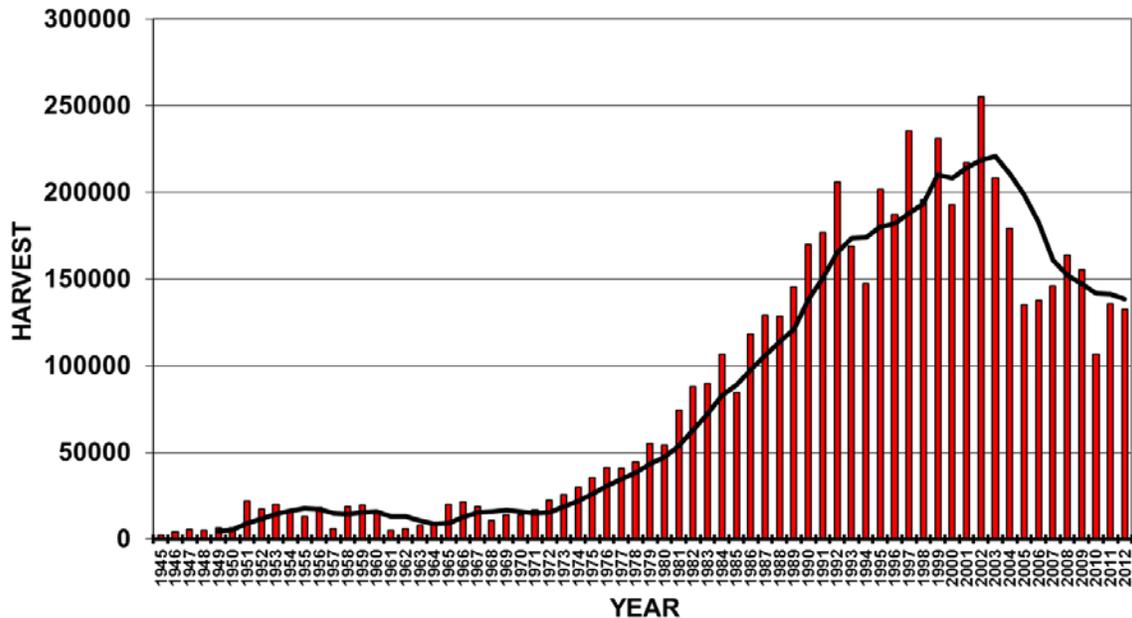


Figure 1. White-tailed deer harvest in West Virginia from 1945-2012.

In 2012, the traditional bucks-only firearm season harvest of antlered bucks was 56,276, a decrease of 6.5% from the 2011 harvest (Table 1). This is 6.6% less than the five-year average harvest of 60,236 and ranks 27th among all past years.

The 2012 antlerless deer harvest taken with a firearm increased by 12% from that of 2011 but was 57% less than the record harvest of 104,199 recorded in 2002. A total of 44,926 antlerless deer (Table 5) were taken with a firearm during the antlerless deer season and the Youth, Class Q/QQ and Senior Lifetime Class XS deer season. This year marked the first year for a three-day October firearm antlerless deer season and a reduction of the traditional December antlerless season from six to three days that was moved to follow muzzleloader season in mid-December (December 13–15). The antlerless deer maximum season bag limit was decreased from 4 to 3 in 2012. In comparison to 2011, the antlerless bag limit was reduced in eight counties and portions of one county and increased in 27 counties, or portions thereof. The antlerless season was open in 2012 for 22 days on private land in 48 counties or portions thereof. In 7 counties and portions of eight more, the season was closed. Of the counties open for antlerless deer hunting to resident and nonresident hunters, 27 counties and portions of two counties had a bag limit of three antlerless deer, and 9 more counties and portions of 11 counties had a bag limit of one antlerless deer. One county and portions of four counties in 2012 were limited to resident and nonresident hunters who had to apply for limited permits. The antlerless season was closed on the vast majority of National Forest land (Table 6). Qualifying youth, Class Q/QQ (physically challenged) and Senior Lifetime Class XS license holders had an additional three-day antlerless-only season on private and public land in counties having a firearms deer hunting season. The 2012 special split deer season for youth, Class Q/QQ and Senior Lifetime Class XS hunters was the fifth year for the season to be open on private land in all 51 counties open to a deer firearms season and the first year that all public lands in the 51 counties was open and the first year that Senior Lifetime Class XS license holders could participate. The 2012 antlerless season harvest was 19th highest on record and 2% less than the five-year average antlerless harvest of 45,845.

The 2012 deer archery season opened September 29, 2012, two weeks earlier than any season prior to 2011. In the 2012 archery season, a harvest of 25,714 was recorded which includes 1,093 deer harvested during the archery season with a crossbow. Deer reported as harvested with a crossbow represented 4% of the total archery season harvest and ranged from 1% to 13% of antlered deer by county. This year's archery harvest was a decrease of 6.2% from the 2011 archery season but was 18th highest on record and 6% below the five-year average of 27,339 (Table 3).

The 2012 muzzleloader season harvest was 5,345, a decrease of 32% from 2011. This is 33% below the five-year average harvest of 7,970, and the 26th highest harvest recorded for this season (Table 7). Major changes to the muzzleloader season occurred in 2012. The early 6-day special antlerless muzzleloader deer season was dropped and the traditional mid-December portion of the season was moved to early December opening the Monday following the close of buck firearm season

In 2012, hunting on Sunday was permissible in West Virginia for the twelfth year since 1956. In 2001, all counties were open to hunting on Sunday. In 2002, a total of 20 counties were open to hunting on Sunday. From 2003 through 2012, there were 14 counties open to hunting on Sunday. These 14 counties had 11 additional days available for deer hunting in 2012 deer seasons. All eleven days were open for archery hunters who recorded taking 643 deer on Sundays, or 2.5% of the total 2012 archery harvest. One Sunday was open for firearms deer hunting (the Sunday after Thanksgiving November 25th), and 246 deer were recorded as harvested.

In the 2012 deer season, 51 counties were open to the two-week bucks-only season. The desired buck harvest per square mile was exceeded by more than one buck per square mile in six counties representing 5% of the deer habitat in the state. There were no counties, with a buck harvest one buck per square mile lower than the desired harvest. For the remaining 45 counties, the buck harvest was within one buck per square mile of the desired harvest for the county. In contrast to 2011, three counties exceeded the desired buck harvest per square mile by at least one buck per square mile and 17 counties were lower than the desired harvest while 31 counties were within one buck per square mile of the desired buck harvest.

The harvest of antlerless deer is the key to healthier, heavier and more productive deer herds. Because there are natural limits to the number of deer the land can support. When these natural limits are exceeded, deer body weights, reproductive rates, antler development and herd health declines, including an increased likelihood that deer will die over winter. If deer exceed natural limits long enough, habitat quality is reduced which produces a long-term reduction in the natural limit of deer the land can support. To avoid these problems a minimum harvest of 70 females for every 100 bucks is generally required just to stabilize a deer herd. If a decrease in the herd is warranted, the percentage of females needs to be above 40%. Figure 2 depicts the total deer harvest in West Virginia from 1993 through 2012 by the sex composition of the harvest for each year in relation to the percentage of female deer harvested. This figure appears to reflect the stabilizing effect the 40% female harvest has on the number of deer harvested. The 2011 and 2012 deer harvests are similar and the percentage of female

deer in the harvest for 2012 was near the 40% level which is expected to decrease or stabilize the deer herd.

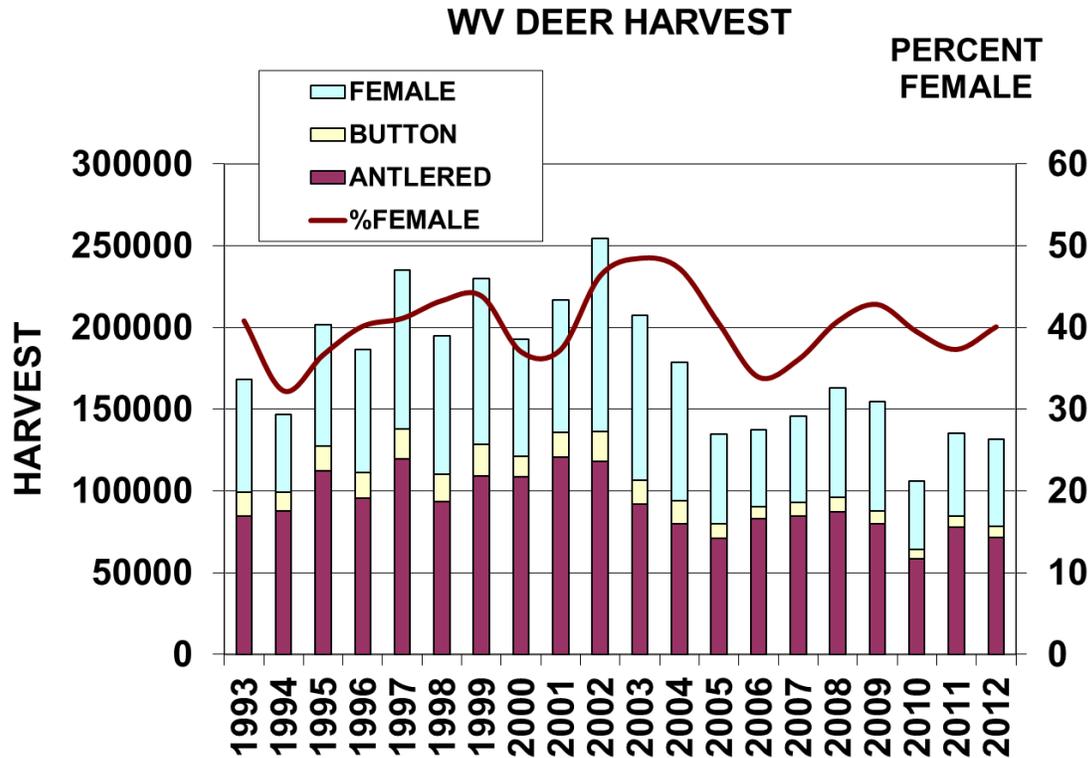


Figure 2. Deer harvested by sex in West Virginia from 1993–2012.

Over the last 20 years the yearly average number of reported antlered bucks harvested during all deer seasons has been four antlered bucks per square mile of deer habitat in West Virginia. Hunters and landowners must continually assess their expectations of the proper number of deer sightings versus the visible impacts deer have on vegetation and manage the state’s deer herd by participating and encouraging antlerless deer harvest where needed to benefit not only the deer herd, but all wildlife dependent on our state’s woodland habitat and conversely reduce antlerless deer harvest to stabilize or increase deer populations.

Special Deer Management Areas

Hunters took 931 deer in the special urban deer season in 2012. This special archery deer hunting season is available to incorporated cities and homeowner associations, which may open the second Saturday of September and close December 31. During this special season, seven deer may be taken which do not count toward the regular archery deer season bag limit. In 2012, 12 cities (Barboursville, Bethlehem, Bridgeport, Charleston, Harpers Ferry, Harrisville, North Hills, Parkersburg, Morgantown, Ronceverte, Weirton and Wheeling) reported harvesting 713 deer, which are included in Tables 3, 4, 8 and 9. In addition, 218 deer were harvested during urban deer archery hunts conducted by nine homeowner associations. This is the ninth year that homeowner associations have taken advantage of the special urban archery deer season to address deer population management. The Whiting's Neck Farm Estate was the first homeowner's association to use this special archery season. They have continued to use this season to safely and economically manage deer numbers for the past eight years. For information regarding implementing a special season contact your local city government, homeowner's association or district biologist.

In the special split Youth, Class Q/QQ and Senior Lifetime Class XS deer season, a total of 3,147 antlerless deer were harvested and are included in antlerless deer harvest tables 5, 6, 8 and 9. This season was open on private land and public land in any county open to a firearms deer season on October 20, 2012 and again December 26 and 27, 2012. This was the 5th year this special season was held. To participate, hunters had to hold a Class Q license, or be a youth at least eight and less than 18 years of age on the day of the season, or possess a Senior Lifetime Class XS license. Youth hunters, age 8-14, must be accompanied by a licensed adult at least 21 years of age and youths age 15-17 must comply with all regular season license requirements for junior sportsman hunting or hunt with resident landowner privileges. The 2012 season was the third year for participation by the 15–17 age youths and the first year for participation by Class XS license holders. The daily bag limit was one antlerless deer, which did not count against the hunter's annual antlerless deer season bag limit. Hunters harvested 2,302 deer on the first day, October 20th, and an additional 393 and 452 deer on December 26th and 27th, respectively. Overall the harvest for the 2012 special Youth, Class Q and Senior Lifetime Class XS deer season decreased 18% from 2011. The harvest for the 2012 first day was down 17% from the first day of the 2011 season and the second and third days of the 2012 season were off 23% from the reported harvest in 2011.

Special controlled deer hunts were held in 2011 at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) and on Blennerhassett Island State Park. Twenty-six deer were

harvested on the NRAO property during a two-day hunt October 19 and 20, 2012. Fifty-two deer were harvested by 76 hunters on Blennerhassett Island State Park during a two-day season November 5 and 8, 2012. It is anticipated that controlled deer hunts on these areas and additional state park land will held in the future. Deer are a keystone species in West Virginia's natural world and proper stewardship of our State's flora and fauna require that deer management be addressed on all lands.

Nonseasonal Mortalities

Nonseasonal mortalities are those deer deaths that are not associated with the harvest of deer by hunters. Figure 3 depicts nonseasonal deer mortalities that are associated with human/deer conflicts (i.e., vehicle collisions and crop damage). The public, DNR Natural Resource Police Officers and DNR Wildlife Resources personnel routinely report nonseasonal mortalities. The WV Department of Transportation, Division of Highways (DOH) -Traffic Engineering Division, provides monthly summaries of vehicle killed deer that are encountered by DOH personnel. DNR Natural Resource Police Officers provide wildlife damage investigation reports from which the number of deer killed for crop damage is obtained.

The reported nonseasonal mortalities from vehicle collisions and crop damage decreased 13% from 20,450 in 2011 to 17,756 in 2012. Deer killed on crop damage permits decreased in three DNR Districts and increased in three DNR Districts. Overall, deer killed through the crop damage permit system was 3,726 in 2011 and 3,638 in 2012, a 2% decline. Reported vehicle kills decreased statewide by 15% in 2012, from 16,724 in 2011 to 14,263 in 2012. Percent change by DNR Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were +14%, -29%, -15%, -20%, -15% and -14%, respectively.

The occurrence of deer reportedly killed by collisions with vehicles and deer reported as killed for crop damage follow similar trends. Although other factors such as deer food supply (such as acorns), number and average speed of vehicles, and crop growing conditions like drought influence these trends, a major factor is deer population (Fig. 3).

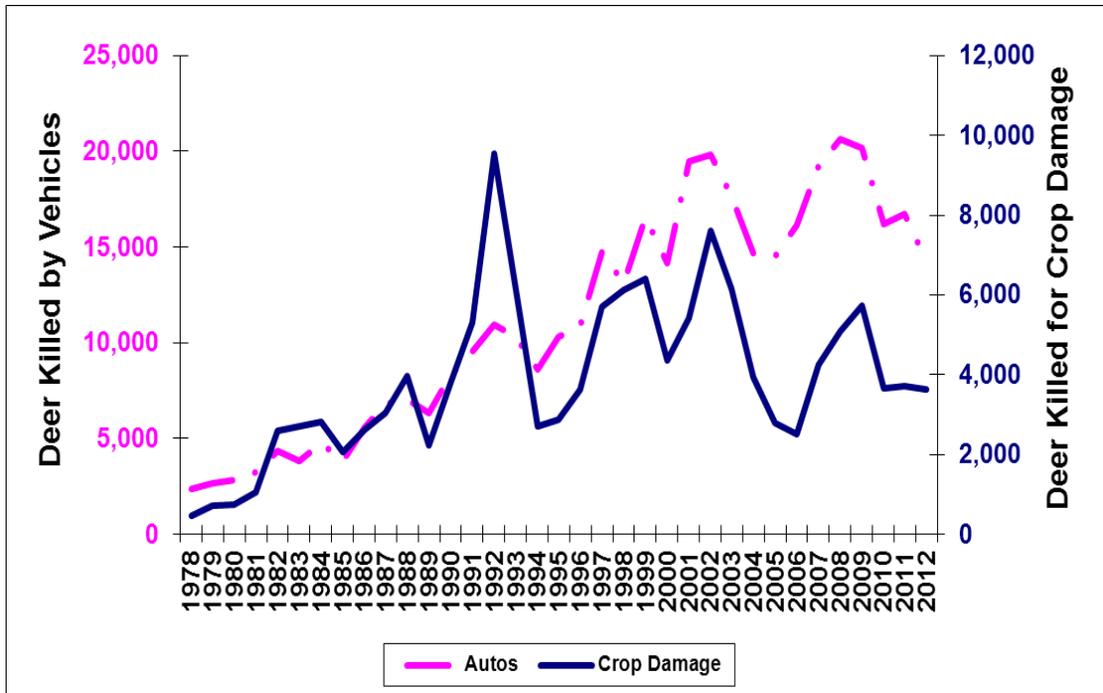


Figure 3. Vehicle and crop damage kills in West Virginia from 1978-2012.

Deer Hunting Outlook

Overall there should be increased deer hunting opportunities for hunters across the state in 2013. The substantial changes made in 2012 to the deer season framework as recommended in the revised White-tailed Deer Operational Plan completed in late December 2011 are proposed to remain in place for the 2013 deer season. In general, the proposed changes made in 2012 were to increase the diversity of deer hunting opportunities, simplify hunting regulations, better distribute antlerless deer harvest to meet deer population goals and limit conflict among wildlife resource user groups. The revised White-tailed Deer Operational Plan also included expanded efforts to monitor the deer herd through the collection of biological information at official game checking stations across the state. In the 2012 deer seasons, DNR personnel examined 3,608 deer from 40 counties to determine age composition of the antlered buck harvest and found 42% of the bucks were yearlings and 23% were 3.5 years of age and older. Expanded tracking of the age composition of the buck harvest and other biological parameters of the deer herd will continue in 2013.

The 2013 deer archery season opening date is proposed to remain the closest Saturday to October 1st as was established in 2012. Uniform and more liberal deer bag limits and season lengths for the urban archery deer seasons available to incorporated cities and homeowner associations put in place for the fall of 2012 are proposed to remain available in 2013.

The 2013 muzzleloader deer season is proposed to open the Monday following the end of the two-week buck firearm season (December 9, 2013). Antlerless deer hunting opportunities for the 2013 muzzleloader season are proposed to be similar to the 2012 muzzleloader deer season regulations. In counties with unlimited Class N/NN antlerless deer permits and an antlerless Class N/NN season bag limit of one or more, hunters would be able to take two deer of either sex during the muzzleloader season, provided the second muzzleloader deer is taken on an additional muzzleloader deer stamp (RM for residents and RMM for nonresident hunters). In counties with limited lottery Class N/NN antlerless season and a one antlerless deer Class N/NN season bag limit, hunters in the 2013 muzzleloader season can take one deer of either sex but the second muzzleloader season deer taken on the RM or RMM additional muzzleloader deer stamp can only be an antlered deer, provided the hunter has not filled the maximum annual bag limit (excluding special urban archery hunts) of three antlered bucks.

For the first time in recent history, 51 counties or portions thereof, are proposed to have a Class N/NN antlerless deer season in 2013 for 21 days on private land and selected public lands. A three-day October Class N/NN antlerless deer season is again proposed for the fall of 2013. The three-day October Class N/NN antlerless deer season in 2012 accounted for 9% of the total recorded Class N/NN antlerless deer season harvest. Thirty-four counties and portions of two counties are proposed to have a three antlerless deer bag limit. Nine counties and portions of eight counties are proposed to have a one antlerless deer bag limit. Again, as in 2012, a split three-day Special Youth, Class Q/QQ and Senior Lifetime Class XS deer season is proposed to be held on October 19th and December 26th and 27th on private and public lands in the 51 counties open to firearms deer season. This season **would be closed** in Logan, Mingo, McDowell, or Wyoming counties. In addition, as in 2012, senior lifetime license holders (Class XS) will be eligible to participate in this split special three-day Special Youth Class Q/QQ and Senior Lifetime License holder antlerless deer only season.

In 10 counties during the 2012 deer seasons, hunters had to harvest an antlerless deer before taking a second antlered buck during archery and gun seasons, respectively. This regulation is proposed again for the 2013 season for 22 counties to encourage deer hunters to harvest antlerless deer but not penalize those that wish to

only harvest one antlered buck. Please refer to the 2013–2014 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary for further details on all deer hunting seasons because the above proposed seasons and bag limits have not been approved by the Natural Resources Commission at this time. White-tailed deer hunting season regulations for 2013 will be published and available to hunters in July of 2013. This newsprint-like pamphlet contains complete information on gun, archery, muzzleloading and antlerless deer hunting, plus other hunting regulations on turkey, bear, boar and small game. Hunters will be able to obtain a copy from any DNR office or any business that sells West Virginia hunting licenses or visit the Wildlife Resources Section on the web at www.wvdnr.gov.

Efforts to control the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in free-ranging deer in Hampshire County by DNR, landowners and hunters are ongoing. In the 2012 deer seasons, samples from 672 hunter-harvested deer brought to game checking stations in Hampshire County, two stations in northern Hardy County and one station in northern Morgan County were tested for CWD. Sixteen samples were found to have the abnormal protein associated with CWD. CWD has now been detected in a total of 131 deer in Hampshire County and two deer in Hardy County. Lowering encounter rates between infected and non-infected animals by prohibiting artificial supplemental feeding and baiting are generally accepted management practices for slowing the spread of an infectious disease among wildlife and initiating these prohibitions on a statewide or regional basis for deer is a major tool used by other states combating CWD. Currently (February 2013) in West Virginia all of Hampshire County, the northern portion of Hardy County north of Corridor H and State Route 55 and the portion of Morgan County west of Route 522 has regulations prohibiting the baiting and feeding of deer. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources have detected CWD positive deer adjacent to Hampshire County in Frederick and Alleghany counties respectively. CWD was first detected in captive deer by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in Adams County. Since then, the Pennsylvania Game Commission and has detected CWD in free-ranging deer in Blair and Bedford counties. Considering the CWD management actions available, documented disease transmission risks associated with artificial supplemental feeding and baiting of deer and the current known distribution of CWD in West Virginia, it would be wise to prohibit and discourage the artificial supplemental feeding and baiting of deer in Hampshire County and in the surrounding counties of Grant, Hardy, Mineral and Morgan. For more information on CWD and the current status of the disease in West Virginia contact any DNR office or visit the Wildlife Resources Section on the web at www.wvdnr.gov.

The 2012 outbreak of hemorrhagic disease (HD) among white-tailed deer across the United States, including West Virginia, will not likely be repeated in 2013. Past outbreaks have occurred in West Virginia in 1981, 1989, 1993, 1996, 2002 and 2007. The 2012 outbreak was unique in that an HD virus serotype first detected in the mid-west in 2006 and then subsequently in 2007 through 2010 mainly in captive deer, now in 2012 represents the predominant serotype isolated in the 2012 outbreak in five states (SCWDS Briefs October 2012).

Table 1. West Virginia antlered buck harvest, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	1,413	1,307	875	1,372	1,177
Brooke	427	377	337	413	405
Hancock	357	339	299	324	320
Harrison	1,680	1,730	1,053	1,494	1,385
Marion	1,489	1,183	764	1,249	1,089
Marshall	1,339	1,321	1,087	1,407	1,294
Monongalia	1,927	1,536	1,116	1,508	1,297
Ohio	485	412	412	467	446
Preston	2,618	2,122	2,034	2,224	2,121
Taylor	808	727	494	768	684
Tucker	951	874	743	738	640
Wetzel	2,210	1,474	958	1,615	1,471
Dist. I Subtotal	15,704	13,402	10,172	13,579	12,329
Berkeley	855	651	661	835	767
Grant	1,531	1,228	959	1,266	1,249
Hampshire	2,153	1,634	1,271	1,676	1,588
Hardy	2,046	1,601	1,315	1,589	1,429
Jefferson	605	461	482	447	526
Mineral	1,383	1,158	947	1,286	1,181
Morgan	806	573	457	601	602
Pendleton	1,416	1,257	893	1,391	1,373
Dist. II Subtotal	10,795	8,563	6,985	9,091	8,715
Braxton	1,731	1,891	986	1,468	1,401
Clay	540	552	353	519	528
Lewis	2,027	2,227	1,130	1,586	1,365
Nicholas	1,082	1,176	846	1,279	1,212
Pocahontas	1,223	1,346	1,100	1,106	1,152
Randolph	2,126	1,930	1,858	2,032	1,804
Upshur	1,536	1,383	1,088	1,612	1,283
Webster	887	901	807	1,063	817
Dist. III Subtotal	11,152	11,406	8,168	10,665	9,562
Fayette	905	896	742	1,005	992
Greenbrier	1,925	1,976	1,367	1,783	1,875
Mercer	537	604	362	647	682
Monroe	1,431	1,569	1,002	1,364	1,567
Raleigh	577	706	446	739	736
Summers	932	931	536	865	1,075
Dist. IV Subtotal	6,307	6,682	4,455	6,403	6,927
Boone	577	628	471	653	898
Cabell	787	695	464	705	750
Kanawha	1,259	1,257	896	1,275	1,164
Lincoln	983	860	747	1,146	1,319
Mason	1,892	2,099	1,298	1,944	1,676
Putnam	1,311	1,065	794	1,170	1,191
Wayne	768	880	570	894	1,041
Dist. V Subtotal	7,577	7,484	5,240	7,787	8,039
Calhoun	1,252	1,124	570	962	770
Doddridge	1,605	1,416	767	1,000	950
Gilmer	1,585	1,398	701	1,029	911
Jackson	1,948	2,504	1,225	1,962	1,628
Pleasants	630	531	332	512	371
Ritchie	2,369	2,010	1,195	1,701	1,512
Roane	2,010	2,112	1,049	1,694	1,391
Tyler	1,590	1,210	833	1,189	922
Wirt	1,186	1,265	659	944	846
Wood	1,655	1,879	1,110	1,639	1,403
Dist. VI Subtotal	15,830	15,449	8,441	12,632	10,704
State Total	67,365	62,986	43,461	60,157	56,276

Table 2. Antlered buck gun harvest by locality in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Monongahela NF	Beaver Dam	79	84	74	53	70
	Blackwater	179	168	164	119	143
	Cheat	93	111	109	100	89
	Cranberry	135	209	184	119	137
	Little River	237	273	252	181	240
	Neola	146	125	110	110	107
	Otter Creek	116	144	112	95	122
	Potomac	327	305	244	256	293
	Rimel	134	115	120	84	91
Tea Creek	70	74	70	47	80	
Monongahela NF Total		1,516	1,608	1,439	1,164	1,372
George Washington NF	Cove Creek	0	0	0	0	1
	Shenandoah	56	38	47	68	72
	Wardensville	226	151	150	139	161
	Wilson Cove	1	0	2	0	0
George Washington NF Total		283	189	199	207	234
Jefferson NF	Potts Creek	51	39	50	22	42
Jefferson NF Total		51	39	50	22	42
State Land	Allegheny	15	6	4	9	12
	Amherst/Plymouth	19	15	17	31	26
	Bear Rocks	0	1	3	0	5
	Becky Creek	11	2	16	4	2
	Beech Fork	9	13	3	10	18
	Beury Mtn	13	14	13	7	19
	Big Ditch	2	1	0	0	4
	Big Ugly	15	15	17	21	22
	Bluestone	17	17	16	23	22
	Briery Mnt	0	0	6	0	0
	Burnsville	22	21	7	16	23
	Cabwaylingo Sf	3	2	3	2	7
	Calvin Price Sf	14	2	5	5	5
	Camp Creek Sf	15	17	5	7	14
	Castleman Run	6	12	8	5	5
	Center Branch	13	9	3	3	4
	Conaway Run	6	8	2	6	3
	Coopers Rock Sf	28	16	19	14	26
	Cornstalk	73	72	61	68	91
	Cross Creek	20	23	20	21	20
	Dents Run WMA	0	0	2	0	3
	Dunkards Fork	1	0	0	1	1
	East Lynn	29	8	14	12	20
	Edwards Run	1	1	5	4	3
	Elk Fork	0	0	0	0	4
	Elk River	63	55	42	67	74
	Fork Creek	2	1	0	0	0
	Fort Mill Ridge	2	2	1	1	0
	Fox Forest	0	0	2	0	0
	Frozen Camp	10	25	12	9	22
	Green Bottom	6	2	2	3	1
	Greenbrier Sf	7	9	11	14	14
	Handley	6	3	4	2	3
	Hilbert	0	0	0	2	3
	Hillcrest	5	0	0	1	0
	Hughes River	50	54	31	43	37
	Huttonsville	7	4	6	8	3

Table 2. Continued.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
State Land	Kanawha Sf	10	16	26	20	29	
	Kumbrabow Sf	18	16	11	13	15	
	Lewis Wetzel	117	70	46	63	127	
	Little Indian Cr	1	2	0	5	6	
	McClintic	4	9	5	6	12	
	Meadow River	0	7	4	3	3	
	Mill Creek	3	1	1	1	2	
	Moncove	7	8	6	9	11	
	Morris Creek	4	10	6	8	18	
	Nathaniel Mnt	54	47	30	31	50	
	New River Gorge	20	32	0	0	0	
	Pedlar	4	8	7	5	3	
	Pleasants Creek	11	7	3	2	18	
	Plum Orchard	10	8	1	1	4	
	Pruntytown	7	11	3	7	11	
	Ritchie Mines	14	3	7	7	3	
	Sand Hill	0	0	0	0	9	
	Seneca Sf	39	32	25	23	35	
	Shannondale	27	12	16	15	24	
	Short Mnt	52	43	49	39	36	
	Sleepy Creek	190	69	77	126	116	
	Smoke Camp	0	2	0	0	1	
	Snake Hill	12	7	5	12	10	
	South Branch	0	1	3	0	1	
	Stonecoal	18	24	11	8	16	
	Stonewall Jck	157	170	95	88	111	
	Stumptown	2	8	0	0	1	
	Summersville	8	12	8	5	7	
	Sutton Res	8	14	1	5	0	
	Tate Lohr	1	1	0	1	0	
	Teter Creek	0	1	1	1	0	
	The Jug	31	16	12	7	19	
	Thom Creek	0	1	0	0	0	
	Underwood	3	9	17	18	4	
	Upper Mud River	2	3	3	3	8	
	Wallback	9	27	6	13	16	
	Widmyer	0	1	0	0	1	
	Woodrum	0	0	0	0	1	
	State Land Total		1,333	1,138	845	964	1,244
	Private Land		64,182	60,002	40,926	57,800	53,366
	Unknown		0	10	2	0	18
	State Total		67,365	62,986	43,461	60,157	56,276

Table 3. West Virginia white-tailed deer archery harvest, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	678	522	429	509	383
Brooke	299	297	215	259	312
Hancock	402	419	343	377	439
Harrison	563	572	466	544	653
Marion	670	494	366	516	484
Marshall	449	409	392	393	399
Monongalia	870	685	691	776	779
Ohio	222	227	213	255	309
Preston	1,473	1,213	1,140	1,322	1,131
Taylor	375	286	273	287	285
Tucker	597	431	407	405	295
Wetzel	525	353	222	326	292
Dist. I Subtotal	7,123	5,908	5,157	5,969	5,761
Berkeley	465	457	374	436	414
Grant	535	453	301	404	355
Hampshire	400	317	179	245	256
Hardy	479	441	269	358	287
Jefferson	385	361	354	382	392
Mineral	378	323	238	351	303
Morgan	264	225	164	159	146
Pendleton	413	372	233	367	293
Dist. II Subtotal	3,319	2,949	2,112	2,702	2,446
Braxton	736	661	400	520	412
Clay	329	309	209	240	253
Lewis	588	610	352	433	376
Nicholas	864	842	652	883	701
Pocahontas	396	408	348	402	325
Randolph	1,286	1,048	1,011	1,163	781
Upshur	710	603	472	748	488
Webster	650	628	528	728	520
Dist. III Subtotal	5,559	5,109	3,972	5,117	3,856
Fayette	723	752	516	791	719
Greenbrier	777	832	556	738	756
McDowell	739	609	412	464	571
Mercer	575	547	331	589	574
Monroe	641	645	370	551	534
Raleigh	664	718	595	812	889
Summers	620	526	335	484	534
Wyoming	747	681	560	772	765
Dist. IV Subtotal	5,486	5,310	3,675	5,201	5,342
Boone	381	380	349	317	434
Cabell	444	387	303	357	389
Kanawha	919	939	723	884	872
Lincoln	428	428	418	467	558
Logan	714	729	469	591	748
Mason	861	778	691	788	666
Mingo	343	329	259	284	368
Putnam	611	542	446	561	539
Wayne	366	326	311	307	388
Dist. V Subtotal	5,067	4,838	3,969	4,556	4,962
Calhoun	384	299	202	241	212
Doddridge	278	279	167	217	204
Gilmer	420	348	200	280	212
Jackson	751	795	505	669	598
Pleasants	139	108	84	116	95
Ritchie	601	486	390	473	377
Roane	661	632	400	484	418
Tyler	421	272	258	298	256
Wirt	433	391	274	332	299
Wood	766	758	597	749	676
Dist. VI Subtotal	4,854	4,368	3,077	3,859	3,347
State Total	31,408	28,482	21,962	27,404	25,714

Table 4. Deer archery harvest by locality in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Monongahela NF	Beaver Dam	38	42	24	34	17
	Blackwater	99	96	80	45	41
	Cheat	55	39	40	34	23
	Cranberry	90	84	72	93	57
	Little River	106	99	89	71	59
	Neola	27	24	13	9	14
	Otter Creek	63	30	45	43	25
	Potomac	148	134	82	85	69
	Rimel	17	12	22	10	11
	Tea Creek	13	13	13	13	10
Monongahela NF Total		656	573	480	437	326
George Washington NF	Shenandoah	20	11	10	14	12
	Wardensville	49	31	24	23	21
George Washington NF Total		69	42	34	37	33
	Potts Creek	6	9	9	8	8
Jefferson NF Total		6	9	9	8	8
State Land	Allegheny	2	1	4	8	3
	Amherst/Plymouth	6	4	2	6	7
	Anawalt	0	1	3	1	1
	Bear Rocks	2	3	1	1	3
	Becky Creek	5	2	7	1	0
	Beech Fork	13	9	5	4	15
	Berwind	3	3	1	0	2
	Beury Mtn	13	16	6	14	13
	Big Ditch	2	2	1	1	2
	Big Ugly	5	4	2	5	5
	Bluestone	60	27	20	39	28
	Briery Mnt	1	1	0	1	0
	Burches Run	1	0	0	0	0
	Burnsville	49	31	19	24	18
	Cabwaylingo Sf	0	2	2	1	4
	Calvin Price Sf	0	2	0	4	0
	Camp Creek Sf	6	3	0	7	5
	Castleman Run	8	3	2	4	9
	Center Branch	1	3	3	4	2
	Chief Logan WMA	0	0	0	2	0
	Conaway Run	0	0	2	0	3
	Coopers Rock Sf	19	7	13	10	8
	Cornstalk	48	31	39	30	37
	Cross Creek	4	6	4	4	5
	Dents Run WMA	0	0	1	0	3
	East Lynn	3	5	5	0	2
	Edwards Run	1	0	0	2	2
	Elk Creek	8	12	6	2	12
	Elk River	32	37	35	24	19
	Fork Creek	0	1	0	1	0
	Fort Mill Ridge	1	0	0	0	1
	Frozen Camp	0	2	4	0	5
	Graystone	69	60	0	0	0
	Green Bottom	1	4	5	3	3
	Greenbrier Sf	1	2	2	5	0
	Greystone	10	11	0	0	0
	Handley	2	0	1	1	0
Hilbert	0	0	0	1	0	
Hillcrest	15	7	17	15	9	
Horse Crk	8	0	0	0	0	
Hughes River	10	5	10	12	8	
Huttonsville	2	1	4	1	1	

Table 4. Continued.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
State Land	Kanawha Sf	5	4	10	7	12
	Kumbrabow Sf	0	6	5	2	3
	Laurel Lake	13	9	8	8	3
	Lewis Wetzel	10	5	9	8	16
	Little Indian Cr	1	0	4	2	3
	McClintic	8	7	19	3	13
	Meadow River	4	5	1	2	0
	Mill Creek	0	0	0	1	0
	Moncove	1	1	0	0	1
	Morris Creek	3	1	2	2	9
	Mount Wood Park	14	10	0	0	0
	Nathaniel Mnt	1	4	1	2	1
	New River Gorge	15	18	0	0	0
	Panther Sf	25	21	6	10	19
	Pedlar	5	3	4	2	3
	Pleasants Creek	16	1	10	9	17
	Plum Orchard	9	3	2	4	5
	Pruntytown	1	3	2	4	1
	R D Bailey	117	87	18	20	36
	Ritchie Mines	0	0	1	1	0
	Ronceverte	2	0	0	0	0
	Sand Hill	0	0	0	0	2
	Seneca Sf	11	7	5	2	6
	Shannondale	23	18	22	14	12
	Short Mnt	6	2	4	9	1
	Sleepy Creek	25	26	13	19	23
	Snake Hill	6	4	5	0	5
	South Branch	5	2	0	1	2
	Stonecoal	4	2	3	5	4
	Stonewall Jck	60	53	28	33	39
	Stonewall Resort	3	0	0	0	0
	Stumptown	0	1	1	0	1
	Summersville	14	11	9	9	7
	Sutton Res	1	0	0	0	0
	Teter Creek	2	0	0	0	0
	The Crossings	0	21	0	0	0
	The Jug	0	0	4	0	4
	Tug Fork	7	0	1	0	0
	Underwood	1	0	1	1	3
	Upper Mud River	4	3	7	1	1
	Wallback	1	6	5	6	2
	Whitings Neck	11	11	0	0	0
	Widmyer	0	1	0	0	2
	Woodrum	0	0	0	0	1
State Land Total		845	664	436	425	492
Private Land		29,832	27,171	20,997	26,444	24,632
Unknown		0	23	6	53	223
State Total		31,408	28,482	21,962	27,404	25,714

Table 5. West Virginia antlerless harvest, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	1,733	1,580	1,184	1,025	897
Brooke	560	590	501	385	596
Hancock	444	545	373	389	484
Harrison	1,919	1,939	1,208	1,323	1,491
Marion	1,538	1,488	895	965	1,132
Marshall	1,208	1,257	926	1,075	1,299
Monongalia	1,712	1,589	1,235	1,273	1,326
Ohio	443	477	348	351	475
Preston	2,832	2,421	1,920	1,974	2,313
Taylor	889	875	662	709	747
Tucker	702	582	266	440	458
Wetzel	1,872	1,417	942	974	1,172
Dist. I Subtotal	15,852	14,760	10,460	10,883	12,390
Berkeley	775	728	557	674	647
Grant	1,116	954	559	622	661
Hampshire	1,850	1,575	905	1,089	1,103
Hardy	1,694	1,610	800	874	987
Jefferson	565	529	410	461	517
Mineral	1,171	1,160	861	861	993
Morgan	793	723	477	380	470
Pendleton	979	1,046	358	576	705
Dist. II Subtotal	8,943	8,325	4,927	5,537	6,083
Braxton	1,556	1,656	1,032	1,368	1,239
Clay	44	172	114	38	151
Lewis	2,132	2,583	1,350	1,511	1,575
Nicholas	179	267	197	348	588
Pocahontas	81	93	267	556	384
Randolph	292	724	539	1,434	1,331
Upshur	1,485	1,307	1,021	1,361	1,587
Webster	134	164	131	246	500
Dist. III Subtotal	5,903	6,966	4,651	6,862	7,355
Fayette	856	357	73	186	400
Greenbrier	1,273	1,145	574	777	815
Mercer	441	414	110	54	75
Monroe	1,487	1,745	952	823	916
Raleigh	296	75	57	193	128
Summers	1,039	1,041	329	128	1,156
Dist. IV Subtotal	5,392	4,777	2,095	2,161	3,490
Boone	25	34	51	61	89
Cabell	627	560	452	377	420
Kanawha	718	649	547	674	631
Lincoln	60	54	225	120	654
Mason	2,390	2,204	1,617	2,142	2,006
Putnam	1,382	1,020	840	838	1,113
Wayne	313	324	242	290	369
Dist. V Subtotal	5,515	4,845	3,974	4,502	5,282
Calhoun	918	1,004	527	644	765
Doddridge	1,113	1,233	550	741	730
Gilmer	1,447	1,165	664	708	639
Jackson	2,104	2,508	1,270	1,800	1,805
Pleasants	461	509	347	329	363
Ritchie	2,087	2,069	1,188	1,184	1,339
Roane	1,587	1,603	1,050	1,204	1,154
Tyler	1,566	1,440	899	1,023	920
Wirt	1,225	1,240	753	986	952
Wood	2,108	2,070	1,245	1,698	1,659
Dist. VI Subtotal	14,616	14,841	8,493	10,317	10,326
State Total	56,221	54,514	34,600	40,262	44,926

Table 6. Antlerless harvest by locality in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Monongahela NF	Beaver Dam	0	0	0	1	0
	Blackwater	114	85	44	35	47
	Cheat	1	0	0	0	0
	Cranberry	2	0	2	0	11
	Little River	2	0	1	0	6
	Neola	1	2	0	1	1
	Otter Creek	33	24	7	10	6
	Potomac	160	153	17	18	86
	Rimel	1	0	0	0	0
	Tea Creek	0	0	0	0	5
Monongahela NF Total		314	264	71	65	162
George Washington NF	Shenandoah	41	25	2	0	14
	Wardensville	83	51	39	24	58
George Washington NF Total		124	76	41	24	72
	Potts Creek	8	16	3	1	6
Jefferson NF Total		8	16	3	1	6
State Land	Allegheny	3	7	5	0	4
	Amherst/Plymouth	13	7	13	16	13
	Bear Rocks	0	1	3	3	7
	Becky Creek	3	5	2	1	0
	Beech Fork	21	21	13	10	10
	Beury Mtn	37	0	12	26	3
	Big Ditch	0	0	0	1	1
	Big Ugly	2	2	0	1	3
	Bluestone	145	169	83	41	169
	Briery Mnt	5	3	0	0	0
	Burches Run	0	0	0	2	1
	Burnsville	28	47	51	64	76
	Cabwaylingo Sf	1	0	0	1	0
	Calvin Price Sf	0	0	0	0	1
	Camp Creek Sf	2	3	0	2	0
	Castleman Run	4	7	9	3	11
	Center Branch	12	11	10	3	3
	Conaway Run	3	3	3	2	2
	Coopers Rock Sf	55	42	65	42	52
	Cornstalk	127	76	79	102	94
	Cross Creek	8	8	16	7	18
	Dents Run WMA	0	0	0	1	3
	Dunkards Fork	1	1	0	0	1
	East Lynn	1	4	5	2	4
	Edwards Run	3	0	1	7	2
	Elk Fork	0	0	0	0	5
	Elk River	1	36	27	15	35
	Fort Mill Ridge	1	0	2	2	1
	Frozen Camp	43	40	23	17	17
	Green Bottom	0	2	1	1	2
	Greenbrier Sf	0	3	0	0	0
	Hilbert	0	0	0	0	2
	Hillcrest	4	12	4	13	14
Hughes River	61	45	30	27	53	
Huttonsville	0	7	0	2	0	

Table 6. Continued.

Area	Locality	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
State Land	Kumbrabow Sf	0	0	2	0	0
	Lewis Wetzel	50	27	19	32	38
	Little Indian Cr	1	3	2	13	12
	McClintic	49	31	26	56	29
	Meadow River	15	9	0	5	4
	Mill Creek	0	1	0	1	0
	Moncove	5	5	1	2	4
	Morris Creek	0	2	1	2	0
	Mount Wood Park	0	7	0	0	0
	Nathaniel Mnt	8	13	1	7	9
	New River Gorge	24	11	0	0	0
	Ohio River Islan	0	1	0	0	0
	Pedlar	4	9	6	4	1
	Pleasants Creek	8	12	13	5	13
	Plum Orchard	1	0	2	4	3
	Pruntytown	7	20	2	7	8
	Ritchie Mines	6	9	4	5	4
	Seneca Sf	0	0	0	0	1
	Shannondale	27	19	18	22	33
	Short Mnt	42	22	21	16	23
	Sleepy Creek	108	70	42	57	100
	Smoke Camp	0	0	0	0	2
	Snake Hill	3	9	2	8	4
	South Branch	3	3	1	1	3
	Stonecoal	16	3	7	5	14
	Stonewall Jck	84	196	90	115	119
	Stonewall Resort	67	57	0	0	0
	Stumptown	16	5	7	0	2
	Sutton Res	2	2	1	2	0
	Tate Lohr	4	1	0	0	0
	Teter Creek	0	2	0	1	0
	The Jug	15	13	16	11	18
	Underwood	4	6	11	3	4
	Upper Mud River	0	1	0	2	11
	Wallback	0	0	1	0	1
	Widmyer	1	0	0	0	1
Woodrum	0	0	2	0	2	
State Land Total		1,154	1,131	755	800	1,070
Private Land		54,621	53,020	33,724	39,372	43,607
Unknown		0	7	6	0	9
State Total		56,221	54,514	34,600	40,262	44,926

Table 7. Muzzleloader harvests in West Virginia, 2008-2012.

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Barbour	256	247	226	186	131
Brooke	63	96	88	72	49
Hancock	100	121	103	97	75
Harrison	241	268	197	240	135
Marion	179	177	128	152	85
Marshall	208	227	177	201	106
Monongalia	195	189	185	230	111
Ohio	66	62	65	63	40
Preston	323	450	314	294	243
Taylor	105	102	130	119	66
Tucker	159	105	140	163	85
Wetzel	246	247	118	185	136
Dist. I Subtotal	2,141	2,291	1,871	2,002	1,262
Berkeley	91	118	109	142	64
Grant	231	278	124	139	120
Hampshire	216	224	119	180	81
Hardy	196	213	128	172	83
Jefferson	78	82	55	73	46
Mineral	149	162	137	168	99
Morgan	111	108	81	74	46
Pendleton	164	209	50	139	81
Dist. II Subtotal	1,236	1,394	803	1,087	620
Braxton	541	333	271	362	238
Clay	7	39	28	17	36
Lewis	399	455	225	301	157
Nicholas	33	33	36	46	242
Pocahontas	19	18	106	120	64
Randolph	36	310	398	450	253
Upshur	233	195	176	234	154
Webster	9	20	24	26	200
Dist. III Subtotal	1,277	1,403	1,264	1,556	1,344
Fayette	181	175	18	38	191
Greenbrier	216	240	115	175	109
Mercer	78	120	28	34	27
Monroe	189	275	146	150	129
Raleigh	91	36	22	19	12
Summers	167	134	82	42	122
Dist. IV Subtotal	922	980	411	458	590
Boone	21	25	15	23	24
Cabell	93	126	86	80	66
Kanawha	119	154	123	173	72
Lincoln	38	44	167	57	81
Mason	321	308	245	311	173
Putnam	160	147	131	152	100
Wayne	73	84	45	60	74
Dist. V Subtotal	825	888	812	856	590
Calhoun	165	194	102	120	62
Doddridge	180	197	78	136	55
Gilmer	271	240	101	189	91
Jackson	285	380	200	358	177
Pleasants	54	57	53	64	30
Ritchie	301	288	181	192	101
Roane	277	212	141	223	101
Tyler	202	192	124	166	93
Wirt	210	224	154	216	94
Wood	263	292	181	250	135
Dist. VI Subtotal	2,208	2,276	1,315	1,914	939
State Total	8,609	9,232	6,476	7,873	5,345

Table 8. Deer mortality by type of season in West Virginia, 2012.

County	Buck Gun	Antlerless	Archery	Muzzleloader	Total
Barbour	1,177	897	383	131	2,588
Brooke	405	596	312	49	1,362
Hancock	320	484	439	75	1,318
Harrison	1,385	1,491	653	135	3,664
Marion	1,089	1,132	484	85	2,790
Marshall	1,294	1,299	399	106	3,098
Monongalia	1,297	1,326	779	111	3,513
Ohio	446	475	309	40	1,270
Preston	2,121	2,313	1,131	243	5,808
Taylor	684	747	285	66	1,782
Tucker	640	458	295	85	1,478
Wetzel	1,471	1,172	292	136	3,071
Dist. I Subtotal	12,329	12,390	5,761	1,262	31,742
Berkeley	767	647	414	64	1,892
Grant	1,249	661	355	120	2,385
Hampshire	1,588	1,103	256	81	3,028
Hardy	1,429	987	287	83	2,786
Jefferson	526	517	392	46	1,481
Mineral	1,181	993	303	99	2,576
Morgan	602	470	146	46	1,264
Pendleton	1,373	705	293	81	2,452
Dist. II Subtotal	8,715	6,083	2,446	620	17,864
Braxton	1,401	1,239	412	238	3,290
Clay	528	151	253	36	968
Lewis	1,365	1,575	376	157	3,473
Nicholas	1,212	588	701	242	2,743
Pocahontas	1,152	384	325	64	1,925
Randolph	1,804	1,331	781	253	4,169
Upshur	1,283	1,587	488	154	3,512
Webster	817	500	520	200	2,037
Dist. III Subtotal	9,562	7,355	3,856	1,344	22,117
Fayette	992	400	719	191	2,302
Greenbrier	1,875	815	756	109	3,555
McDowell	0	0	571	0	571
Mercer	682	75	574	27	1,358
Monroe	1,567	916	534	129	3,146
Raleigh	736	128	889	12	1,765
Summers	1,075	1,156	534	122	2,887
Wyoming	0	0	765	0	765
Dist. IV Subtotal	6,927	3,490	5,342	590	16,349
Boone	898	89	434	24	1,445
Cabell	750	420	389	66	1,625
Kanawha	1,164	631	872	72	2,739
Lincoln	1,319	654	558	81	2,612
Logan	0	0	748	0	748
Mason	1,676	2,006	666	173	4,521
Mingo	0	0	368	0	368
Putnam	1,191	1,113	539	100	2,943
Wayne	1,041	369	388	74	1,872
Dist. V Subtotal	8,039	5,282	4,962	590	18,873
Calhoun	770	765	212	62	1,809
Doddridge	950	730	204	55	1,939
Gilmer	911	639	212	91	1,853
Jackson	1,628	1,805	598	177	4,208
Pleasants	371	363	95	30	859
Ritchie	1,512	1,339	377	101	3,329
Roane	1,391	1,154	418	101	3,064
Tyler	922	920	256	93	2,191
Wirt	846	952	299	94	2,191
Wood	1,403	1,659	676	135	3,873
Dist. VI Subtotal	10,704	10,326	3,347	939	25,316
State Total	56,276	44,926	25,714	5,345	132,261

Table 9. West Virginia 2012 deer kill per square mile of habitat by season (calculated using deer habitat open by county for season, all seasons combined kill based on total deer habitat for county).

County	Area	Bucks	Antlerless	Muzzleloader	Archery	All Seasons Combined
Barbour	328	3.59	2.73	0.40	1.17	7.89
Brooke	72	5.61	8.26	0.68	4.32	18.87
Hancock	64	5.04	7.62	1.18	6.91	20.74
Harrison	379	3.65	3.93	0.36	1.72	9.67
Marion	286	3.81	3.96	0.30	1.69	9.76
Marshall	294	4.41	4.43	0.36	1.36	10.56
Monongalia	310	4.18	4.28	0.36	2.51	11.34
Ohio	82	5.42	5.77	0.49	3.75	15.43
Preston	632	3.36	3.66	0.38	1.79	9.19
Taylor	160	4.28	4.67	0.41	1.78	11.14
Tucker	402	1.59	1.14	0.21	0.73	3.68
Wetzel	350	4.20	3.35	0.39	0.83	8.77
Dist. I Subtotal	3,359	3.67	3.69	0.38	1.72	9.45
Berkeley	297	2.58	2.18	0.22	1.39	6.37
Grant	471	2.65	1.40	0.25	0.75	5.06
Hampshire	631	2.52	1.75	0.13	0.41	4.80
Hardy	569	2.51	1.73	0.15	0.50	4.90
Jefferson	198	2.65	2.61	0.23	1.98	7.47
Mineral	319	3.70	3.11	0.31	0.95	8.08
Morgan	213	2.83	2.21	0.22	0.69	5.94
Pendleton	690	1.99	1.33	0.12	0.42	3.55
Dist. II Subtotal	3,388	2.57	1.88	0.18	0.72	5.27
Braxton	501	2.80	2.47	0.48	0.82	6.57
Clay	338	1.56	1.39	0.11	0.75	2.87
Lewis	373	3.66	4.22	0.42	1.01	9.30
Nicholas	632	1.92	1.52	0.38	1.11	4.34
Pocahontas	911	1.27	0.89	0.07	0.36	2.11
Randolph	1,019	1.77	1.88	0.25	0.77	4.09
Upshur	343	3.74	4.63	0.45	1.42	10.24
Webster	535	1.53	0.93	0.37	0.97	3.81
Dist. III Subtotal	4,652	2.06	2.17	0.29	0.83	4.75
Fayette	629	1.58	1.00	0.30	1.14	3.66
Greenbrier	991	1.89	2.32	0.11	0.76	3.59
McDowell	515			0.00	1.11	1.11
Mercer	380	1.79	0.20	0.07	1.51	3.57
Monroe	463	3.38	1.98	0.28	1.15	6.80
Raleigh	562	1.31	0.23	0.02	1.58	3.14
Summers	341	3.15	3.39	0.36	1.57	8.46
Wyoming	481			0.00	1.59	1.59
Dist. IV Subtotal	4,361	1.59	2.25	0.14	1.22	3.75
Boone	485	1.85	0.18	0.05	0.90	2.98
Cabell	240	3.13	1.75	0.28	1.62	6.78
Kanawha	798	1.46	2.21	0.09	1.09	3.43
Lincoln	426	3.09	2.73	0.19	1.31	6.13
Logan	422			0.00	1.77	1.77
Mason	413	4.05	4.85	0.42	1.61	10.93
Mingo	404			0.00	0.91	0.91
Putnam	320	3.72	3.47	0.31	1.68	9.19
Wayne	485	2.15	1.40	0.15	0.80	3.86
Dist. V Subtotal	3,993	2.01	3.00	0.15	1.24	4.73
Calhoun	276	2.79	2.77	0.22	0.77	6.56
Doddridge	316	3.01	2.31	0.17	0.65	6.14
Gilmer	330	2.76	1.93	0.28	0.64	5.61
Jackson	447	3.64	4.04	0.40	1.34	9.41
Pleasants	125	2.96	2.89	0.24	0.76	6.85
Ritchie	443	3.41	3.02	0.23	0.85	7.51
Roane	476	2.92	2.43	0.21	0.88	6.44
Tyler	252	3.66	3.65	0.37	1.02	8.70
Wirt	230	3.68	4.14	0.41	1.30	9.54
Wood	325	4.32	5.11	0.42	2.08	11.92
Dist. VI Subtotal	3,220	3.32	3.21	0.29	1.04	7.86
State Total	22,972	2.45	2.72	0.23	1.12	5.76

*Note counties or portions thereof not open to Class N antlerless deer season include special youth, Class Q/QQ and Class XS season harvest however antlerless kill per square mile is calculated only on area open to Class N season if a portion of the county is closed to Class N season.



Your purchase
of hunting equipment
supports
Wildlife Restoration



Wildlife Resources Section

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

324 Fourth Avenue
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303

304.558.2771
Fax: 304.558.3147

Cover Photo: Tink Smith
Inset photo: Rich Rogers

It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, services, programs,
and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, age, religion, national
origin or ancestry, disability, or other protected group status. 8.5M 3/13