

2008 Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge Deer Harvest

Total 240 deer harvested and retrieved by hunters:

- 136 adult does
- 30 fawn does
- 52 adult bucks
- 22 fawn bucks

8 deer not retrieved:

- 7 adult does
- 0 fawn does
- 1 adult buck
- 0 fawn bucks

Number of permits: 908

Number of hunters: 714

Overall success: 34%

Available slots not filled by active hunter: 194

% Success by Method and Season/Hunt Period

Early archery season:

212 permits, 2 hunt periods, 48 deer harvested

Overall success rate: 29%, 168 hunters

Successful applicants choosing not to hunt: 43 hunters, 20%

Hunt 201: 24 deer taken, 90 hunters - 27% success

131 permits

7 permits not picked up

- 33 didn't hunt

- 0 no response

- 214 days in the field

- 2.4 days per hunter

- 1180 total hours

Hunt 202: 24 deer taken, 78 hunters - 31% success

81 permits

0 permits not picked up

- 3 didn't hunt

- 0 no response

- 307 days in the field

- 3.9 days per hunter

- 2,610 total hours

Special shotgun season:

237 permits, 6 hunt periods, 84 deer harvested

Overall success rate: 47%, 180 hunters

Successful applicants choosing not to hunt: 56 hunters, 24%

Hunt 205: 8 deer taken, 14 hunters - 57% success

Non-ambulatory Hunt

19 permits

3 permits not picked up

2 didn't hunt

0 no response

20 days in the field

1.4 days per hunter (+ .2)

114 total hours

Hunt 206: 6 deer taken, 16 hunters - 38% success

Non-ambulatory Hunt

18 permits

1 permit not picked up

1 didn't hunt

0 no response

29 days in the field

1.8 days per hunter (+ .5)

221 total hours

Hunt 207: 34 deer taken, 58 hunters - 30% success

Antlerless General Shotgun

75 permits

6 permits not picked up

9 didn't hunt

3 no response

88 days in the field

1.5 days per hunter

513 total hours

Hunt 208: 4 deer taken, 13 hunters - 31% success

Antlerless General Shotgun

25 permits

3 permits not picked up

9 didn't hunt

0 no response

20 days in the field

1.5 days per hunter (-0.1)

131 total hours

Hunt 209: 25 deer taken, 58 hunters - 41% success

Antlerless General shotgun

75 permits

2 permits not picked up

13 didn't hunt

0 no response

85 days in field

1.5 days per hunter

538 total hours

Hunt 210: 7 deer taken, 21 hunters - 33% success

Antlerless only

25 permits

1 permit not picked up

3 didn't hunt

0 no response

30 days in the field

1.4 days per hunter (+0.2)

192 total hours

Muzzleloader season:

257 permits, 6 hunt periods, 74 deer harvested

Overall success rate: 38%, 196 hunters

Successful applicants choosing not to hunt: 59 hunters, 23%

Hunt 211: 30 deer taken, 49 hunters - 61% success

Antlerless only

65 permits

2 permits not picked up

13 didn't hunt

0 no response

70 days in the field

1.4 days per hunter

445 total hours

Hunt 212: 5 deer taken, 14 hunters - 36% success

Antlerless only

20 permits

2 permits not picked up

4 didn't hunt

0 no response

26 days in the field

1.9 days per hunter (+ .5)

208 total hours

Hunt 213: 26 deer taken, 50 hunters - 52% success

Antlerless only

66 permits

4 permits not picked up

11 didn't hunt

1 no response

61 days in the field

1.2 days per hunter (-.3)

408 total hours

Hunt 214: 5 deer taken, 14 hunters - 36% success

Antlerless only

20 permits

0 permits not picked up

5 didn't hunt

1 no response

19 days in the field

1.4 days per hunter

120 total hours

Hunt 215: 7 deer taken, 53 hunters - 13% success

Either sex

65 permits

3 permits not picked up

8 didn't hunt

0 no response

75 days in the field

1.4 days per hunter (- .2)

574 total hours

Hunt 216: 1 deer taken, 16 hunters - 6% success

Either sex

21 permits

1 permit not picked up

4 didn't hunt

0 no response

24 days in the field

1.5 days per hunter

181 total hours

Late archery season

202 permits, 2 hunt periods, 34 deer harvested

Overall success rate: 20%, 170 hunters

Successful applicants choosing not to hunt: 29 hunters, 14%

Hunt 203: 18 deer taken, 89 hunters - 20% success

101 permits

7 permits not picked up

3 didn't hunt

2 no response

308 days in the field

3.5 days per hunter (+ .2)

2,219 total hours

Hunt 204: 16 deer taken, 81 hunters - 20% success

101 permits

9 permits not picked up

11 didn't hunt

0 no response

262 days in the field

3.2 days per hunter (-0.3)

1,834 total hours

Comments

Good comments - 179

Bad comments - 23

Longer hunt periods - 12

More scouting dates - 8

Poor sex ratios - 12

Too many hunters - 6

Too few hunters -

Lots of deer - 34

No deer - 25

No bucks - 8

More mature deer - 7

Harvest more does - 6

Minimum antler limit - 5

Earn a buck - 5

Bonus point only for harvesting an antlerless deer - 2

Allow to harvest both sexes during either sex hunts 2 Deer - 2

Mandatory deer check in - 1

Too many fawns being shot - 2

Bucks had already dropped antlers - 3

More law enforcement - 3

Better access to interior - 4

Pedestrians on trail during hunt - 4

Hunters driving deer or wandering - 2

Confusion over interior signage no trespassing – 1
Help retrieving deer - 1
Post harvest figures -
Put survey form on web site –
Suspicious deer hunters on refuge - 2

Too many coyotes - 2
Deer look healthy – 1

Too much corn - 3
Cut trees - 1

Give me my points back because I had poor hunt - 2
Doe hunts after buck hunts - 1
Allow helper permits - 1

Better maps – 1
Keep trappers out during hunting periods - 1

Too much vehicle disturbance - 1
Poor hunter behavior - 3
Lots of water – 16
Bad weather - 48
More access over waterways - 2
Label the trail names on the provided map – 1
Get someone good to manage the deer – 1
No cover – 1
Plow roads – 14
Lights in parking lots – 1
Publish Deer locations – 1
Charge less for permits and licenses – 2
Statement saying hunter must have valid state tag for buck – 1
Have emergency # refuge & rescue on permit - 1
Have either sex shotgun hunt – 1
Don't overlap state and federal hunt periods – 1
Dredge Spaulding Drain – 1
Don't harvest corn during hunts – 1
Weekend hunts only – 3
Better signage on trails – 1
Build snow piles up to help load deer – 1
Have additional buck tag for refuge hunts - 2