

Maryland Deer Management

Strategies to Address Population and Damage Concerns



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INTRODUCTION

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) are one of the most recognizable wildlife species in Maryland. They are admired by wildlife watchers and hunters alike and remain the state's most popular game species. Over 50,000 hunters pursue deer for a combined 650,000 days annually. In their pursuit of deer, hunters and wildlife watchers generate hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue annually for the state's economy.

While deer are very important for the state, they also negatively impact the economic livelihood of Maryland farmers, arborists, and motorists. It is estimated that deer do millions of dollars in damage annually to farmers' crops as a result of browsing. Their feeding activities are also detrimental to forest regeneration and private and commercial landscaping. Lastly, approximately 30,000 deer are struck annually on Maryland roadways incurring significant costs for motorists.

Divergent interests and opinions concerning deer present significant management challenges to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources ('DNR' or 'the department'), the state agency responsible for managing Maryland's wildlife. Establishing deer population goals that satisfy a myriad of constituents and achieving those goals is one of the most challenging aspects of managing deer today. The department routinely uses stakeholder groups and solicits public opinion via meetings and professional surveys in order to address the varied interests of Marylanders in deer management. Policies and regulations concerning deer are developed to address the concerns raised by many constituents while recognizing that oftentimes no one will be completely satisfied with the outcome.

Lethal control is required if deer population goals are to be met. Accordingly, the department has established some of the most liberal deer hunting seasons in the United States. Hunters harvest 40,000 – 50,000 antlerless deer and approximately 30,000 antlered deer annually, which significantly contributes to managing the state's deer population. The department also offers Deer Management Permits that can be used by agricultural and forest landowners 365 days a year to remove deer. In addition, and somewhat unique to Maryland, the Department offers a Deer Cooperator License that permits sharpshooting deer at night under certain conditions and during certain times of the year. Approximately 10,000 deer are harvested annually using the various permitting methods. Lastly, the department also provides outreach and education concerning non-lethal deer management techniques including fencing and repellants. However, these methods are generally applicable to smaller scale operations and do not contribute to the overall reduction in deer populations.

Currently, the most significant barrier to deer management success is access to land for deer hunting. A sufficient proportion of the landscape must be available for lethal control. Unfortunately, far too much land in the state is either inaccessible for deer hunting or is not hunted effectively. There must be adequate hunting pressure on deer and antlerless deer must be targeted. Without adequate access afforded to hunters by individual landowners, deer numbers in some areas will remain above department goals, causing conflicts with human residents.

Legislation passed in 2023 charged the department with developing a plan in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) to address the overpopulation of deer in the state. The plan, presented here, is to include strategies to better manage deer. Included are strategies to assess the feasibility and possible constraints of using rotational closure of land to other activities so that deer hunting can occur and input from public landowners regarding expanded opportunities on their lands. To help inform this effort, MDA hosted a Deer Summit in 2023 to obtain public input from landowners and other community members concerning deer management. DNR was also present to answer questions and provide information. Along with this plan, additional information concerning deer management in Maryland can be found in the existing DNR deer management plan available [online](#).

POPULATION STATUS

Maryland's statewide white-tailed deer population currently remains stable (Fig. 1). The department uses a population reconstruction model to estimate deer population size based on the total annual deer harvest and biological data collected by staff at deer processors during the hunting season. The population increased from an estimated 135,000 deer in 1988 to a high of nearly 300,000 individuals in 2002 before declining to an estimated low of 200,000 in 2014. For the past two decades the population has remained between 200,000 and 250,000 deer. Liberal seasons and bag limits enacted for antlerless deer have successfully stabilized and/or reduced deer populations in many areas. However, in areas with limited access for hunting, the deer population often remains higher than desired.

Maryland White-tailed Deer Population Trend, 1988 - 2022

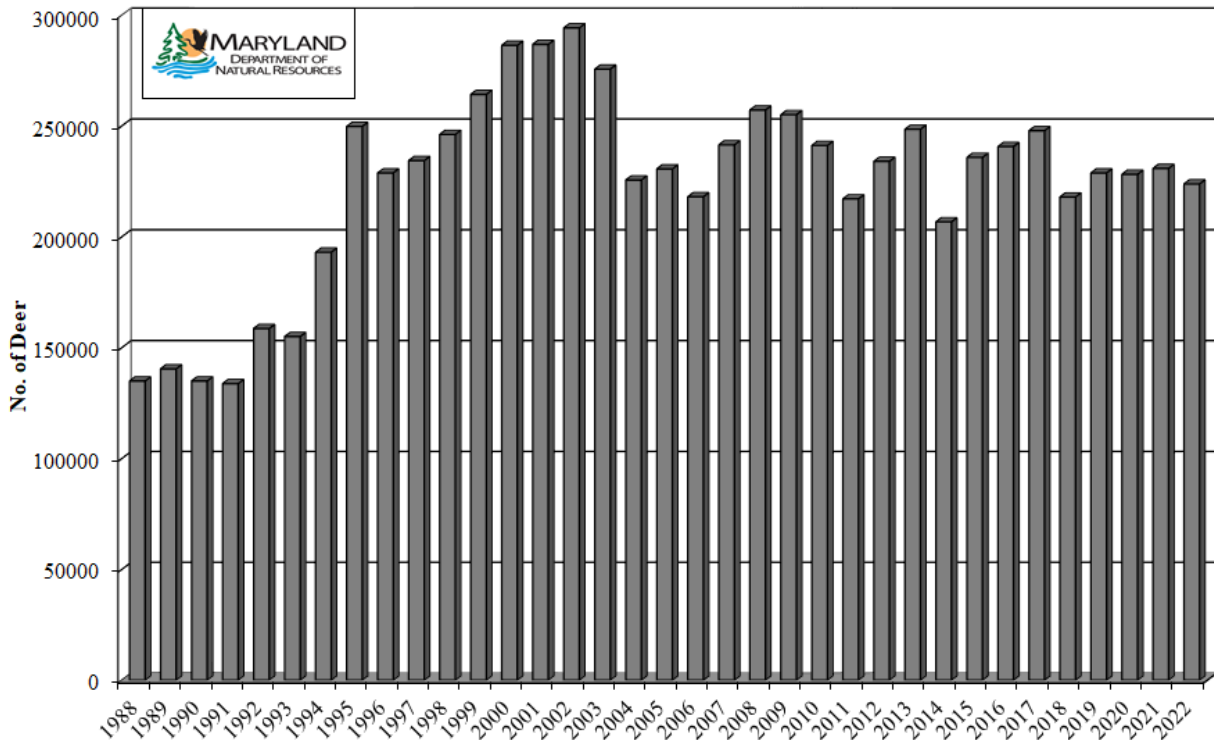


Figure 1. Estimated statewide white-tailed deer population, 1988–2022.

ROTATIONAL CLOSURE OF PUBLIC LANDS FOR DEER HUNTING

Rotational closure of public lands to allow deer hunting currently occurs in Maryland on some state and county park lands (state forests and wildlife management areas remain open for deer hunting during the entire season). Parks, or sections thereof, are typically closed for individual days to allow for managed deer hunting. These closures may take place several times during the fall and winter at each park. The timing and duration of closures are designed to try to balance the demands of all park users. Longer or more frequent closures are often met with resistance from other park recreationists.

Rotational park closures for deer hunting can be successful but oftentimes deer will leave the park while hunting is occurring and then return after the hunt has concluded. As an alternative, and when possible, the department encourages parks to allow concurrent hunting and public visitation. This provides season-long pressure on the deer population and is more effective. Deer hunting remains a safe activity and the risk of injury to park users is very low. Likewise, conflicts between user groups are rare when both are present. If there are firearms safety concerns, the park can consider limiting hunting to archery equipment with periodic closure for firearms hunting.

In addition to state parks, department biologists currently work with several counties (Anne Arundel, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's) on their managed deer hunt programs and share information concerning effective techniques, including rotational closures. Cooperation from additional counties concerning deer management, including possibly establishing managed hunt programs on other properties, would be beneficial to deer management in the state. Likewise, the department is actively working to identify additional state park lands where the expansion of deer hunts are feasible.

Legislative and regulatory changes are not required to implement additional deer hunting on state park lands (with the exception of Sunday hunting). However, managed hunts on these properties can increase labor demands, possibly necessitating the need for additional funding and positions. In some instances, regulatory or policy changes may be required at the county level to institute managed deer hunting.

A list of all public properties where deer hunting occurred during the 2022-2023 deer season and the number of deer harvested is provided in Appendix I.

SUNDAY HUNTING ON STATE AND PRIVATE LANDS

Sunday hunting is an important tool for deer management but its use is restricted in Maryland. Deer hunters harvest 6,000 – 8,000 deer annually on the Sundays that are open for hunting. Many hunters only have the weekends to hunt and adding Sundays can double the amount of time that they have to pursue deer during the season. Affording hunters more prime-time opportunities to take deer is a simple solution to increasing the number of deer taken in Maryland.

Currently, Sunday hunting is allowed in 20 of 23 counties on private land (Baltimore, Howard, and Prince George's counties prohibit all Sunday hunting). Only eight counties permit Sunday hunting on public lands and those areas are limited to state forests and wildlife management areas. Sunday hunting is currently prohibited on state park lands according to Maryland law. The number of Sundays open for hunting during the season varies from county to county. Of the 22 Sundays that fall within the regulated hunting season, Anne Arundel County only allows deer hunting on three Sundays while some counties allow hunting on up to 21 Sundays during the season.

Along with limiting what Sundays are open for deer hunting, some counties also require deer hunters to end hunting at 10:30 am. A total of 11 counties currently have these restrictions. This cutoff can impede hunter success since evening hours often can be more productive for deer hunting. Likewise, other Sunday morning activities, such as church, may prevent hunters from being able to participate.

Limiting the number of Sundays and restricting the hours available to hunt on these days traditionally have been instituted to afford other user groups the ability to use lands they otherwise feel uncomfortable on while hunting is occurring. However, deer hunting is a demonstrably safe activity and numerous other states offer season-long Sunday hunting

opportunities with little to no user group conflicts. Likewise, these conflicts appear to be rare in Maryland during Monday – Saturday when hunting and other recreational activities are occurring at the same time. For private lands, Sunday hunting in theory should only impact other user groups if the landowner decides to allow hunting on that day.

There has been legislation around additional Sunday hunting and amending the 10:30am cutoff, which would be beneficial to managing the state's deer population. Expanding Sunday hunting on public lands to include more than the eight counties where it is currently allowed, and expanding to other public properties including state parks, would also benefit deer management and landowners. A change in statute is required to add any additional Sundays and the statute would have to be amended if the goal is to allow Sunday hunting on state park lands. Adding additional Sundays for hunting has always been controversial and the same can be expected moving forward.

SUITABLE USES OF INCREASED FEDERAL FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION FUND

State Wildlife Management and Protection Funds are primarily generated from the sale of hunting licenses and matching federal monies obtained from the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (P-R Funds). P-R Funds are generated from an 11% excise tax on all firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment sold in the United States. The money is then divided among the state natural resource departments. The program was created in the 1930's and has provided over \$25 billion in assistance to state wildlife agencies since its inception. For every \$1 in hunting license revenue that the state receives, they are eligible for \$3 of P-R funds for wildlife management-related work. In FY23, Maryland received approximately \$11,000,000 in P-R funds that were generated from hunting license sales in Maryland.

The United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) administers the Pittman-Robertson program. The program has highly-regulated restrictions on how grant monies can be used and audits are regularly conducted to ensure compliance. These funds are only to be used to restore, manage, and enhance management of wild birds and mammals and their habitat. The funds can also be used to provide public access to wildlife resources, Hunter Education, and development and management of shooting ranges. It is important to note that any wildlife damage mitigation, including deer damage management, is not an approved use of these funds. Likewise, any use of hunting license revenue (i.e., special funds) for damage mitigation is considered a diversion of funding and those dollars cannot be used for a match to obtain available P-R funds. As a result, the department must minimize the use of special funds for unqualified programs in order to maximize its eligibility for federal funding. The department receives minimal general funds annually, and special and federal funds are critical for the operation of the unit. Unfortunately, the small amount of general funds received also limits their usefulness for wildlife damage mitigation purposes. This model has existed for decades and across every administration.

FUTURE STRATEGIES FOR DEER MANAGEMENT

Strategy 1. Develop a DNR Deer Management Assistance Program

Currently, the department has limited resources available to devote specifically to working with landowners to address deer damage concerns. Limited staff are available in each region (four regions) to investigate damage in order to issue Deer Management Permits, but their job duties include other responsibilities which limit the amount of time they can devote to any one project. A formal Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) with dedicated staff is needed to more effectively assist landowners with deer issues. These employees could assist with developing deer management plans for the property, provide advice on effective hunting strategies, and provide additional information and expertise as new management techniques evolve (both lethal and non-lethal). They also could ensure landowners understand the liability protections afforded to them under state law. Many landowners forego allowing hunters on their property due to liability concerns. The recent strengthening of this protection under SB0327/HB983 in 2023 should be made known to all landowners.

It is also expected that any added DMAP staff members would work closely with the department's R3 (hunter recruitment) staff to identify new or inactive hunters. Hunter numbers must increase if deer management is to be successful. Fortunately, the department's R3 program is set to expand significantly with the passage of SB0327/HB983 in 2023 that provides for eight new staff members to work specifically under this initiative. In some instances, it is expected that DMAP staff could identify locations that need additional deer hunting effort while R3 staff could work cooperatively to provide the needed hunting assistance. Both programs would benefit substantially since the recruitment of new hunters requires some place for them to hunt.

In order to create a DMAP, the department must have vacant employee positions (PINs) available and the funding to support them. PINs must be allocated by the Department of Budget and Management and legislative constraints sometimes prevent them from doing so. A minimum of four positions are needed to create a successful program (one staff member per region). Legislation providing for the PINs could increase the likelihood of being able to create a staffed and fully functional program.

Funding is also needed to support a successful DMAP. As referenced above, federal funds in the form of Pittman-Robertson dollars cannot be used to specifically address deer damage. And while special funds (hunting license revenue) can be used, it severely impacts the department's budget by also reducing the amount of federal funds available at a 3:1 ratio. Ideally, general funds could be obtained to fund the DMAP. Another possible source of revenue for the program would be a permit fee for recreational users of certain state lands who currently use these areas at no cost (mountain bikers, fox chasers, bird watchers, equestrian riders, etc.).

Strategy 2. Expand Relationships with County and Local Governments for Deer Management Purposes

Successful deer management must occur at the local landscape level. While the department provides wide sideboards regarding regulations for the lethal management of deer statewide,

actions to remove these deer must occur by individual property owners. These property owners include both private individuals and local, county, and state governments. Currently, four counties in Maryland (Anne Arundel, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's) have dedicated deer management staff and take an active role in managing deer in their counties. Baltimore County also addresses deer management concerns to a somewhat lesser degree. Less common, local governments such as the city of Rockville have also addressed deer management concerns for their residents.

Increased participation addressing deer management at the county and local level could assist the department in addressing deer issues. County governments would benefit by having a deer management plan in place and staff with expertise concerning the issues associated with deer. Staff that are proposed to be hired under the DMAP mentioned above could work with these governments to develop management plans and provide guidance concerning managed deer hunts and other activities. As Maryland's human population continues to grow, increased conflicts with wildlife, including deer, can also be expected to increase even if these wildlife populations remain stable.

Strategy 3. Expand Support and Cooperation between Agencies

New and improved management techniques could benefit deer management greatly. The department has a working relationship with University of Maryland (UMD) Extension and has cooperated on deer management research in the past. This partnership could be expanded in the future to further investigate deer damage issues. UMD Extension is currently investigating the use of diversionary crops to reduce deer damage and the department is working with them to develop a cost-share seed program to support this effort. Likewise, UMD Extension is actively engaged in surveying landowners concerning deer damage. Additional state-sourced funding to the extension program would increase their ability to conduct additional research on this important topic. As mentioned above, DNR is curtailed by federal grant restrictions concerning the funding they can provide for deer damage research and mitigation.

Increased communication between DNR and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) concerning deer management would also improve management efforts in the state. The agencies occasionally work together on this issue but different missions limit this cooperation. It would be beneficial to have MDA staff more versed in deer management and DNR staff more versed in agriculture to better understand the constraints and limitations each agency faces.

Strategy 4. Identify Funding Sources for Non-Lethal Deer Management Techniques Such as Fencing and Repellants

While lethal control is required in order to effectively manage deer, non-lethal techniques can be applied in certain situations to assist with deer damage. Fencing is effective for limiting deer access, but the expense of installation and maintenance can be restrictive. Likewise, some repellants have been shown to be marginally effective for deer management, but the cost and need for periodic reapplication is also prohibitive. In 2022, MDA and DNR conducted a pilot cost-share fencing program that provided partial payment for installing deer fencing under certain circumstances. Unfortunately, the restrictive nature of the program (it only covered the

cost of the fence on one side if next to a riparian buffer) was not attractive to landowners and no one chose to use the program.

The failure of the cost-share pilot fencing program exhibits the need for alternative funding sources for non-lethal deer management. As mentioned previously, current DNR funding does not allow for supporting non-lethal deer management activities like fencing and repellants. The department's special funds cannot be used to fund deer damage mitigation without incurring a significant loss of matching federal funds. Likewise, the use of matching USFWS federal funds for deer damage mitigation is strictly prohibited. Unfortunately, the department does not receive enough general funds to support these types of programs either.

While identifying revenue support for fencing and repellants may be beneficial in some circumstances, these methods should not be viewed as the ultimate solution for deer management. Both of these methods do not solve deer overabundance issues, but instead only move the problem somewhere else. To be successful, deer populations must be proactively managed to reduce numbers at the landowner level in order to reduce associated damage.

SUMMARY OF PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Identify a funding source and PINs to hire department staff dedicated to supporting a Deer Management Assistance Program directed towards mitigating deer damage suffered by landowners. This program should have the authority to issue deer management harvest tags outside of the current agricultural/forest damage requirements.
2. Address legislation that prohibits or restricts Sunday deer hunting in order to provide more deer hunting opportunities. This should be addressed at the private and public land level, including state parks.
3. Work with local and county governments to develop county-specific deer management plans.
4. Expand cooperation between agencies, including MDA and UMD Extension.
5. Identify funding to support additional research and management concerning deer damage mitigation.

CONCLUSION

Deer management is a challenging and controversial subject for many states, including Maryland. The department has been aggressively addressing agricultural damage complaints since the 1950s. Moving forward, to be successful at solving these issues, the department must have additional resources at its disposal and cooperation from other agencies. Most importantly, landowners must recognize that they need to play an active role in managing the deer on their properties. More effective use of Deer Management Permits is needed but using deer hunting as the primary management tool by providing hunter access during prime hunting season remains the primary solution. Deer managers and landowners should work together to ensure that hunters

are harvesting an adequate number of female deer to create a sustainable population that limits damage to landowners and producers. Limiting hunter access will continue to be a barrier to effective deer management. However, creating a funded DMAP within the department would greatly assist with educating landowners about these downfalls and also enable the department to assist county and local governments who also struggle with similar deer issues.

APPENDIX I. MARYLAND PUBLIC LAND DEER HARVEST, 2022-2023.

County	Public Land	Antlered	Antlerless	Total
Allegany	Belle Grove WMA	5	1	6
	Billmeyer WMA	5	1	6
	Dan's Mountain WMA	85	41	126
	Green Ridge SF	236	195	431
	McCoole Fishery Management Area	1	1	2
	Rocky Gap SP	8	6	14
	Sideling Hill WMA	4	6	10
	Warrior Mountain WMA	64	68	132
Anne Arundel	Anne Arundel County Managed Hunts	29	21	50
	Crownsville CWMA	2	11	13
	Davidsonville Receiver Station	9	7	16
	Fort Meade-Patuxent	27	36	63
	Fort Meade Army Installation	1	2	3
	Sandy Point SP	4	7	11
	Severn Run NEA	0	2	2
	Smithsonian	19	23	42
Baltimore	Gunpowder SP	24	105	129
	Gwynnbrook WMA	6	3	9
	Liberty Watershed	14	38	52
	Loch Raven Watershed	76	107	183
	North Point SP	6	9	15
	Patapsco SP	15	20	35
	Pretty Boy Watershed	71	148	219
	Soldiers Delight NEA	7	26	33
Calvert	Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm CWMA	3	0	3
	Calvert Cliffs SP	6	4	10
	Flag Pond CWMA	0	0	0
	Hall Creek	0	5	5
	Huntingtown Area	19	35	54
	Parkers Creek WMA	7	26	33
Caroline	Chesapeake Forest Lands	7	20	27
	Idylwild WMA	45	75	120
	Tuckahoe SP	7	17	24

County	Public Land	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	
Carroll	Avondale WMA	4	6	10	
	Farver CWMA	2	0	2	
	Hahn CWMA	0	3	3	
	Hanover Watershed	8	11	19	
	Liberty Watershed	54	93	147	
	Maring CWMA	7	6	13	
	Morgan Run SP NRMA	25	29	54	
	Patapsco SP	20	36	56	
	Sawmill-Speigel CWMA	17	29	46	
	Woodbrook CWMA	13	16	29	
Cecil	Bohemia River NRMA	15	27	42	
	C&D Canal	5	12	17	
	Earlville WMA	11	21	32	
	Elk Neck SF	15	28	43	
	Elk Neck SP	19	22	41	
	Fair Hill NRMA	38	84	122	
	Grove Farm WMA	17	35	52	
	Old Bohemia WMA	5	8	13	
Charles	Blossom Point Field Test Facility	13	15	28	
	Cedar Point WMA	10	16	26	
	Cedarville SF	7	6	13	
	Chapel Point SP	3	12	15	
	Chapman State Park	4	1	5	
	Chicamuxen WMA	1	7	8	
	Doncaster SF or Tayloes Neck	3	3	6	
	Indian Creek NRMA	3	9	12	
	Indian Head Naval Ordnance Area	11	44	55	
	Myrtle Grove WMA	22	27	49	
	Nanjemoy NRMA	5	9	14	
	Nanjemoy Creek WMA	4	2	6	
	Popes Creek WMA	5	21	26	
	Riverside WMA	0	1	1	
Dorchester	Blackwater NWR	Whitetail	30	33	63
		Sika	240	345	585
	Chesapeake Forest Lands	Whitetail	61	94	155

County	Public Land		Sika	75	65	140
			Antlered	Antlerless	Total	
Dorchester (continued)	Fishing Bay WMA	Whitetail	3	11	14	
		Sika	118	131	249	
	LeCompte WMA	Whitetail	1	5	6	
		Sika	8	12	20	
	Linkwood WMA	Whitetail	6	10	16	
		Sika	0	2	2	
	Taylors Island WMA	Whitetail	1	0	1	
		Sika	11	17	28	
Frederick	Cunningham Falls SP Thurmont WS		36	29	65	
	Emmitsburg Watershed		4	7	11	
	Fort Detrick		3	9	12	
	Frederick City Watershed		53	80	133	
	Heaters Island WMA		6	7	13	
	Monocacy NRMA		30	59	89	
	South Mountain SP		14	12	26	
	Urbana FMA		3	3	6	
Garrett	Cunningham Swamp WMA		0	2	2	
	Deep Creek Lake SP		14	7	21	
	Frostburg Watershed		15	18	33	
	Garrett SF		103	61	164	
	Mount Nebo WMA		38	22	60	
	Potomac SF		53	31	84	
	Sang Run SP		0	1	1	
	Savage River SF		276	160	436	
	Wolf Den Run SP		7	5	12	
	Youghiogheny NEA		3	9	12	
	Youghiogheny Reservoir		11	3	14	
4H Center		10	7	17		
Harford	Aberdeen Proving Grounds		76	86	162	
	Gunpowder SP		0	11	11	
	Rock SP		8	27	35	
	Stoney Forest		6	7	13	
	Susquehanna SP		13	45	58	

County	Public Land	Antlered	Antlerless	Total
Howard	Howard County Parks & Recreation Hunts	31	59	90
Howard (continued)	Hugg-Thomas WMA	12	17	29
	Patapsco SP	18	45	63
	Patuxent River SP	59	100	159
	Tridelphia/Rocky Gorge (WSSC)	33	28	61
Kent	Eastern Neck NWR	18	17	35
	Millington WMA	34	72	106
	Sassafras NRMA	20	40	60
Montgomery	Cherrington CWMA	7	21	28
	Islands of the Potomac WMA	5	28	33
	Mckee-Beshers WMA	32	61	93
	Montgomery County M-NCPPC Lands	57	430	487
	Patuxent River SP	53	83	136
	Seneca - Schaeffer Farm	14	22	36
	Seneca Creek SP	46	73	119
	Strider WMA	4	5	9
	Tridelphia/Rocky Gorge (WSSC)	5	23	28
Prince George's	Aquasco Farms Coop	9	25	34
	Belt Woods NEA	5	11	16
	Beltsville	45	54	99
	Billingsly Tract (Patuxent River Park)	5	6	11
	Brandywine Receiver Station	8	4	12
	Cheltenham WMA	2	3	5
	Gardner Road Park CWMA	1	1	2
	Marlboro Natural Area CWMA	3	10	13
	Mill Town Landing NRMA	2	13	15
	Nottingham	4	10	14
	Patuxent WRC (Central & South Tracts)	7	4	11
	Queen Anne Bridge Road CWMA	3	2	5
	Rosaryville SP	10	16	26
	Spice Creek (Patuxent River) NRMA	2	5	7
	Tridelphia/Rocky Gorge (WSSC)	2	8	10

Queen Anne's	Browns Branch WMA	5	18	23
	Tuckahoe SP	10	13	23
	Wye Island NRMA	36	40	76

County	Public Land	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	
St. Mary's	Elms' CWMA	1	6	7	
	Greenwell SP	7	13	20	
	Historic St. Mary's City CWMA	1	2	3	
	Myrtle Point Park CWMA	1	2	3	
	Newtowne Neck SP	9	14	23	
	Patuxent Naval Air Station	15	18	33	
	Point Lookout SP (Jacobs Property)	4	4	8	
	St. Inigoes SF	4	4	8	
	St. Mary's SP	15	26	41	
Somerset	Cedar Island WMA	0	0	0	
	Chesapeake Forest Lands	Whitetail	57	121	178
		Sika	4	3	7
	Deal Island WMA	Whitetail	6	25	31
		Sika	4	0	4
	Fairmount WMA	Whitetail	4	7	11
		Sika	2	0	2
	Maryland Marine Properties WMA	1	1	2	
	Pocomoke Sound WMA	3	3	6	
	South Marsh Island WMA	0	0	0	
	Wellington WMA	4	9	13	
	Talbot	Seth SF	4	7	11
Washington	Ft. Frederick SP	4	2	6	
	Greenbrier SP	16	59	75	
	Indian Springs WMA	55	36	91	
	Maryland Correctional Training Center	9	11	20	
	Prather's Neck WMA	3	5	8	
	Sideling Hill WMA	14	3	17	
	South Mountain SP	27	47	74	
	W. Maryland Ag Research Station	0	0	0	
	Woodmont	12	11	23	
Wicomico	Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge	Whitetail	0	1	1

	Sika	1	3	4
Chesapeake Forest Lands	Whitetail	80	105	185
	Sika	19	11	30

County	Public Land		Antlered	Antlerless	Total	
Wicomico (continued)	Ellis Bay WMA	Whitetail	4	6	10	
		Sika	1	6	7	
	Johnson WMA		1	3	4	
		Nanticoke WMA	Whitetail	15	28	43
		Sika	16	15	31	
	Wetipquin WMA		6	8	14	
	Wicomico SF	Whitetail	13	15	28	
		Sika	1	2	3	
	Worcester	Assateague NS	Whitetail	6	6	12
			Sika	34	43	77
Assateague SP		Whitetail	0	1	1	
		Sika	3	3	6	
Chesapeake Forest Lands		Whitetail	35	58	93	
		Sika	0	1	1	
E.A. Vaughn WMA		Whitetail	15	33	48	
		Sika	1	0	1	
Hickory Point WMA			1	5	6	
Isle of Wight WMA			0	0	0	
Pocomoke River WMA			6	18	24	
Pocomoke SF		Whitetail	28	57	85	
		Sika	1	0	1	
Total			3,694	5,372	9,066	