

190409

Title: Antlerless Tags Issued with Bow Deer Hunting Licenses in Selected Units

The Problem:

The Department of Natural Resources uses the issuance (or restriction) of antlerless tags during the gun season as part of its deer population management. In management units with low populations, the number of antlerless deer tags for the gun season may be very low to prevent overharvest.

In recent hunting seasons, licenses for bow deer hunters have included antlerless tags that may be used in any deer management unit in Wisconsin. Those tags could be used in deer management units that have very low numbers of antlerless tags issued for the gun season. This is inconsistent with the intent of restricting the number of tags issued during the gun season, and may defeat the purpose.

The deer population is considerably different by management unit and in the various regions of the state. The issuance of antlerless tags for all hunting seasons and methods should be done by unit based on the desired management of the deer population for that unit.

Hunters in attendance at the March 10, 2009 DMU meeting in Long Lake expressed support for restrictions on antlerless quotas for all hunting in local management units due to low deer populations.

Be it resolved, that the Conservation Congress at its spring hearing held in Florence County on April 13, 2009, recommends that the DNR take action to change the issuance of antlerless tags with bow licenses from a state-wide method to a method by unit that matches the desired management of the deer population for that unit.

Name of author: Dale Ebert
Address: 4941 Carpenter Road
City, State and ZIP: Florence, WI 54121
County Introducing In: Florence
Telephone No.: 715-696-3384

