

Agricultural Deer Damage Shooting Permits 2015

By Brad Koele and Noah Balgooyen

Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is responsible for issuing shooting permits for deer causing damage or a nuisance. The purpose of deer shooting permits is twofold; to reduce ongoing and future damage to agricultural crops, and to reduce nuisance deer conflicts by reducing local populations in areas of high abundance, within and/or outside the regular deer hunting seasons. There are two types of Deer Shooting Permits issued in Wisconsin: nuisance deer shooting permits, and agricultural damage deer shooting permits. Nuisance deer shooting permits are used for non-agricultural situations, and are most commonly issued to municipalities and airports. They are occasionally issued to private landowners for extraordinary situations. The second and most common type are the Agricultural Damage Deer Shooting Permits, which represent one type of abatement used in the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP). It is the policy of the WDNR that farmers applying for Agricultural Deer Damage Shooting Permits also enroll in the WDACP.

Methods

Authority to remove wildlife causing damage or nuisance is granted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources by State Statute 29.885. The Department issues shooting permits for deer causing damage or a nuisance in accordance with Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 12.

Results

Nuisance Deer Shooting Permits

The WDNR issued 61 Nuisance Deer Shooting Permits in 2015 through which 805 deer were harvested. This compares to the issuance of 65 Nuisance Deer Shooting Permits and 822 deer harvested in 2014. The counties with the highest number of permits issued in 2015 were Waukesha (6), Milwaukee (5) Dane (4), and Brown (4); (Table 1).

Agricultural Damage Deer Shooting Permits

In 2015, five hundred and forty-two Agricultural Damage Deer Shooting Permits were issued for agriculture damage abatement through which 3,080 deer were harvested. Permit harvest constituted 1.0% of the total deer harvest in Wisconsin for 2015 (Table 2). On average, 5.7 deer were harvested under each permit (range 0 - 52) in 2015. The total number of permits issued statewide in 2015 decreased from the number issued in 2014, from 617 permits to 542 permits. The statewide harvest on agricultural shooting permits decreased by 10.9% from 2014 to 2015, from 3,457 to 3,080 deer (Figure 1).

The counties for which the greatest number of permits were issued in 2015 were Vernon (52), Marinette (34), and Outagamie (29); Table 2. Counties with the highest number of deer harvested on permits in 2015 were Green (215), Marathon (211), and Marinette (177); (Table 2).

Deer management unit boundaries were changed for the 2014 deer hunting season, and are now designated by the county and tribal reservation boundaries. The state has additionally been

divided into four new Deer Management Zones: the Northern Forest zone, the Central Forest zone, the Central Farmland zone, and the Southern Farmland zone Forest Zone (Figure 2). Deer harvest off of shooting permits in 2015 was highest in the Central Farmland Zone (1,913 deer harvested off of 296 permits); (Table 3).

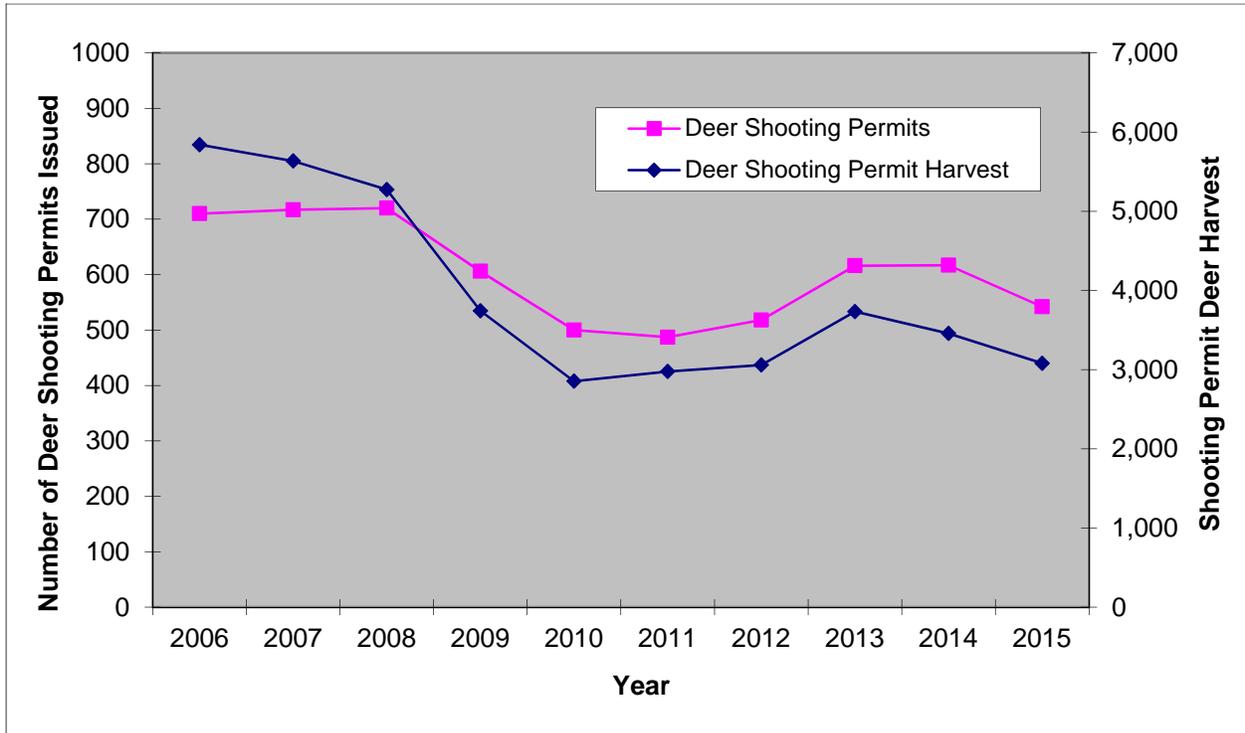


Figure 1. Trends in the number of deer damage shooting permits issued and deer harvested, 2006-2015. Damage deer harvest data is from information collected by the WDACP from wildlife managers issuing deer shooting permits, and may differ from damage harvest data in the Wisconsin Big Game Hunting Summary. The number of deer shooting permits issued is based on information collected by the WDACP from wildlife managers and entered into the Wildlife Damage Database.

Table 1. *Number of Nuisance Deer Shooting Permits issued per county in 2015.*

2015 Nuisance Deer Shooting Permits		
County	Number of Permits	Harvest
Ashland	1	0
Bayfield	1	0
Brown	4	100
Dane	4	56
Douglas	1	21
Florence	1	67
Fond du Lac	1	1
Green	1	0
Green Lake	1	15
Iowa	1	4
Jefferson	1	0
Juneau	1	0
La Crosse	2	0
Lincoln	3	15
Manitowoc	1	1
Marathon	1	0
Marinette	1	25
Milwaukee	5	116
Oneida	3	11
Outagamie	2	1
Ozaukee	1	31
Pierce	1	0
Polk	2	14
Portage	1	28
Rock	1	1
Saint Croix	2	0
Shawano	3	37
Sheboygan	3	51
Taylor	1	0
Vilas	2	6
Waukesha	6	146
Waupaca	1	8
Wood	1	50
Totals	61	805

Table 2. *Agricultural Damage Deer Shooting permits issued, damage deer harvest and statewide deer harvest (all seasons), 2011-2015. Statewide harvest data are from the 2015 Wisconsin Big Game Hunting Summary. Shooting permit harvest data are based on information collected by the WDACP from wildlife managers issuing deer damage shooting permits, and may differ from damage harvest data in the Wisconsin Big Game Hunting Summary. The number of deer damage shooting permits issued is based on information collected in the Wildlife Damage Database.*

County	2015			2014			2013			2012			2011		
	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest
Adams	15	33	5,555	13	105	4,248	11	56	5,666	12	61	5,601	9	67	4,689
Ashland	0	0	822	0	0	948	2	11	1,869	1	2	2,587	0	0	2,549
Barron	4	0	6,371	8	39	6,511	8	48	7,132	4	12	6,745	4	16	6,524
Bayfield	1	0	2,294	3	0	2,107	4	19	3,989	4	16	5,921	4	11	5,206
Brown	5	37	3,044	10	47	2,845	6	27	2,682	5	18	2,269	4	25	2,033
Buffalo	5	0	7,815	11	0	8,125	14	151	7,595	6	69	9,006	11	97	7,787
Burnett	2	19	3,072	5	27	2,435	5	27	4,764	4	36	5,234	4	28	5,833
Calumet	2	6	1,420	3	8	1,399	5	12	1,350	2	5	1,233	1	5	1,144
Chippewa	4	10	5,735	3	14	6,371	3	9	6,329	3	0	6,329	2	1	5,969
Clark	6	27	7,828	10	59	8,094	10	43	11,438	7	44	10,956	9	37	10,363
Columbia	13	137	6,359	12	140	6,622	14	171	6,118	15	134	6,514	11	118	7,190
Crawford	5	37	5,035	9	29	4,508	7	38	4,411	4	29	4,810	5	14	4,218
Dane	9	14	4,249	11	19	3,899	11	18	3,911	12	15	4,694	15	19	4,480
Dodge	7	6	4,916	8	10	4,766	10	54	4,590	9	22	4,403	9	32	4,158
Door	8	23	4,059	6	35	3,889	7	11	3,759	7	14	3,763	9	29	3,120
Douglas	0	0	2,507	0	0	2,307	1	0	4,664	1	3	6,513	1	4	6,381
Dunn	4	28	7,482	5	32	7,825	3	20	7,476	5	27	8,600	2	5	7,568
Eau Claire	1	3	3,753	1	1	4,191	2	0	4,189	1	0	4,601	2	5	4,175
Florence	5	24	1,158	4	26	1,392	3	20	2,179	6	31	3,494	4	27	4,286
Fond du Lac	6	39	4,587	6	16	4,670	11	82	4,609	9	17	4,294	11	62	3,902
Forest	1	4	1,146	2	5	1,487	0	0	2,319	1	3	3,064	1	3	2,555
Grant	12	149	7,134	12	72	6,242	14	154	6,412	11	179	7,071	16	166	6,459
Green	0	0	2,416	1	0	2,121	4	8	2,322	2	8	2,935	2	4	2,414

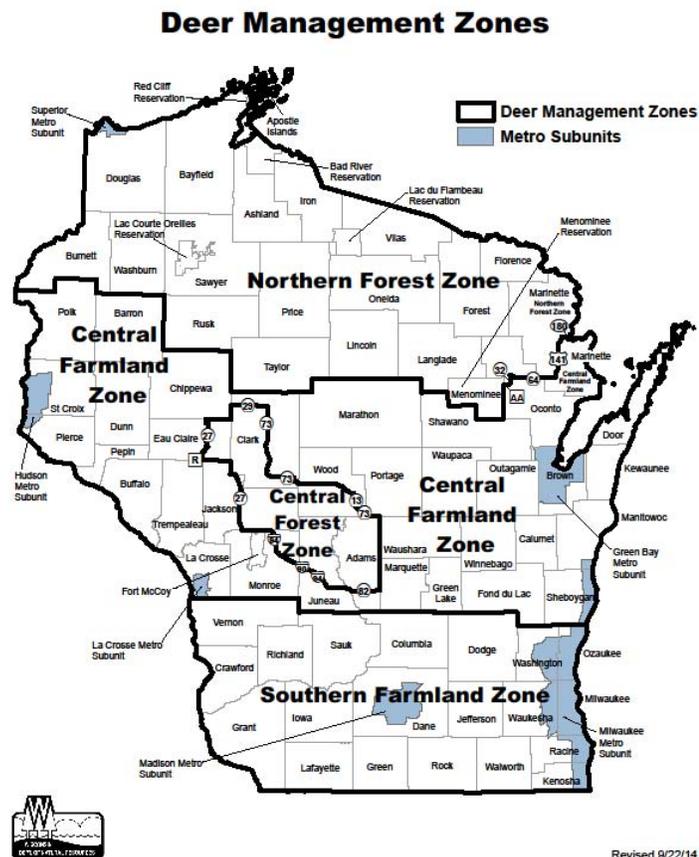
County	2015			2014			2013			2012			2011		
	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest
Green Lake	19	215	4,521	15	133	4,208	16	114	3,857	11	97	3,919	11	93	4,027
Iowa	13	100	5,204	13	89	4,852	14	49	5,295	14	85	6,225	13	127	5,661
Iron	0	0	307	0	0	291	0	0	657	0	0	1,252	0	0	1,315
Jackson	9	56	5,639	11	119	5,935	10	89	7,175	7	88	8,523	7	68	6,974
Jefferson	1	0	2,639	3	0	2,594	7	2	2,702	4	2	2,981	3	0	2,614
Juneau	1	3	4,199	2	0	3,725	2	1	4,702	0	0	4,947	0	0	4,480
Kenosha	0	0	434	1	5	442	0	0	470	0	0	512	0	0	440
Kewaunee	6	14	3,141	3	7	2,680	2	5	2,632	1	4	2,603	1	4	2,084
La Crosse	9	48	4,149	2	16	4,314	5	28	3,778	1	15	4,310	2	10	3,778
Lafayette	4	0	2,605	2	0	2,424	2	0	2,848	2	0	3,535	3	15	2,916
Langlade	5	3	2,100	4	19	2,134	3	26	3,215	3	1	3,775	5	21	3,767
Lincoln	6	27	2,437	5	29	2,101	5	29	3,731	4	23	4,449	6	32	4,729
Manitowoc	7	27	4,407	8	35	4,262	8	27	3,958	6	19	3,399	4	9	2,766
Marathon	22	211	12,224	25	257	12,269	25	317	14,223	30	335	14,152	25	271	14,468
Marinette	34	177	7,146	39	231	8,025	44	247	9,926	40	228	9,980	43	183	10,423
Marquette	11	126	6,335	14	133	6,187	15	134	5,611	14	163	6,040	12	144	5,604
Menominee	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Milwaukee	1	0	246	1	0	178	0	0	54	1	0	39	0	0	41
Monroe	10	44	6,817	12	39	6,768	17	57	7,529	9	26	7,808	11	20	6,845
Oconto	8	34	6,809	13	48	6,926	9	40	7,502	6	0	8,253	3	11	7,445
Oneida	6	29	2,302	2	8	2,503	5	22	4,056	6	23	4,815	3	10	6,742
Outagamie	29	153	4,769	25	150	5,016	26	142	5,021	27	114	4,710	24	148	4,054
Ozaukee	2	10	1,328	2	10	1,319	2	10	1,187	1	5	1,119	2	3	926
Pepin	1	2	2,645	1	6	2,675	0	0	2,564	2	13	2,894	1	4	2,444
Pierce	2	9	4,760	3	8	4,853	1	4	4,217	1	0	4,878	1	6	4,276
Polk	14	96	8,627	27	156	8,996	29	198	8,779	23	207	9,011	15	138	9,050
Portage	10	80	6,560	17	99	6,822	16	124	7,529	12	112	7,421	12	114	7,182

County	2015			2014			2013			2012			2011		
	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest	No. permits	Damage harvest	Total harvest
Price	2	8	2,067	6	8	1,939	5	9	3,971	2	8	4,878	1	9	5,470
Racine	0	0	592	1	1	587	0	0	589	1	0	597	1	0	545
Richland	16	126	6,085	15	34	5,476	19	125	5,726	17	89	6,621	16	102	5,552
Rock	0	0	2,116	1	0	1,787	1	1	1,947	1	0	2,318	2	2	2,169
Rusk	6	8	3,148	2	6	2,484	0	0	5,482	5	0	5,907	2	15	6,374
Sauk	8	54	7,641	13	69	7,329	8	35	7,113	7	0	8,127	6	13	7,132
Sawyer	5	21	1,771	9	3	1,672	12	37	4,033	5	19	4,618	6	9	4,717
Shawano	16	155	10,486	22	310	11,228	18	188	11,648	12	128	10,770	11	178	10,092
Sheboygan	1	1	3,298	0	0	3,121	1	5	3,265	0	0	3,161	0	0	2,575
St Croix	7	29	4,020	3	20	4,163	5	16	3,867	3	21	4,416	5	16	3,676
Taylor	5	5	4,768	8	0	3,282	1	0	6,762	1	0	6,361	3	24	6,744
Trempealeau	7	66	7,237	12	97	7,399	11	115	7,449	11	80	8,588	9	59	7,361
Vernon	52	131	7,852	55	157	7,764	41	104	6,985	30	85	7,726	22	28	6,430
Vilas	2	13	1,549	3	23	1,901	4	20	3,145	4	26	2,385	3	22	3,499
Walworth	4	14	1,273	5	19	1,229	6	4	1,422	3	0	1,606	3	9	1,917
Washburn	3	11	3,710	4	38	1,967	5	42	4,827	5	34	5,380	2	20	5,295
Washington	10	59	3,046	15	64	3,408	13	70	2,884	13	42	3,039	14	54	2,500
Waukesha	4	16	2,281	2	4	2,212	5	7	2,053	3	8	2,221	3	2	2,042
Waupaca	21	171	11,428	19	170	11,589	14	111	12,074	10	55	12,281	7	39	11,417
Waushara	15	72	5,778	13	67	5,951	12	78	5,627	12	76	5,908	15	83	5,854
Winnebago	5	21	2,396	6	28	2,617	10	59	2,398	10	52	2,523	9	57	2,456
Wood	8	39	5,283	10	58	4,905	8	63	6,370	7	49	6,678	4	29	5,837
Total	542	3,080	309,829	617	3,457	304,289	617	3,733	342,631	518	3,077	368,314	487	2,976	347,711

Table 3. Deer damage shooting permits issued, damage shooting permit deer harvest, and statewide deer harvest (all seasons) by deer management zone in 2015. These zone designations are new as of 2014, and along with the change to designating deer management units by county, replace the past DMU designations.

Deer Management Zone	No. of Permits	Damage Harvest	Total Harvest	Percentage of Total Harvest
Northern Forest Zone	61	228	40,495	0.6%
Central Farmland Zone	296	1,913	183,057	1.1%
Central Forest Zone	24	86	12,802	0.7%
Southern Farmland Zone	161	853	73,451	1.2%
Unknown Zone*	0	0	24	0.0%
Totals:	542	3,080	309,829	1.0%

* Includes deer shooting permits and deer that were registered under a deer shooting permit where the DMU was not recorded.



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Figure 2. Map of new Deer Management Zones, effective 2014.