

Quick Facts



Weight	350 -900 Pounds
Height	4 to 5 feet at the shoulder
Winter Coat	Head, neck and legs are dark brown, while the sides and backs are much lighter
Summer Coat	Deep and red-brown
Antlers	Grow annually on male elk up to 40 pounds in weight
Food	Grass, forbs, shrubs, fruits, and trees
Young	Calves born late May early June, 25-30 pounds
Breeding	Late September to early October
Goal Population	500-900

Management

Elk are primarily grazers and browsers. They prefer a landscape with open young habitat. The DNR manages state land by cutting old timber to create forests, by planting food plots, and by using prescribed burning.



Hunting

Elk hunting is frequently called the hunt of a lifetime for many Michigan residents. Elk hunting is the primary tool used to maintain the balance between elk numbers and habitat, while also addressing crop damage concerns. Elk hunting has occurred annually since 1984. Between 30,000 and 40,000 people apply for a chance to hunt elk every year. The number of licenses issued generally ranges from 100-400 and depends on the current population and condition of the habitat.

Enhancing

Through an important partnership effort with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the DNR is working to improve elk viewing areas and elk viewing education as well as materials and programs.



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Michigan's ELK

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Viewing Guide

Elk Viewing

The most **popular time** to view elk is during the breeding season in **September & October** when they are feeding in **open grassy areas** and bulls are bugling. Summer observations are difficult due to leaf cover and viewing is limited. The best times to view elk are at **dawn & dusk**. Elk should be appreciated at a **distance** and individuals should not try to approach the animal. Most viewing locations may be accessed by **roads**; however, some may require a **hike**. The official viewing locations are marked although elk may not always be present. Elk can be found in many areas of the elk range.





ELK VIEWING MAP



Legend

- Elk Viewing Areas
- Roads
- Rivers & Streams
- Highways
- State Land
- Private Land
- DNR Offices

Spot us by GPS

	Latitude N	Longitude W
	By Road	By Hike
1	45.185438°	-84.590372°
2	45.163343°	-84.499068°
3	45.26595°	-84.476635°
4	45.227167°	-84.387321°
5	45.219453°	-84.395627°
6	45.157258°	-84.41319°
7	45.149517°	-84.415166°
8	45.111883°	-84.377355°
9	45.09745°	-84.40406°
10	45.067578°	-84.349172°
11	45.12638°	-84.32985°
12	45.093220°	-84.316455°
13	45.058282°	-84.181061°

