2018 CWD SURVEY OBJECTIVES

Describe hunters’ current hunting practices that may impact CWD management
Determine hunters’ opinions about CWD management options and possible outcomes
Determine whether hunters were confident in the MDNR’s ability to manage CWD
2018 CWD SURVEY METHODS

620,933 people purchased a deer hunting license
527,296 adult resident license buyers (target population)
5,214 of 11,697 questionnaires included in analysis (45% response)
Estimates were calculated separately by the hunt region (UP, NLP, SLP, and CWD areas) and by hunter type (Avid and Generalist groups)
Also analyzed data collected by previous studies to examine the effects of baiting on hunter success and harvest.
2017 DEER HUNTER TYPES

28% of the deer hunters reported deer hunting was their most important recreational activity (Avid Group).

57% reported deer hunting was among their most important recreational activities (Generalist Group).
2017 DEER HUNTER NUMBERS

97% of license buyers hunted deer (508,877)
10% in UP
37% in NLP
49% in SLP
25% in CWD Mgmt. Zone
10% in CWD Core Area
2017 DEER HUNTER SUCCESS

51% of the hunters harvested at least one deer
41% in UP
51% in NLP
52% in SLP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Active hunters</th>
<th>Success</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Harvest per active hunter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>508,877</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>363,372</td>
<td>0.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UP</td>
<td>52,699</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>24,959</td>
<td>0.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLP</td>
<td>187,063</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>130,777</td>
<td>0.70</td>
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<td>SLP</td>
<td>250,283</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>194,825</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 counties</td>
<td>125,058</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>98,990</td>
<td>0.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 counties</td>
<td>49,933</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>41,460</td>
<td>0.83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 DEER PROCESSING

49% of hunters paid a processor to butcher a deer

A lower proportion of UP hunters paid a processor (40%)

162,082 whole deer taken to a processor (45% of the harvest)

46% of hunters butchered a deer by themselves or with a friend’s help

6% of hunters processed some of the deer themselves but also paid a processor to handle some tasks

3% of hunters gave a deer away
66% of the deer (239,195) were processed in the county of kill.

33% of the deer (118,861) were processed outside the county where they had been killed.
1% of hunters (3,334) reported that their processor stopped accepting deer.

60% of hunters (157,176) indicated that they would continue to hunt.

12% of hunters (31,215) would stop hunting deer.

28% of hunters (72,307) were uncertain whether they would continue hunting.
51% of hunters let a processor dispose of a deer carcass. Processors disposed of 47% of the deer carcasses (169,188). 26% of hunters disposed of 96,162 deer carcasses in a landfill. UP had the lowest proportion (41%) of processor disposal, but the highest proportion (18%) of hunters leaving a carcass on the bare ground.
USE OF URINE-BASED SCENTS

- 24% of active hunters used urine-based scents
- 35% used scents made from natural urine
- 22% used a product made from both natural and synthetic urine
- 36% of hunters did not know urine type
- 6% of hunters used scents made exclusively from synthetic urine
52% of hunters used bait

Use of bait differed significantly among regions:

- 81% in the UP
- 55% in the NLP
- 43% in the SLP
Success and mean harvest per hunter were significantly greater for hunters using bait in the UP and NLP.

In the UP, 45% of baiters were successful and 23% of non-baiters were successful.

In the NLP, 58% of baiters were successful and 42% of non-baiters were successful.
USE OF BAIT - 1999 AND 2001 STUDIES

![Graph showing hunter success with and without bait for different hunting methods.](image1)

![Graph showing hunter success with and without bait for different hunting methods.](image2)
62% reported that using trained shooters to kill deer in localized areas was unacceptable.

61% of hunters indicated that attempting no management action was unacceptable.

43-48% of hunters indicated that four other options were unacceptable.
59% of hunters indicated that prohibiting the transportation of intact deer carcasses outside CWD-infected areas was acceptable.

52% of hunters reported that using regulated hunting seasons with liberal harvest limits was acceptable.

39-48% of hunters indicated that three other options were acceptable.
56% reported having fewer male deer was unacceptable

56% reported having fewer deer with large antlers was unacceptable

52% of hunters indicated that seeing fewer deer was unacceptable

Slightly less than 50% of hunters indicated that having a reduced deer population (49%) and harvesting fewer deer (47%) and were unacceptable
None of the management outcomes were acceptable to most hunters.
Most hunters (>=60%) were confident that the MDNR would take the correct actions regarding CWD.
Confidence in the MDNR was generally similar among regions, except among hunters in the core CWD area and CWD management zone. Hunters in these areas were less confident that the MDNR would make good deer management decisions and were less confident that the MDNR would properly address CWD in Michigan.
31,856 adult Michigan deer hunters pursued deer, elk, or moose outside of Michigan in 2017

About 28% of these hunters harvested at least one animal, and they transported 10,711 animals back to Michigan
THANK YOU