

Proposed Deer Regulations for 2021

Wildlife Conservation Order #8 of 2020

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Eliminate Sunset on Extended Archery Season in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb

- Would keep archery season in these three counties through January 31
 - Rest of state ends on January 1
 - Pilot originally established in 2017 to afford opportunities for communities to participate in managed archery hunts



Expanded Archery Season Results (3 County Area)

Year	Late Season Archery Harvest	Total Harvest	Deer Vehicle Collisions
2017	530	6,897	2,790
2018	322	6,103	2,849
2019	410	6,663	3,120

2019 Deer Harvest Survey

Statewide Hunters:

45% supported expanded archery
16% opposed expanded archery
48% Uncertain (Unsure + Neither Support/Oppose)

SE LP Hunters:

61% supported expanded archery
14% opposed expanded archery
24% Uncertain (Unsure + Neither Support/Oppose)





THE SPORTSMAN IS CAPTAIN OF
THE SHIP. IT'S UP TO HIM
WHERE WE GO.

OK!
LOTS OF
DEPTH.

SPORTSMAN

CONS.
DEPT.

DEER
HERD

Oscar Warbach ca. 1959



Initiation of Harvest Registration beginning in 2021

- Beginning in 2021, the Department will begin accepting deer for harvest registration voluntarily through an online registration system
- No regulatory changes needed at this time
- Plan is to move to mandatory registration for 2022 season



Which States Have Mandatory Registration

State	Time to Register Deer
Illinois	End of day (some exceptions apply)
Indiana	48 hours
Iowa	Midnight the next day
Kentucky	Midnight, day of recovery
Maryland	24 hours from recovery
Minnesota	48 hours
Missouri	10 pm day of harvest
Nebraska	48 hours (firearms season checked in-person)
New York	7 days
Ohio	Noon the day after harvest
Wisconsin	5 pm the following day



Benefits of Harvest Registration

	Harvest Registration	Post-Season Survey
Estimate of Harvest	+	+
Speed of Data	+	-
Type of Data	+	-
Quality of Data	+	+
Impact on Check Stations	-	+



Why Voluntary Registration the First Year?

- Allows the Department to test the system to ensure it's in proper working order
- Expanded communication
- Increased hunter familiarity
- Incorporate feedback from hunters after testing the system





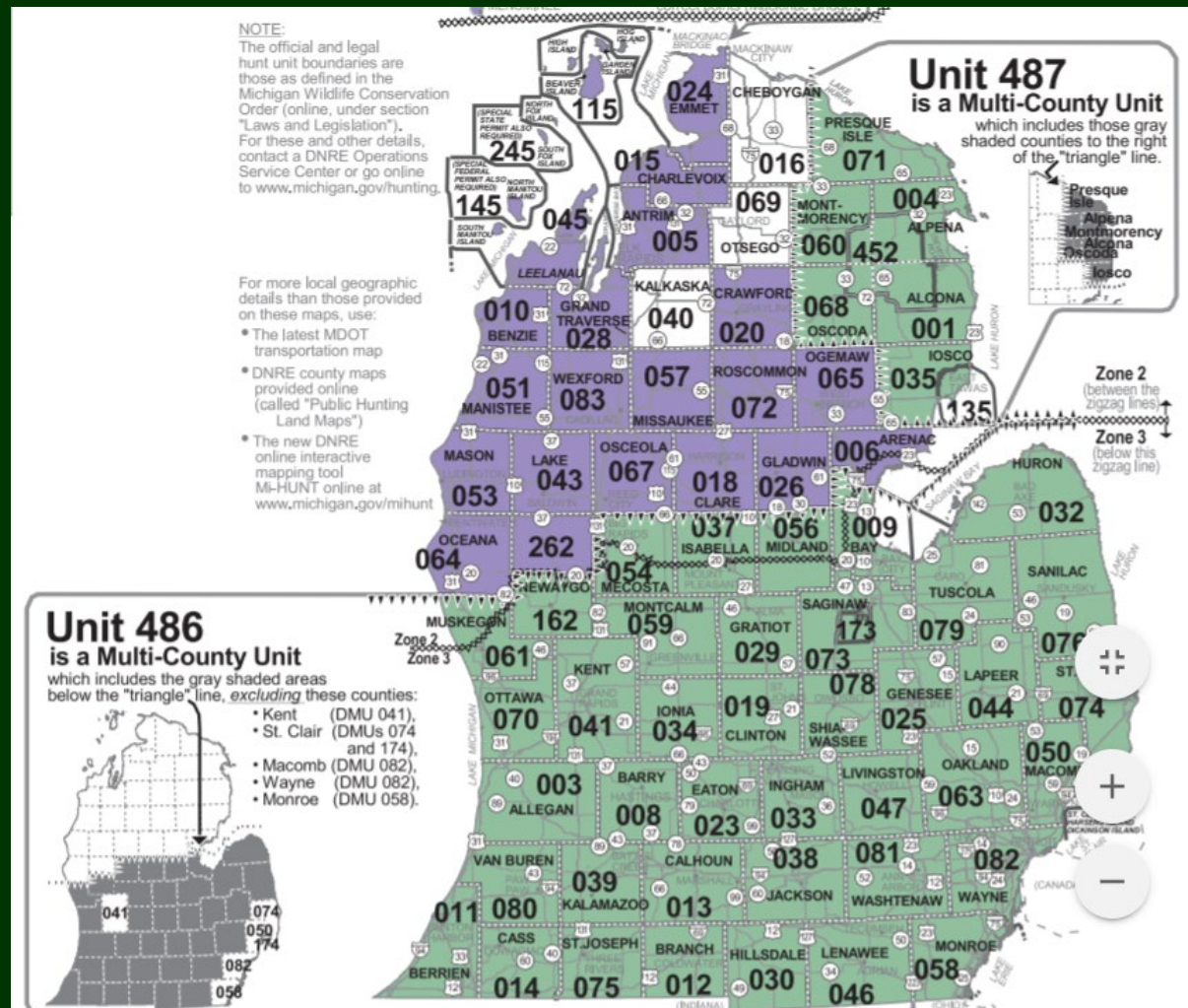
Oscar Warbach ca. 1959

Universal Antlerless License

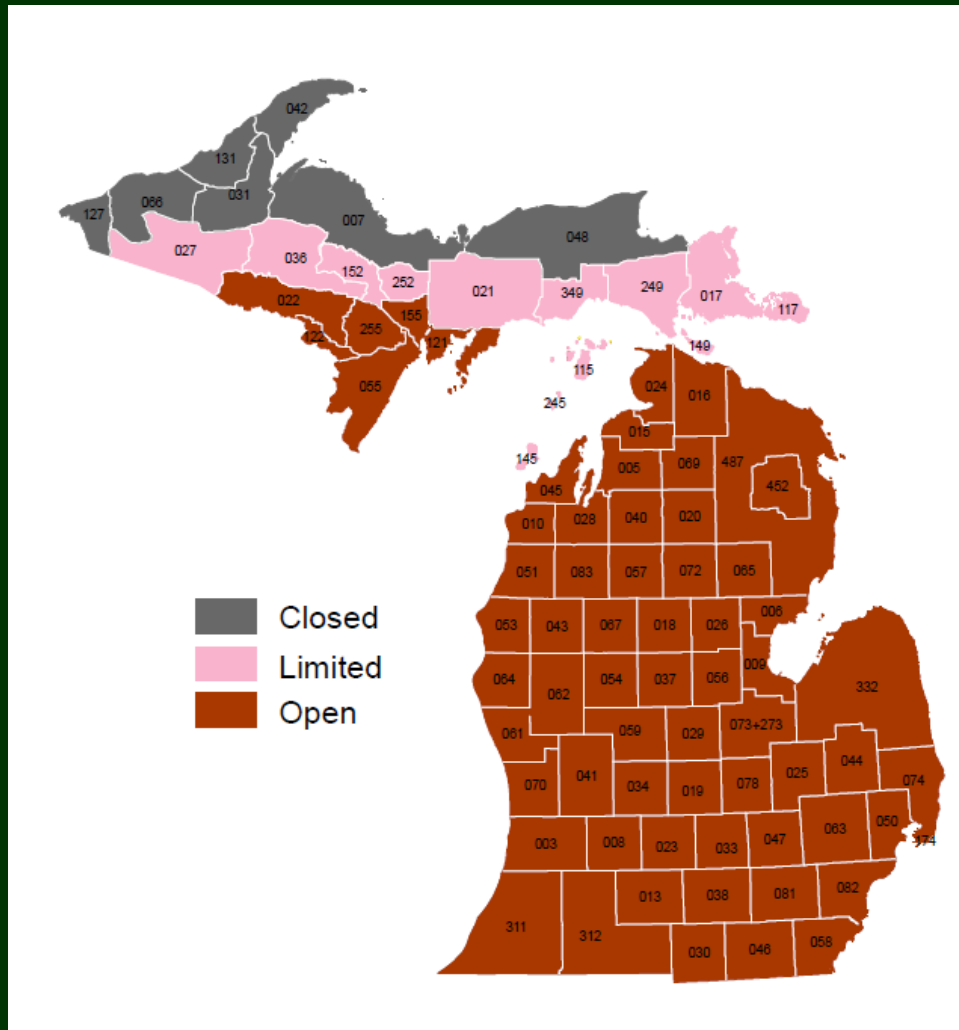
- Antlerless license that can be utilized across multiple DMUs
- Is less restrictive and offers more flexibility
- Currently a complex antlerless drawing for over 100 DMU designations
 - 55 of 58 Lower Peninsula DMUs showing stable or increasing deer trends
 - 0 Lower Peninsula DMUs desiring increasing deer trends



Historical Large Management Units



Antlerless License Use Framework

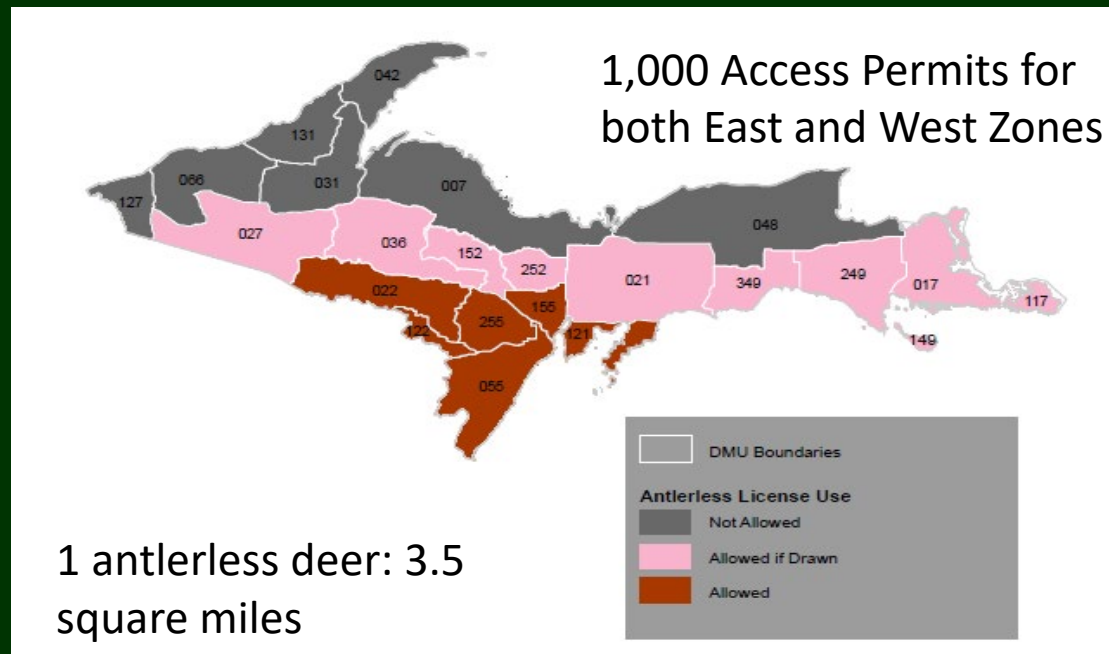


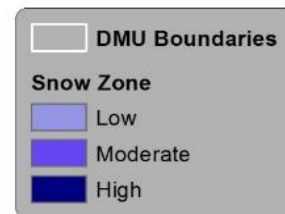
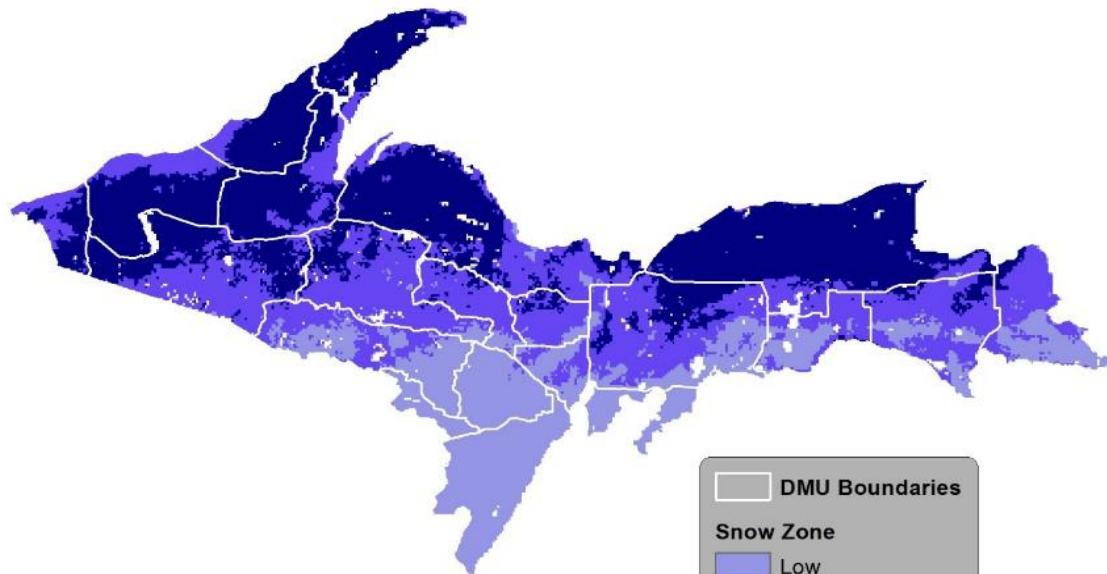
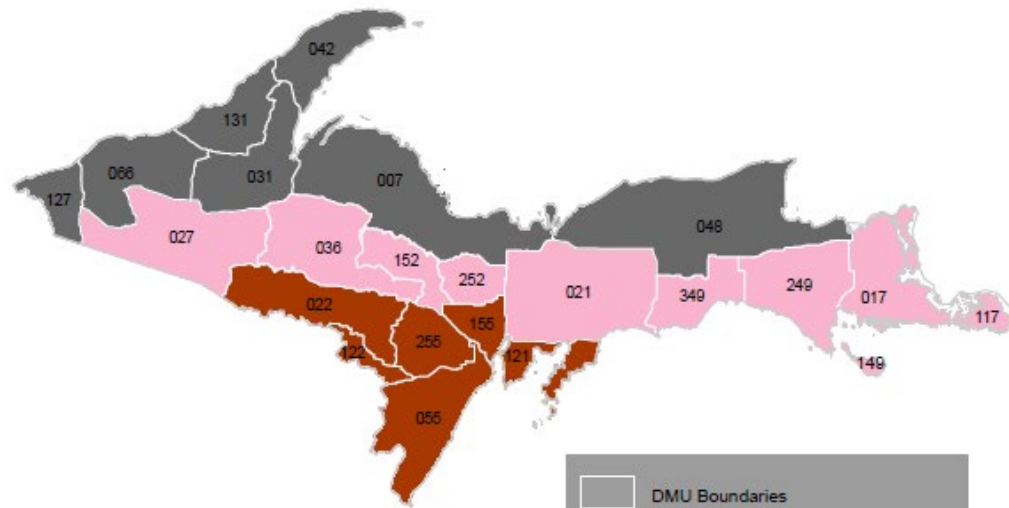
- One antlerless license type
 - Available to be used on any property in open units
 - Limited draw zones in UP



Antlerless License Use- Upper Peninsula

- Limited drawing for East UP and West UP
 - Successful hunters have accompanying deer hunting access permit that authorizes antlerless license use in that specific zone







Oscar Warbach ca. 1959



Late Season Crossbow Use in the UP

- Crossbows added to archery season throughout state in 2009
- Excluded in late season of Upper Peninsula due to concerns from hunters
- Crossbows added to late season in UP Core CWD Surveillance Area in 2019



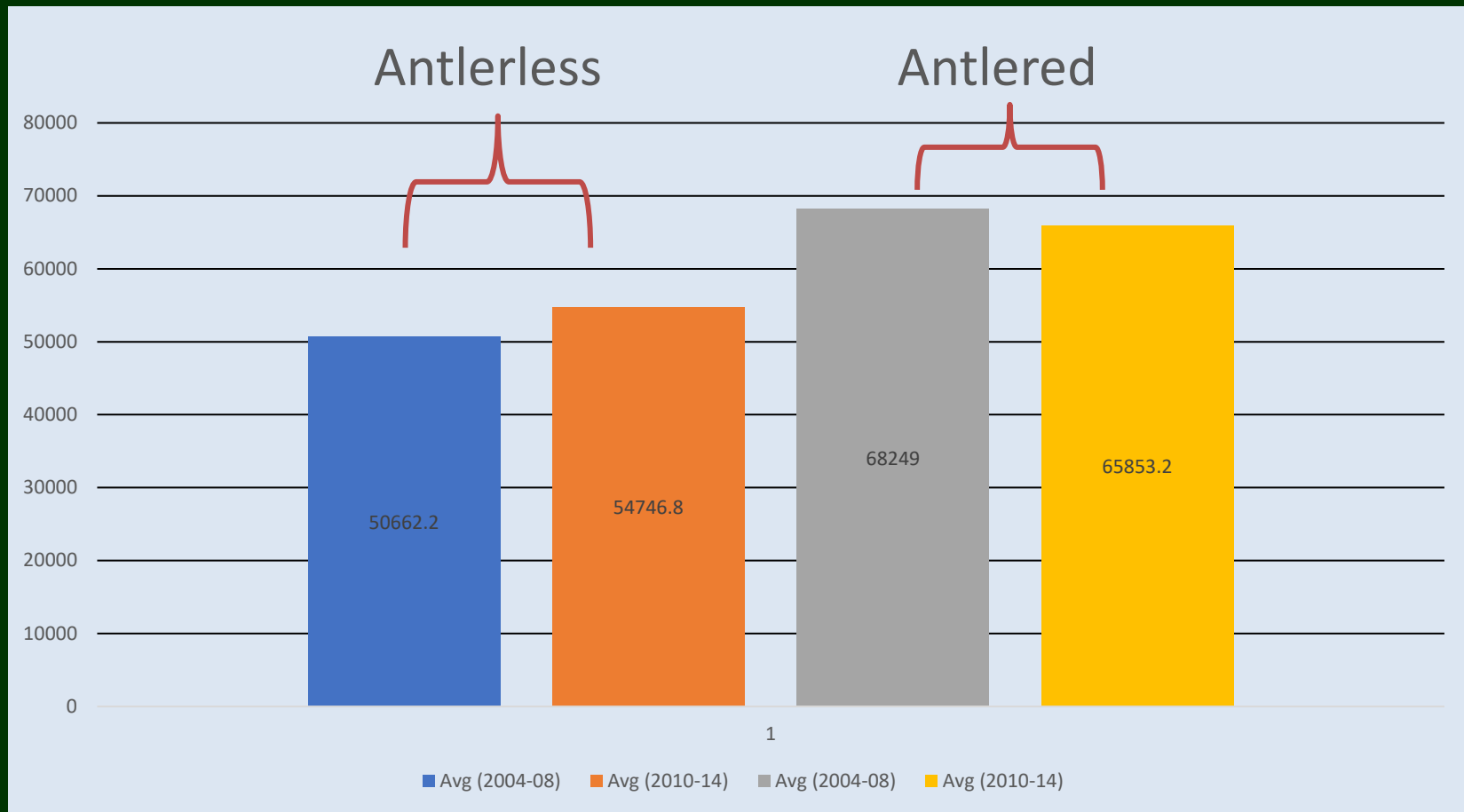
Late Season Crossbow Use in the UP

Success rates for crossbow hunters (2019)			
Region	Antlerless	Antlered	Combined
UP	6.7%	23.9%	29.1%
NLP	13.2%	19.3%	30.1%
SLP	13.5%	26.7%	36.7%
Statewide	13.0%	23.4%	33.4%

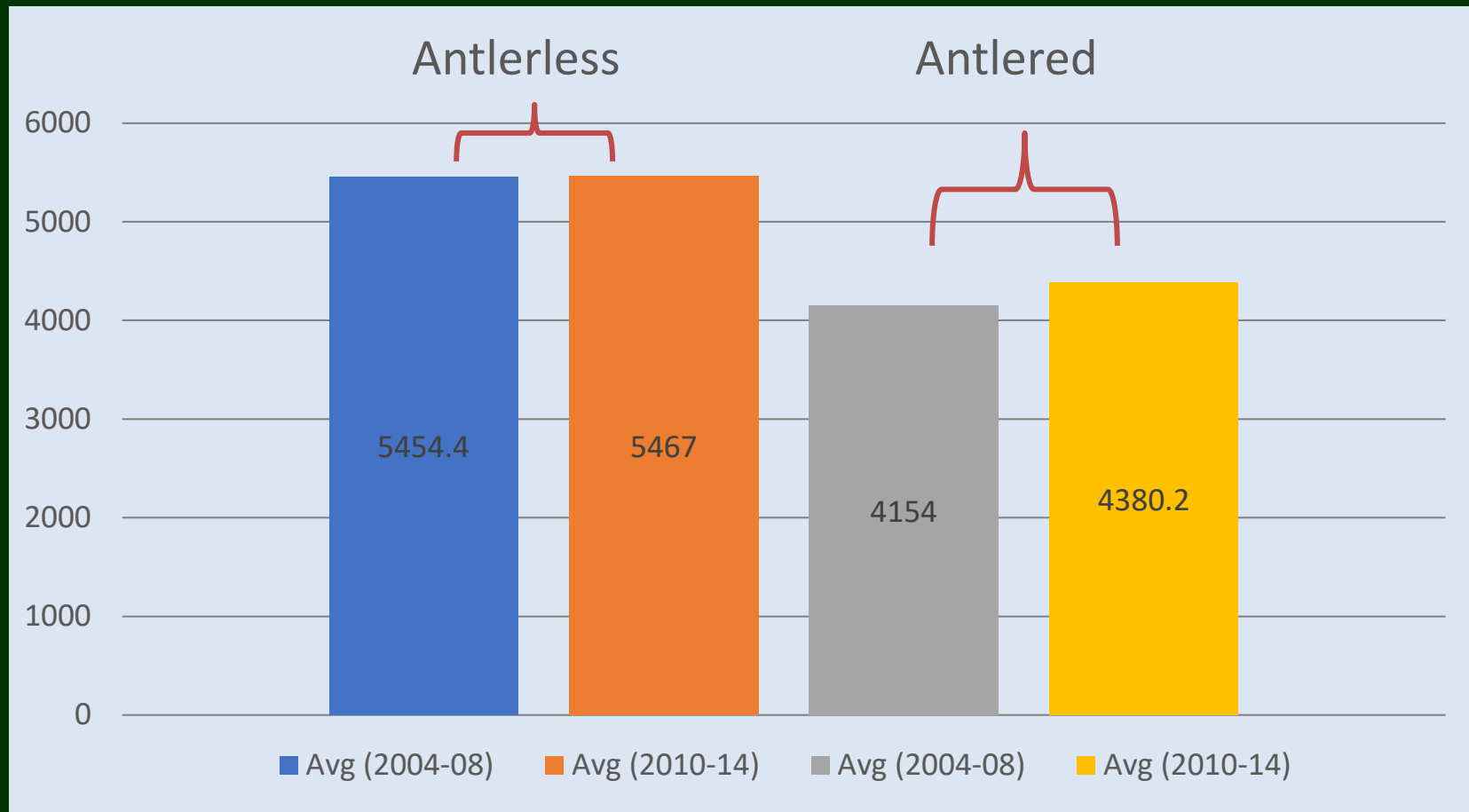
Success rates for all archery hunters (2019)			
Region	Antlerless	Antlered	Combined
UP	6.8%	20.7%	26.0%
NLP	12.8%	17.9%	28.0%
SLP	13.6%	25.8%	35.2%
Statewide	13.6%	23.7%	33.5%



Pre and Post Crossbow Legalization Estimated Antlerless/Antlered Harvest Statewide



Pre and Post Crossbow Legalization Estimated Antlerless/Antlered Harvest in the UP



Elimination of Hunter's Choice in the UP

- Hunter's Choice initiated in UP in 2009
 - Applies a 3 point APR to regular tag of Combination License
 - Hunter's opt to hunt under APR's or not by deciding which license they purchase
- Drummond Island APR to remain in place

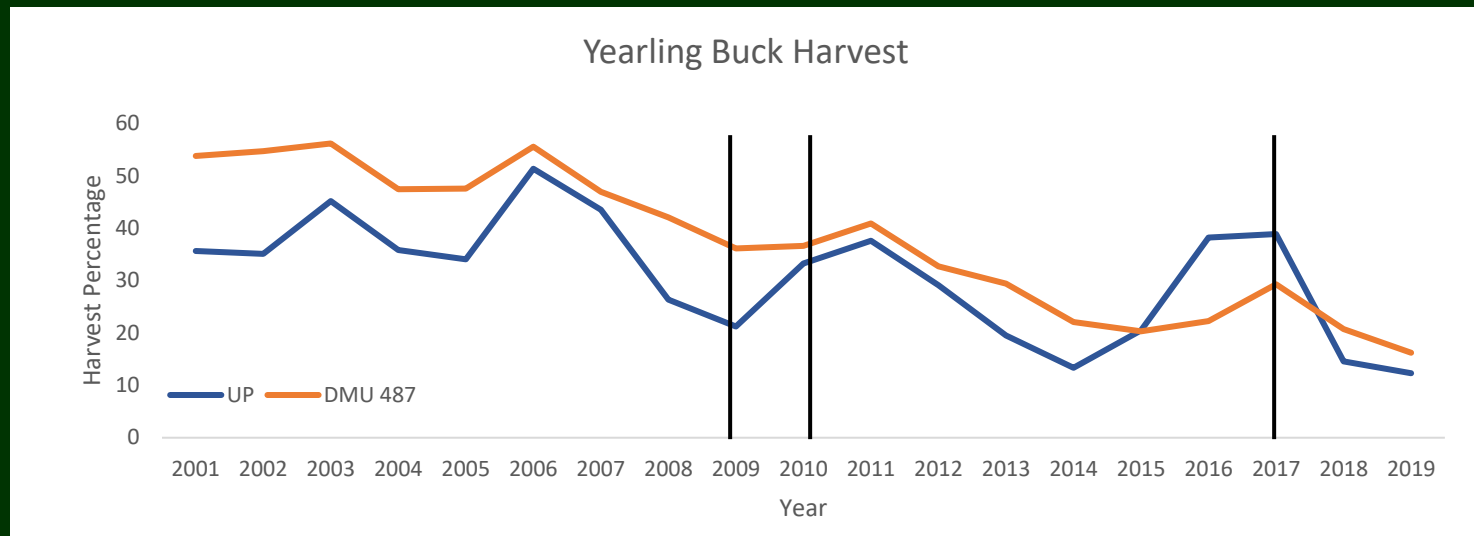


		Seasons		
		Archery	Firearm	Muzzleloader
Deer License				
Deer Combo License	Regular Tag			
	Restricted Tag			
Deer License		or		
Deer Combo License	Regular Tag	or		
	Restricted Tag	or		



Elimination of Hunter's Choice in the UP

- Lack of consistency between license types
- Lack of impact on resource



Supplemental and Recreational Feeding

- Recreational Feeding
 - Placement of feed (2 gallons) within 100 yards of residence to attract deer for viewing
- Supplemental Feeding
 - Placement of larger feed quantities to aid in winter deer survival



Issues

- Enforcement
 - Inconsistencies between recreational and supplemental feeding cause confusion and enforcement problems
- Safety
 - Feeding situations can be dangerous due to causing deer/vehicle collisions or people being too close to wildlife (feeding near schools)
- Lack of Consistency
 - Supplemental feeding does not have a start date – only an end date
 - Different stipulations within each feeding type



Issues

- Lack of Clarity
 - Residents put out 2 gallons and when it's gone within an hour, they put two more gallons out, etc. multiple times a day
 - Not the intent of recreational feeding → moves to a supplemental feeding situation
- Lack of educational materials/opportunities
 - Staff have a desire to work more on educational materials regarding feeding of deer, specifically on:
 - Risks associated with feeding
 - Proper feed types and distribution to minimize risk



Recommended Solutions

- Worked with Law Enforcement Division to develop the following:
 - Address safety concerns
 - Add “Recreational feeding and supplemental feeding may be prohibited if a location is deemed to be a hazard.”
 - Add in language to recreational feeding that a person cannot utilize the feed as bait nor hunt over it
 - Change recreational feeding to only allow 2 gallons per calendar day and only 2 gallons at any one time.



Recommended Solutions

- Worked with Law Enforcement Division to develop the following:
 - Supplemental feeding cannot occur before January 1 and cannot extend beyond May 15
 - Eliminate supplemental feeding permit
 - Focus on educational opportunities for the public through staff engagement and outreach materials

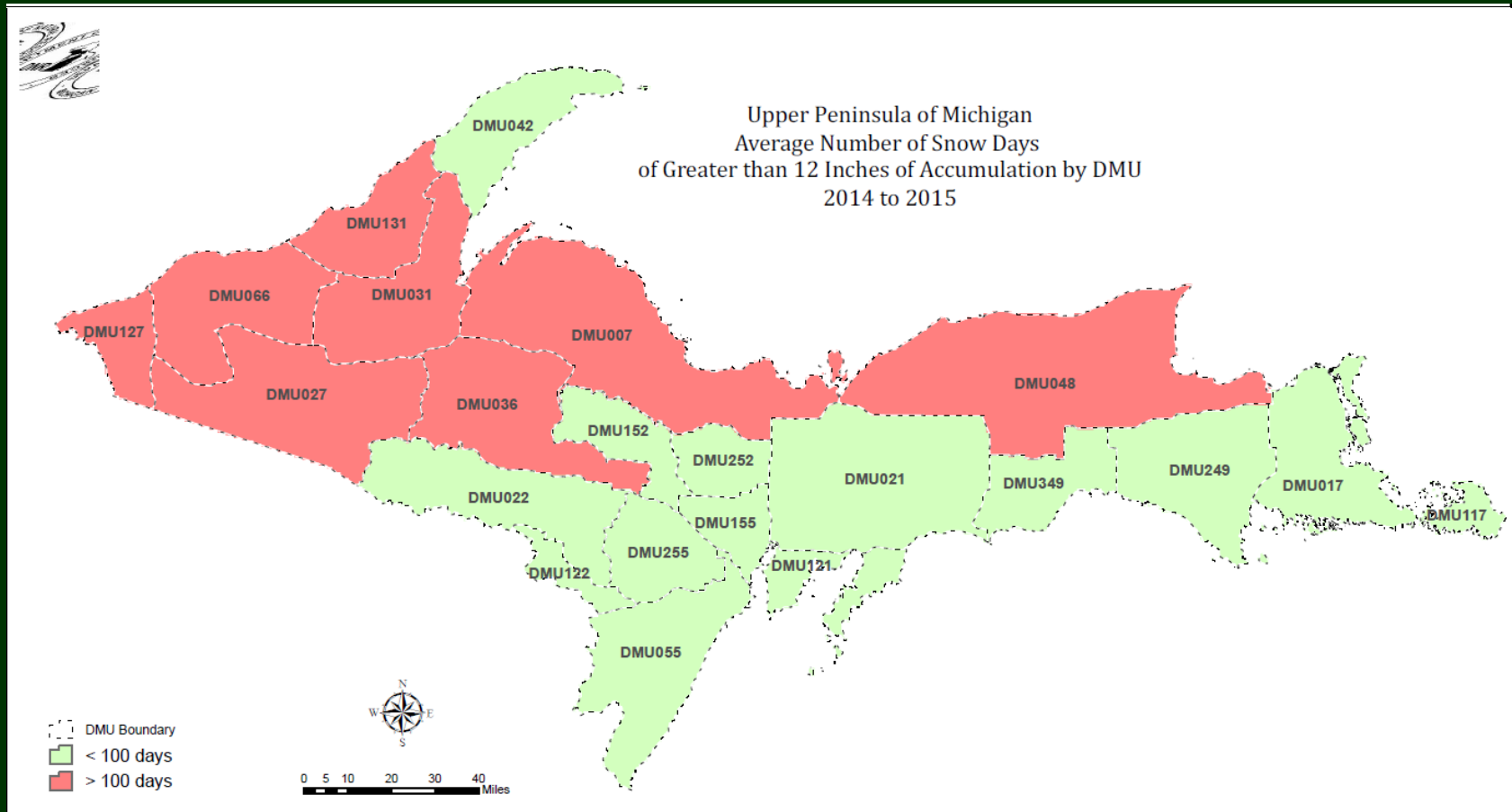


Antlerless Options for Archers in the UP

- 2 amendments passed this summer
 - Closed to antlerless harvest in select DMUs in the west UP
 - Set guidelines for closing antlerless harvest in DMUs when 100 days of 12" of snow have been observed in previous DMUs
 - Deemed unenforceable by DNR legal
- Department recommends removing these changes to allow antlerless opportunities for archers across the UP



SNODAS Measurements Greater than 12 inches/year



Thank You

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