

Natural Resources Commission Meeting

Policy Committee on
Wildlife and Fisheries

October 10, 2019

Proposed Orders

- For Information – NRC
 - Spring Turkey Regulations (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 9 of 2019)
 - Statewide Trout, Salmon, Whitefish, Cisco, Grayling, and Smelt Regulations (FO-200)

Proposed Orders

- For Action – NRC
 - Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (Fishers Order 205)
 - Special Fishing Regulations for Warmwater Species on Select Waters (Fisheries Order 206)
 - Statewide Coolwater Regulations for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Northern Pike, Walleye, Sauger, Muskellunge, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Yellow Perch, Sunfishes, and White Bass (Fisheries Order 215)
- For Action – Director
 - State-Licensed Commercial Fishing (Fisheries Order-243)

NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Division Chief Update
 - Review of Fisheries Regulations
- Wildlife Division Chief Update
 - Spring Turkey Regulations
 - Preliminary Elk Season Results

Department of Natural Resources

Fisheries Division

Chief's Update

Jim Dexter, Chief

October 10, 2019

Weir Updates



- Platte River
 - Passed 17,000+ adult coho and nearly 900 jacks upstream
 - Egg collection to tentatively begin Oct. 17
- Little Manistee River Weir
 - Egg collections on Oct. 1 and 8
 - Weir renovations are working well
- Boardman Weir
 - Three harvests have occurred
 - More than 2,500 coho harvested

Lake Trout Catch-and-Release

- Lake Michigan and Lake Huron Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee review
- Discussed April and June (Michigan) and August (Huron)
- No Support (22:4)
- Enforcement issues
- Enhance education and outreach

Thank you!

2019 Fisheries Orders

Natural Resources Commission
Meeting

Oct. 10, 2019

Fisheries Orders

For Information Only

- 200: Statewide Trout, Salmon, Whitefish, Cisco,
Grayling, and Smelt Regulations

Fisheries Order 200

For Information Only



Coregonid regulations

- Identification issues
- Need for simplicity
- Protection of populations

Great Lakes and Type F waters

- Reduce daily possession limit to 10 fish
- Add Round (Menominee) whitefish

Inland waters

- Reduce daily possession limit to 5 fish
- Add Round (Menominee) whitefish

Fisheries Order 200

For Information Only

- Extend season on Type A & D waters
 - Increased angling opportunities for stocked trout
 - Season extended to Oct. 31st



Fisheries Order 200

For Information Only

- Coaster Brook Trout Restoration Area Modification in Pilgrim River
 - Extend coverage area by adding tributaries and the headwater areas
 - MTU study indicated broader habitat use and movements



Illustration provided by Joseph Tomelleri©

Fisheries Order 200

For Information Only

- Removal of waters of various Types
 - Private purchase of commercial forest land
 - Bedspring Lake, Clear Lake, Log Lake (Marquette Co.)
 - Dillingham Lake (Luce Co.)
 - Poor trout survival
 - Spring Creek Pond (Luce and Schoolcraft Co.)
 - Crooked Lake (Marquette Co.)
 - Long Lake (Iron Co.)
 - Lake Lavine (Branch Co.)
 - Trout Creek Pond (Presque Isle Co.)

Thank you!

Seth Herbst, Ph.D.

ASRA Unit Manager

Herbsts1 @Michigan.gov

Wildlife Chief Update

Shannon Hanna

Wildlife Chief Update

- Deer Season Forecast
- EEE Update
- Rex Ainslie is the Acting Wildlife Division Chief

Thank You!

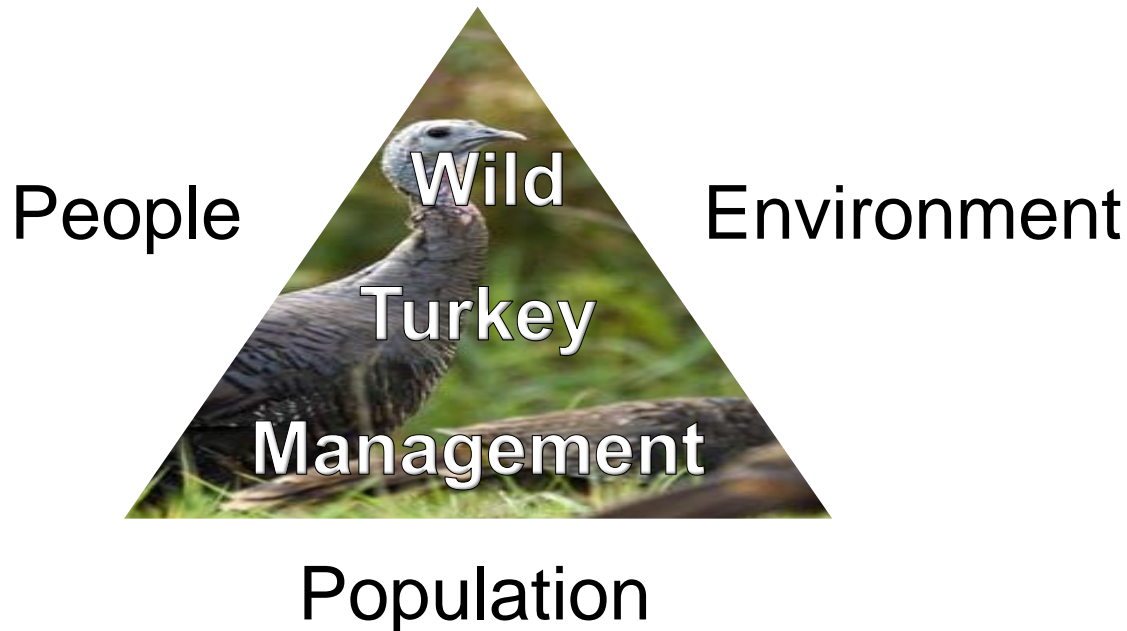
Proposed 2020-2022 Spring Turkey Regulations



Al Stewart, Upland Game Bird Program Leader
Wildlife Division
October 10, 2019

Our Management Goals Incorporate

- Sound Science
- Ecosystem-Based Concepts
- Adaptive Management
- Public and Resource Manager Inputs



Spring Turkey Season

Goal:

Maximize hunter
opportunity

while

maintaining a
quality hunting
experience



Turkeys in Michigan

Where do turkey license buyers come from?

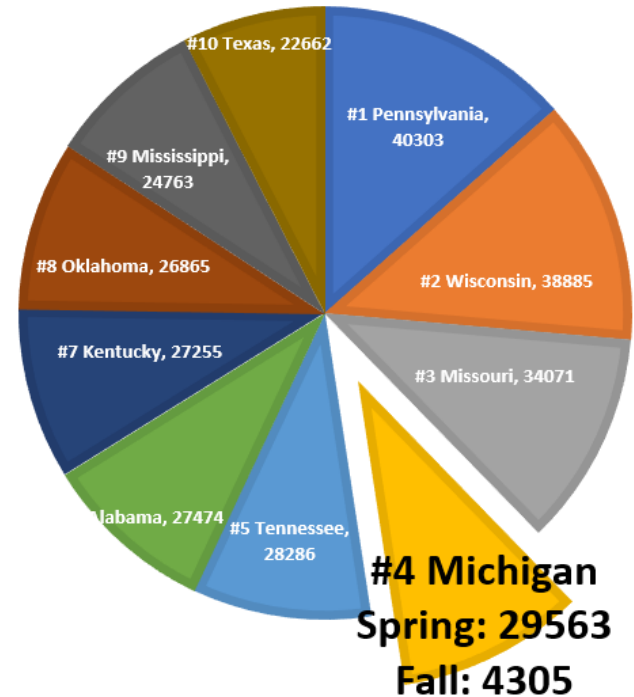


In the last 5 years, we've had buyers from all 50 states!

International Turkey License Buyers

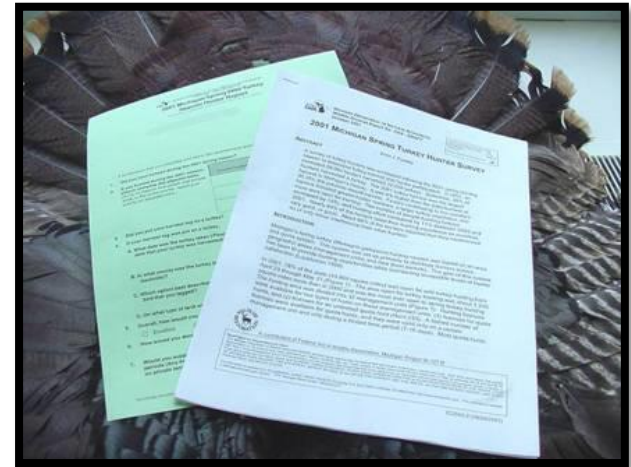
Canada Finland Germany Italy
Mexico Puerto Rico United Kingdom Portugal

2018 SPRING TURKEY HARVEST - TOP 10 STATES

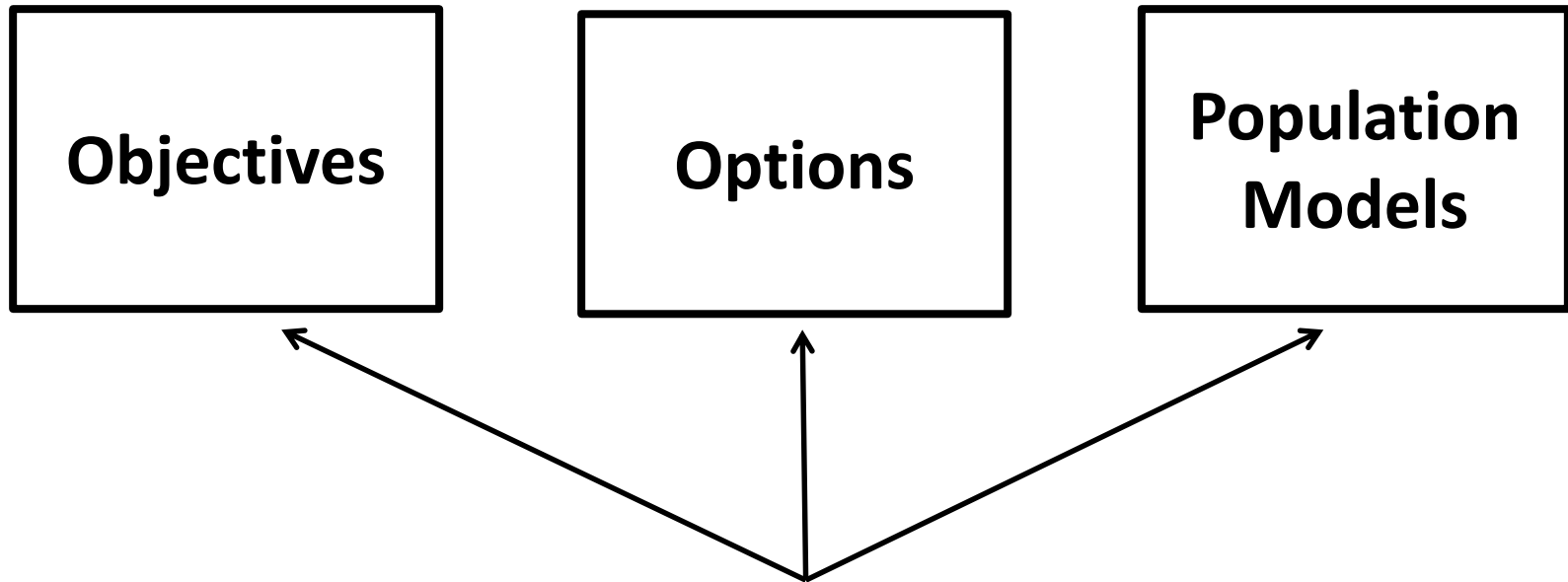


Assessment Methods

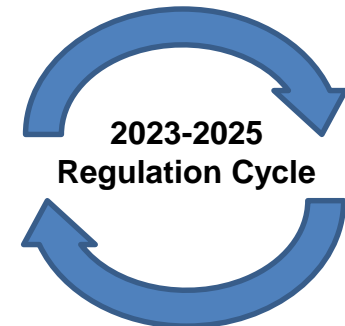
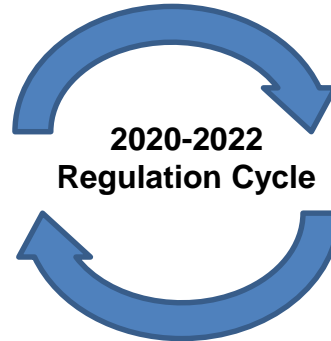
- Hunter surveys
 - Hunter satisfaction >60% (73%)
 - Hunter success >20% (43%)
 - Hunter interference <30% (<7%)
- Hunter contacts
- Input from biologists
- Structured decision making process



Structure Decision Making Workshops



Wild Turkey Regulation Setting Cycles



Timeline for SDM Implementation

2017-2019 Regulation Cycle

- Stakeholder Group
 - Input to inform WD recommendations for 2019
- Develop population assessment models
- Evaluate results for future regional application

2020-2022 Regulation Cycle

- Maintain stakeholder group
- Outreach about SDM beyond stakeholder group
 - WD, NRC
- Implementation of SDM
- Analysis informs 2023 WD recommendations

2023-2025 Regulation Cycle

- Maintain stakeholder group
- Full implementation of SDM process for statewide and regional application?

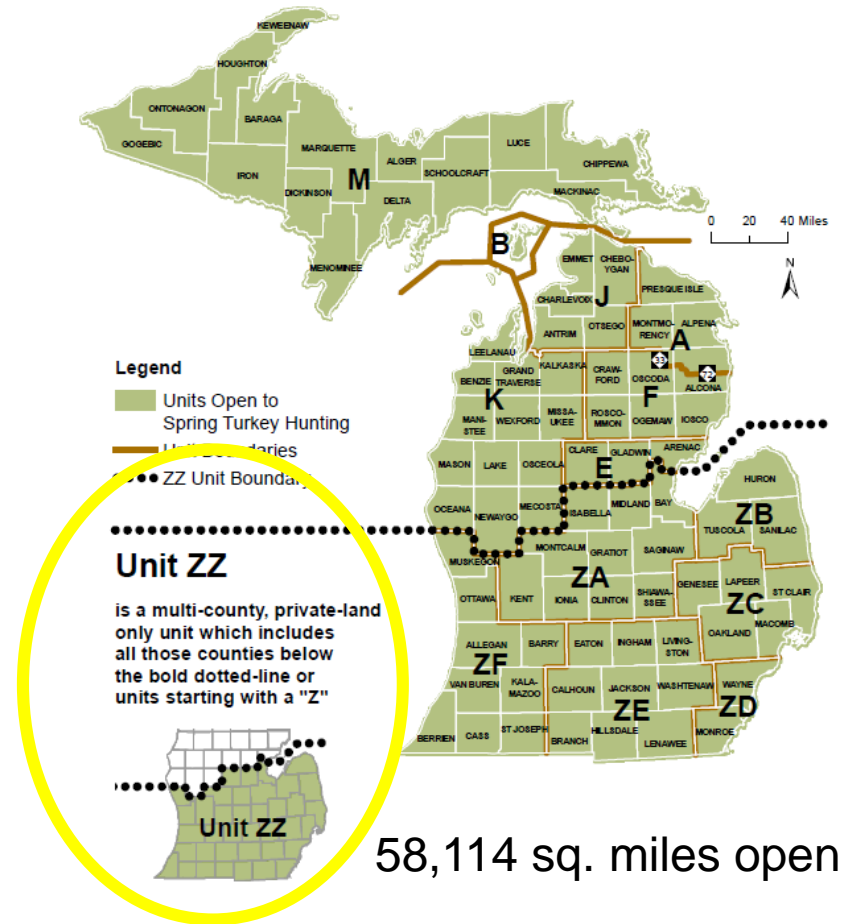
Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations



Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations

Licenses & Quotas

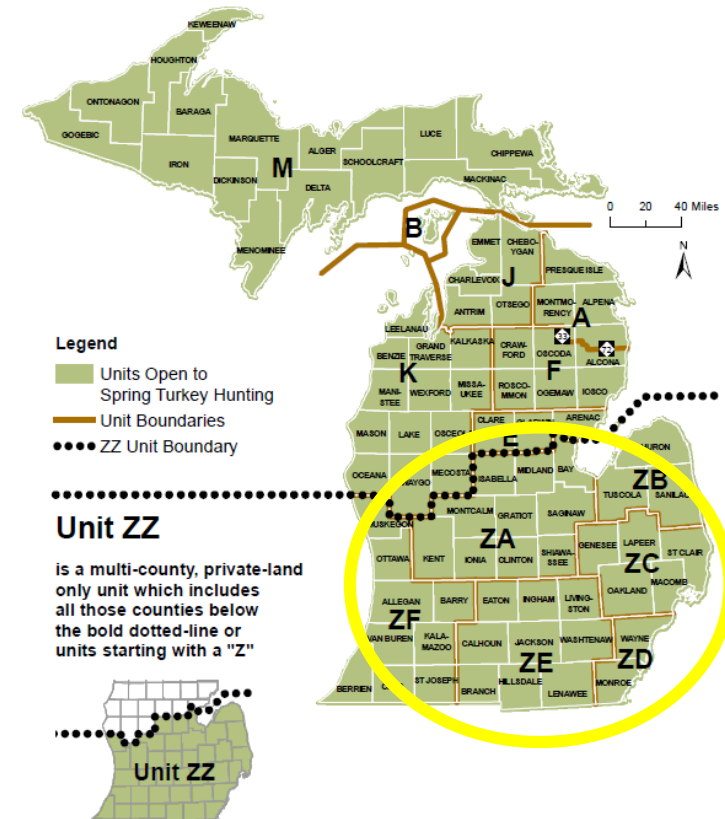
- Total of 99,140 licenses available
- 49,140 general licenses available for TMU's A, B, E, F, J, K, M, ZA, ZB, ZC, ZD, ZE, and ZF
- Increase quota for TMU ZZ (Hunt 301) in the S. Lower Peninsula from 35,000 to 50,000



Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations

Season Structures

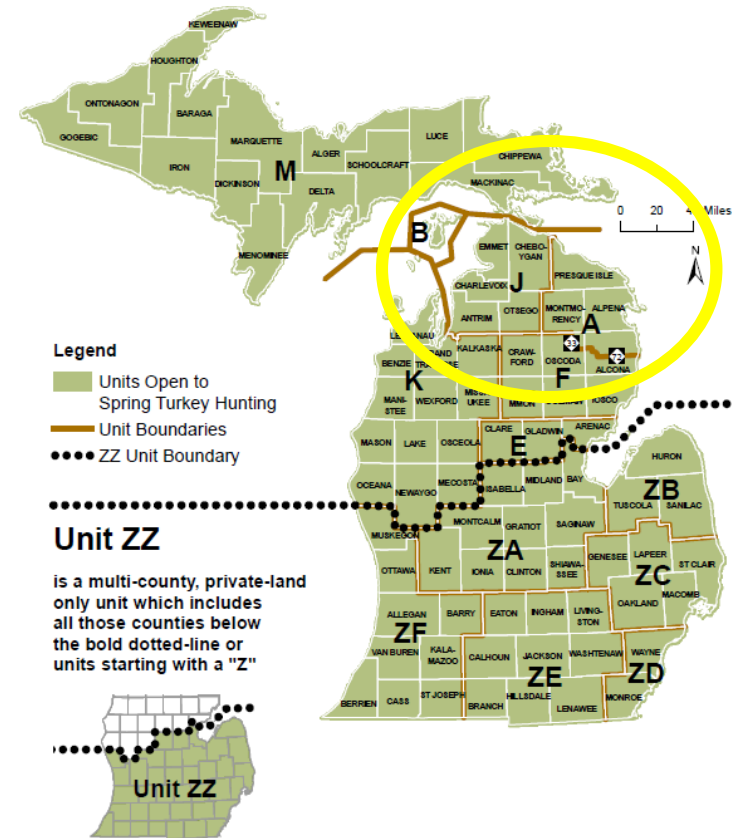
- Limited-Quota Hunts
 - Hunt 1: April 20 through April 26 plus June 1 through June 7 for 2020 (14 days)
 - Hunt 2: April 27 through May 10 for 2020 (14 days)
 - Hunt 3: May 11 through May 31 for 2020 (21 days)



Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations

Season Structure

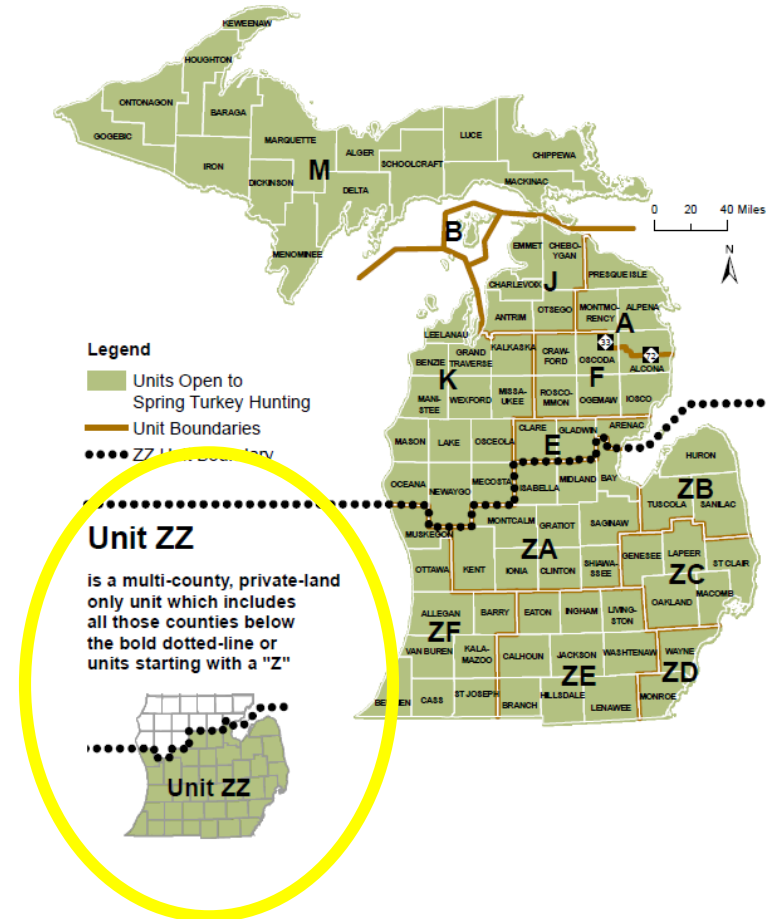
- Limited-Quota Hunts
 - Align season dates in TMUs A, B, J, and F
 - Hunt 1: April 20 through May 3 for 2020 (14 days)



Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations

Season Structures

- Private-land Hunt Unit
 - TMU ZZ (Hunt 301) good for the entire season
 - April 20 through May 31 for 2020



Proposed Spring Turkey Regulations

- Allow hunting of turkey with a firearm from a scaffold, raised platform, or tree



A photograph of two hunters in camouflage gear walking through a field. In the foreground, a large turkey with its tail feathers fanned out is visible. The background shows a line of bare trees, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The text "Thank You" is overlaid in the center.

Thank You



2019 Fall Elk Season Results



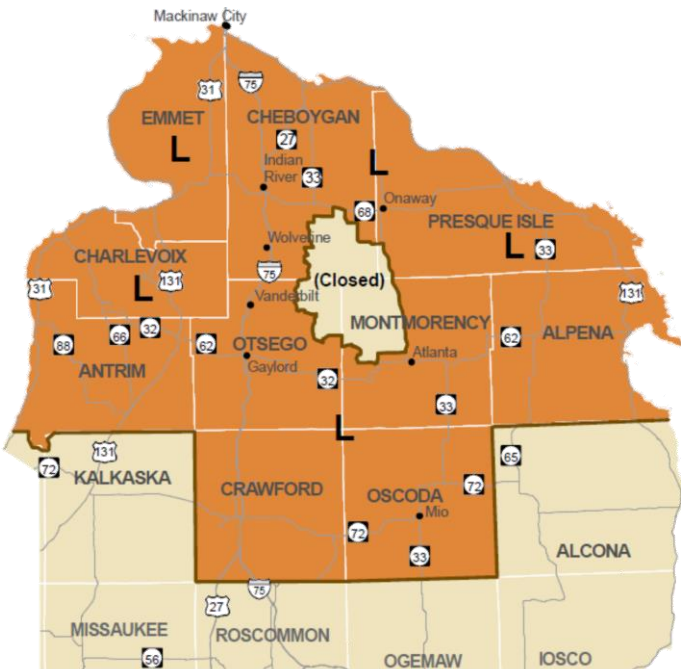
Chad Stewart
Deer, Elk, and Moose Specialist
Wildlife Division
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

2019 Preliminary Elk Season Summary

- Hunt Period 1:
 - Aug 27-Aug 30, Sept 13-16, Sept 27-30
- Overall favorable weather
- License Quota: 100
 - 30 any elk
 - 70 antlerless only elk

Elk Harvest – Early Season

- **Hunt Period 1 Harvest**
(96 hunters)
 - State hunter harvest: 71 legally harvested elk
 - 29 antlered elk (bulls)
 - 42 antlerless elk (40 cows)
 - 74% success
 - 3 bulls by Pure Michigan Hunters
 - Tribal harvest: 6 elk
 - 3 antlered elk, 3 antlerless elk



Elk Harvested Fall 2019

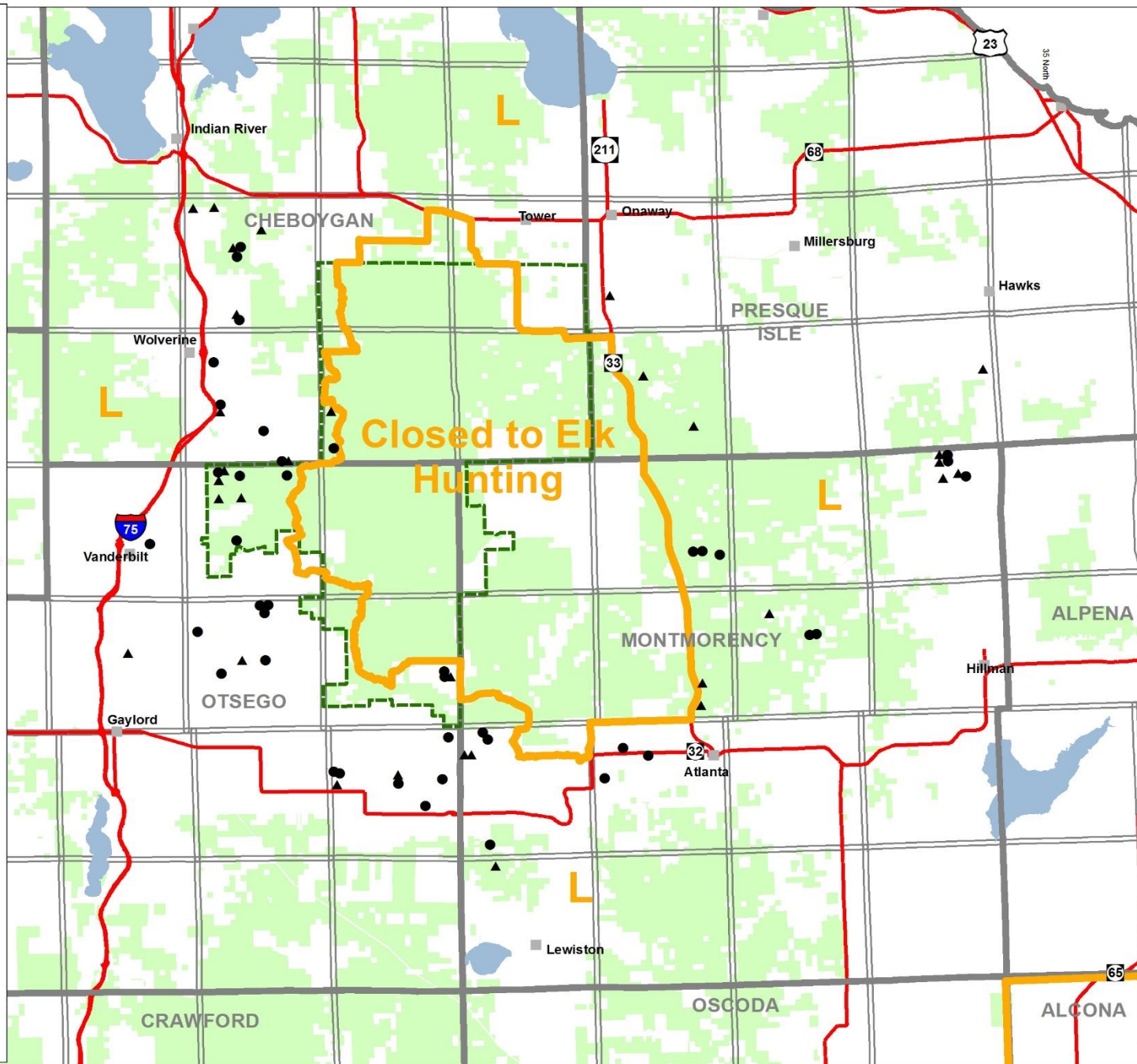


Legend

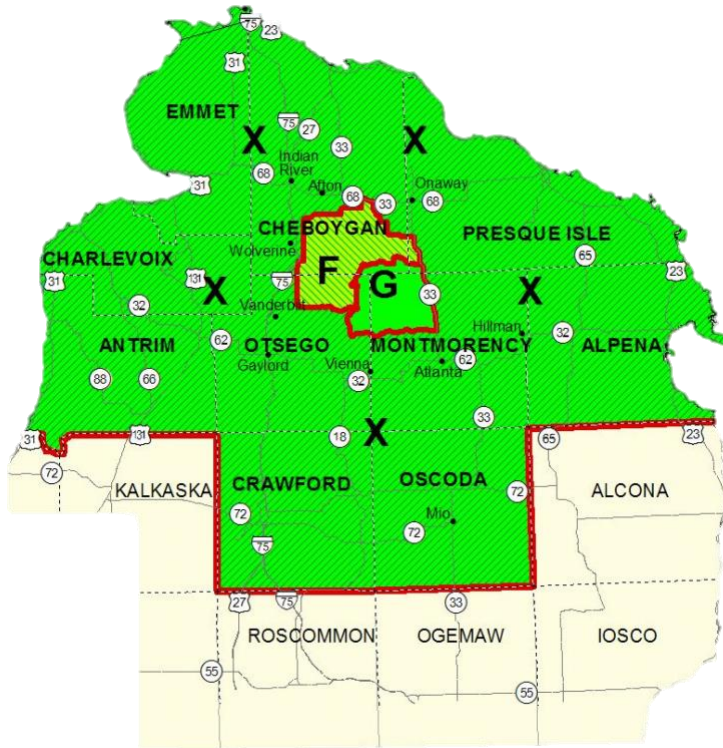
- ▲ Bull
- Antlerless
- Orange line Elk Hunt Unit Boundary
- Green dashed line Pigeon River Country Boundary NO ORVs
- Grey line Counties
- Grey square Cities
- Red line Highway
- Blue Lakes and Rivers
- White outline Township
- Light green State Land



0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



Elk Harvest – Hunt Period 2



- Hunt Period 2
 - Includes F, G, and X
 - December 14-22
 - Quota is 100 elk
 - 30 any elk
 - 70 antlerless only

Questions?



www.Michigan.gov/elk