

Small Game and Upland Game Bird Regulations



Small Game & Upland Game Bird Regulations

- Recommend all small game and upland game birds to be taken from an elevated platform using all lawful methods of take
 - Current method is with shotgun/archery only
- Request by the NRC at February Meeting



Small Game & Upland Game Bird Regulations

- Expands hunters' choice for method of take
- Increases uses for existing elevated platforms
- No biological impact
- Simplifies regulations



Thank You



2020-21 Elk Regulations



Chad Stewart, Deer and Elk Management Specialist
Wildlife Division
April 16, 2020



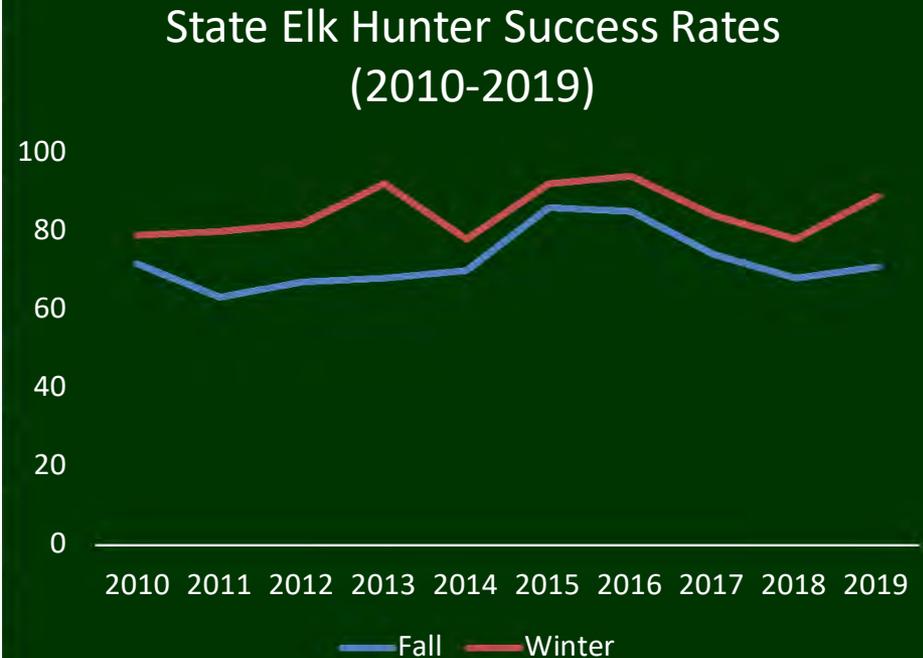
Elk Program Goals

- 500-900 Elk
- 2019 Elk survey
 - 1,196 estimated animals (95% CI: 930-1,492)
 - 1,173 estimated in 2018
 - 1,158 estimated in 2017
- Elk outside core:
 - potential bTB crossover and agricultural damage



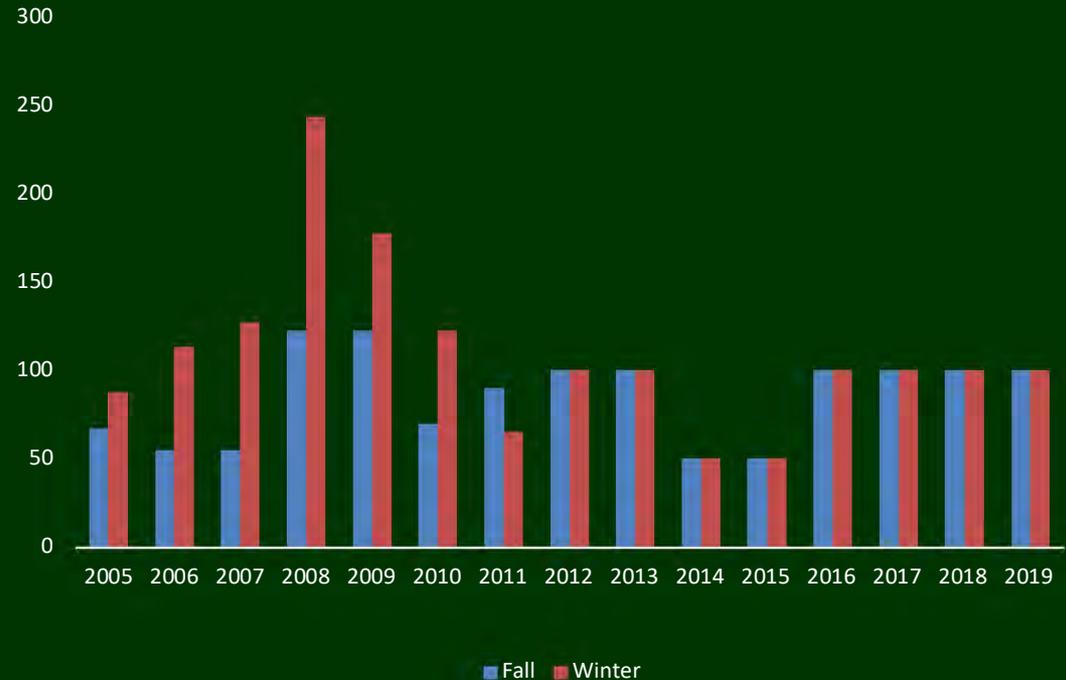
State Elk Hunter Success Rates

Year	Fall	Winter
2010	71.7	79.1
2011	63.3	80.0
2012	67.0	82.0
2013	68.0	92.0
2014	70.0	78.0
2015	86.0	92.0
2016	85.0	94.0
2017	74.0	84.0
2018	68.0	78.0
2019	71.0	89.0
2015-2019 Avg	76.8	87.4



Historic Quotas and Demand

- 2019
 - ~37,000 applicants
 - +5,100 applicants for chance only
 - Odds to draw
 - Any elk tag: 0.16%
 - Antlerless elk tag: 0.81%

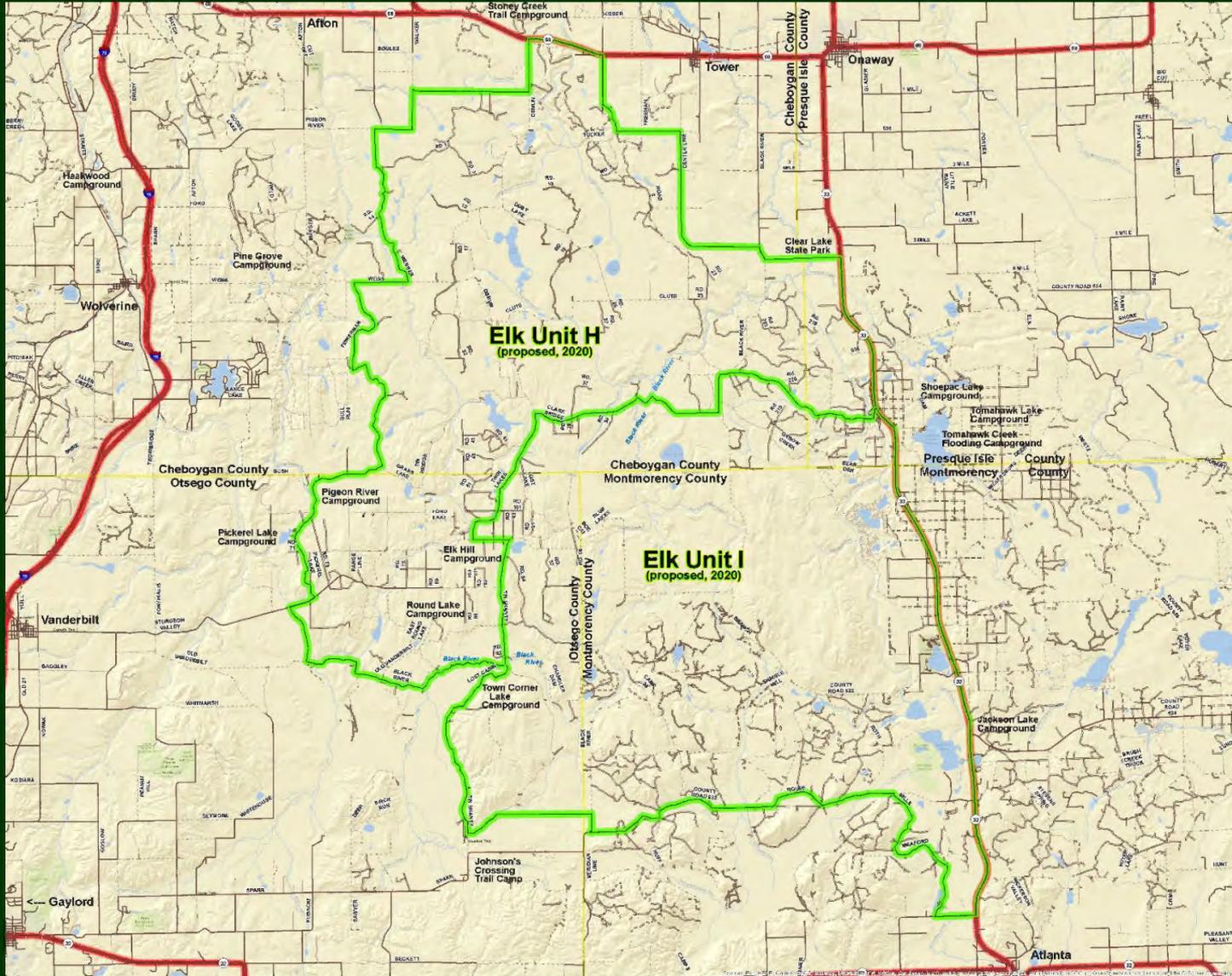


Nuisance Elk Reports

Activity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Contacts	66	58	116	98	N/A	31	47	31
Number of Landowners	9	11	16	8	N/A	7	9	14



Proposed boundary changes



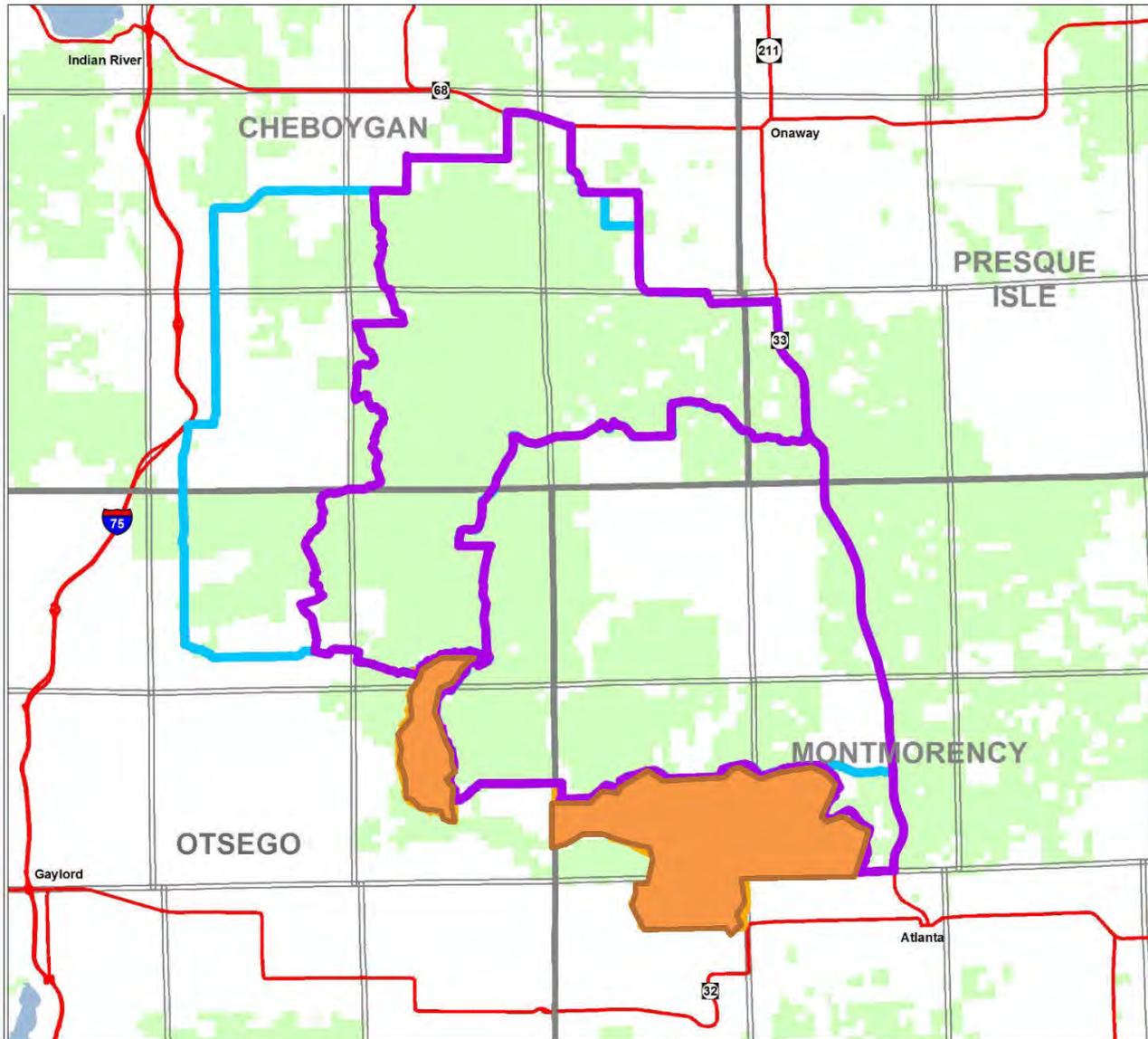
Proposed Elk Hunt Boundary 2020

Legend

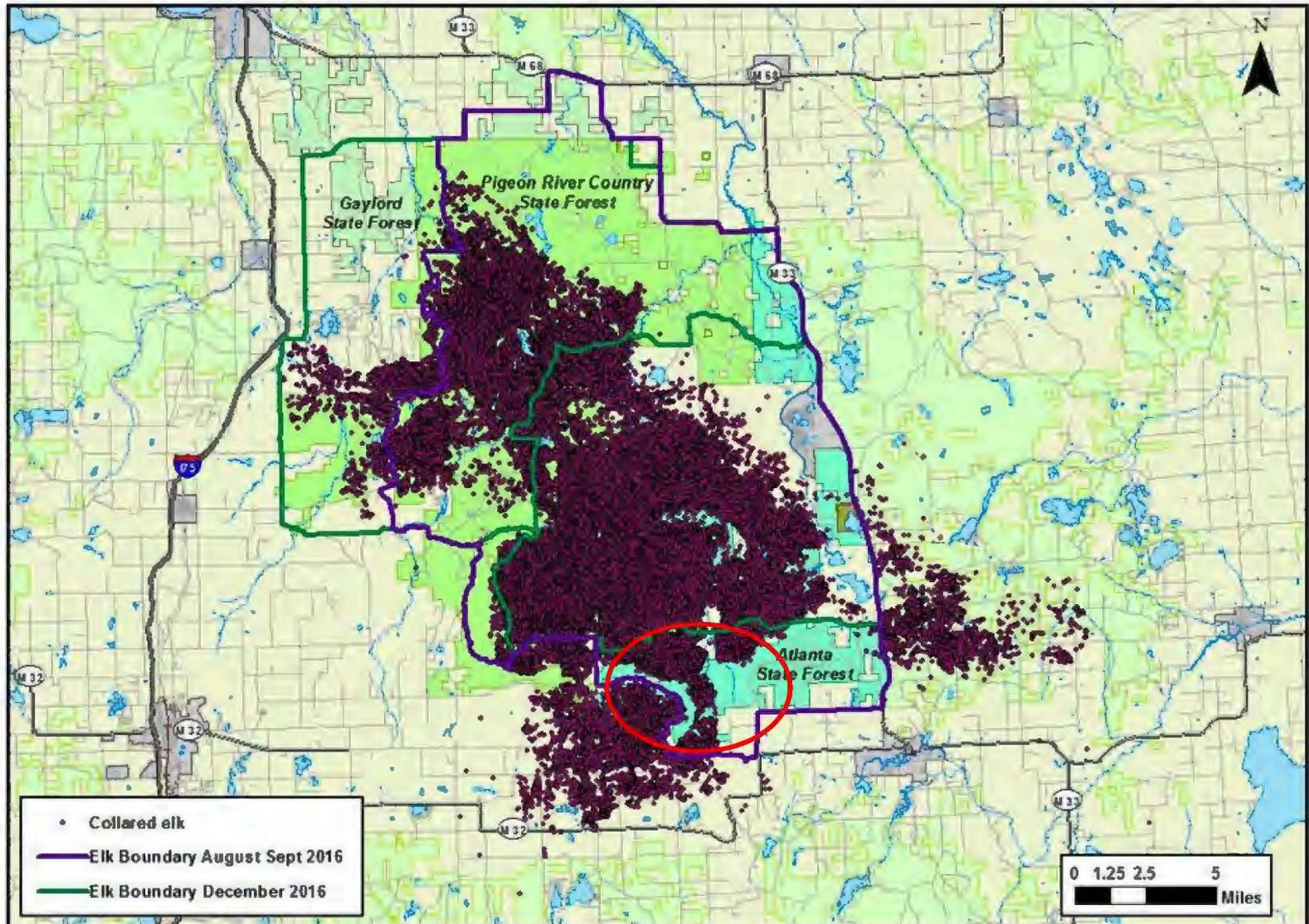
- 2020 Draft Elk Hunt Boundary
- Fall Boundary
- December Boundaries
- PRC Boundary
- Counties
- Cities
- Highway
- Lakes and Rivers
- Township
- State Land



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles



Collared elk locations (2016-2019) in relation to elk hunting zones



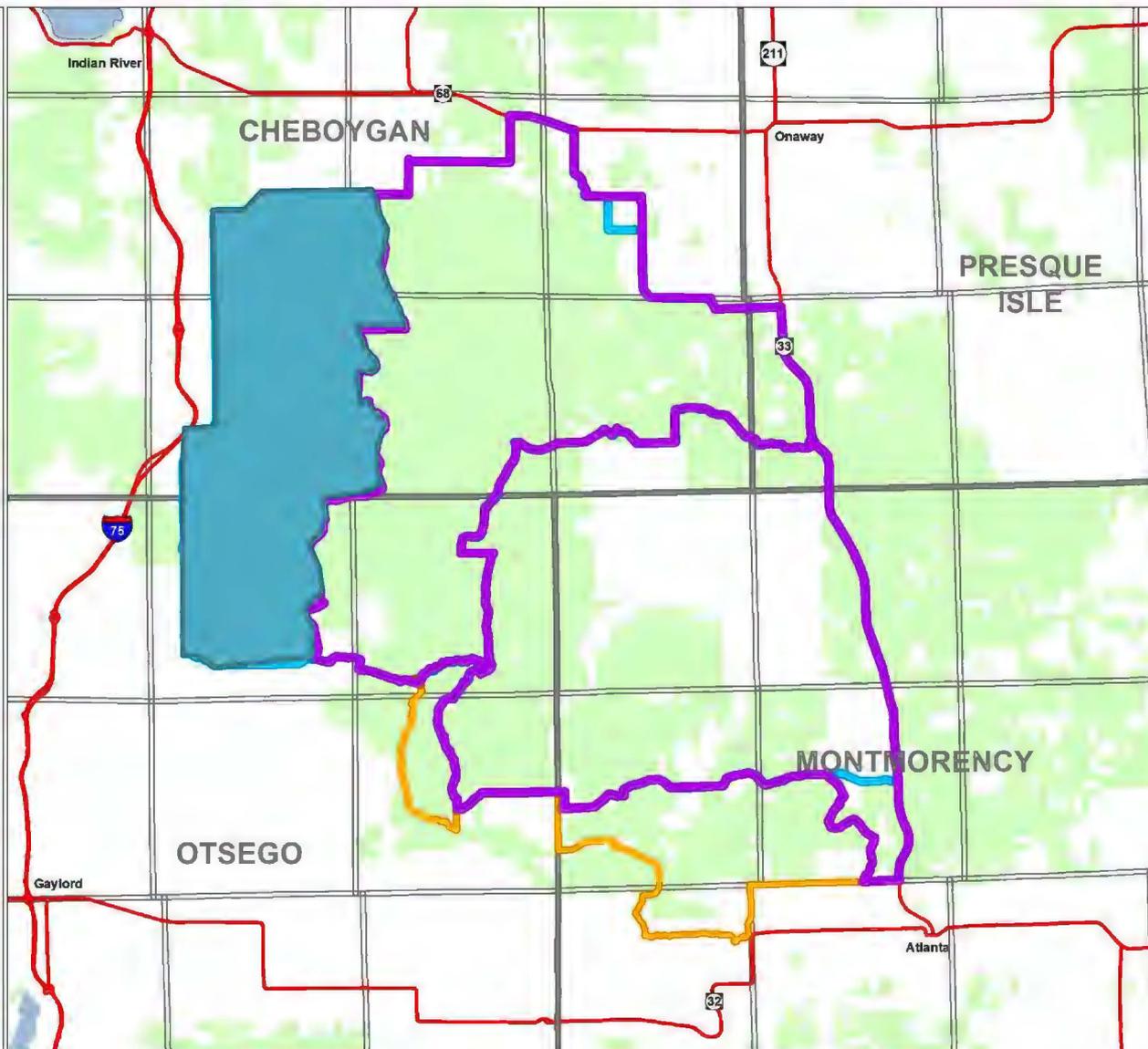
Draft Elk Hunt Boundary 2020

Legend

- 2020 Draft Elk Hunt Boundary
- Fall Boundary
- December Boundaries
- PRC Boundary
- Counties
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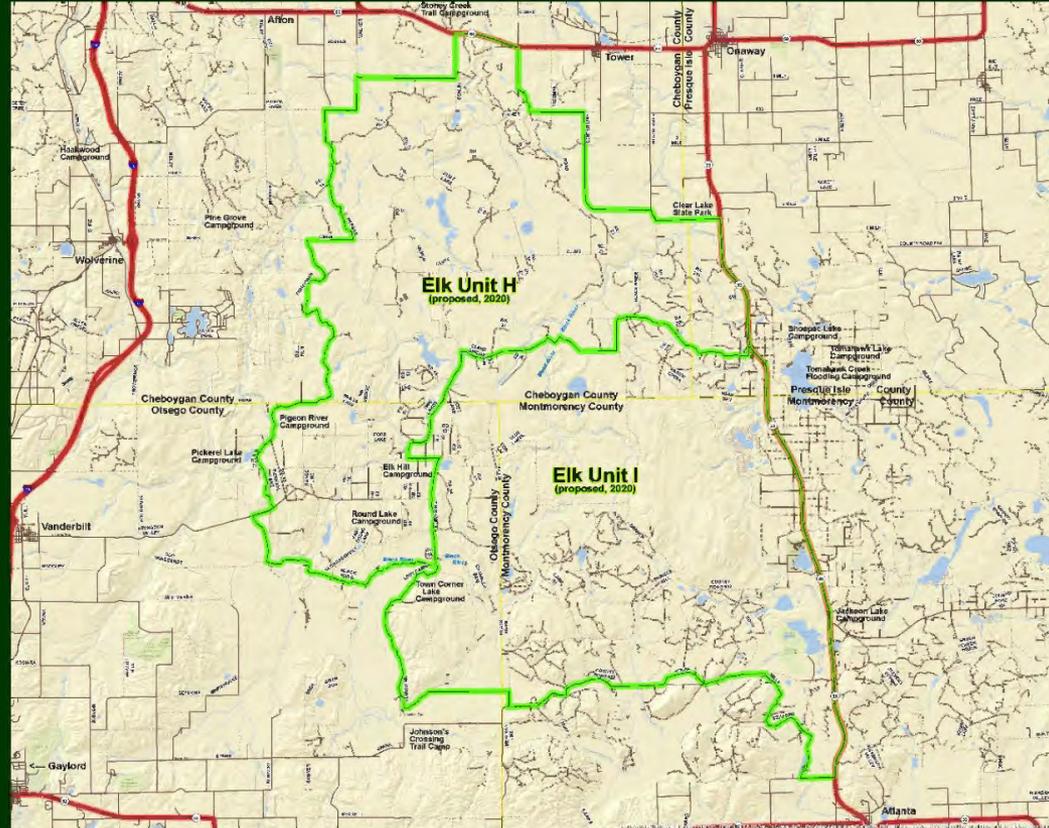


0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles



Summary: Proposed boundary changes

- Elk units F & G (December) redefined and renamed H & I
- Closed boundary in September now matches EMU H & I
 - Provides consistency between seasons



2020 & 2021 Proposed License Quotas

- Increase of 60 state licenses
- 260 licenses
 - 100 licenses in September
 - 70 antlerless
 - 30 either sex
 - 160 licenses in December
 - 110 antlerless
 - 50 either sex



Season Dates and License Quotas

Hunt Period 1

Sept. 1-4, 2020 Aug. 31- Sept. 3, 2021

Sept. 18-21, 2020 Sept. 17-20, 2021

Oct. 2-5, 2020 Oct. 1-4, 2021

Hunt Period 2

Dec. 12-20, 2020 Dec. 11-19, 2021

Unit	Any Elk	Antlerless
X	30	70

Unit	Any Elk	Antlerless
H	20	40
I	30	70
Total	50	110



Tribal Licenses

- The 2007 Inland Consent Decree authorizes the five 1836 Treaty Tribes to issue licenses equal to 10% of state issued elk licenses, rounded up.
 - Issuance of 26 tribal licenses associated with proposed quotas
 - Issuance of 1 tribal license associated with 3 Pure Michigan Hunt winners



Thank You

www.michigan.gov/elk



2020-21 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons



Barbara Avers, Waterfowl and Wetland Specialist



Schedule

- *Dec. 10, 2019 = Proposed Frameworks
- Dec. 16, 2019 = Waterfowl Workgroup
- Feb. 1, 2020 = CWAC
- *Feb. 25, 2019 = Final Frameworks
- March 19, 2020 = NRC for Information
- April 16, 2020 = NRC for Action
- *April 30, 2020 = Season Selections Due



Canada Goose Population Status

- Mississippi Flyway temperate-breeding geese long-term increasing trend
- Subarctic-nesting geese stable but variable
- Michigan Canada geese near top of goal range



2020 Goose Season Federal Framework



2020 Goose Season Federal Framework



- Season length and outside dates
 - Maximum 107 days
 - Between Sept. 1 - Feb. 15
- 4 segments allowed



2020 Goose Federal Frameworks – Bag Limits

- Canada daily limits:
 - Maximum 5 birds Sept. 1-30
 - Maximum 3 birds remainder of season
- White-fronted daily limits:
 - Maximum 5 birds in aggregate with dark geese
- Brant daily limits:
 - Maximum 1 bird in aggregate with dark geese
- Snow, blue, Ross' daily limits:
 - Maximum 20 birds

Possession limits 3X daily limit



2020 Michigan Goose Season Recommendations



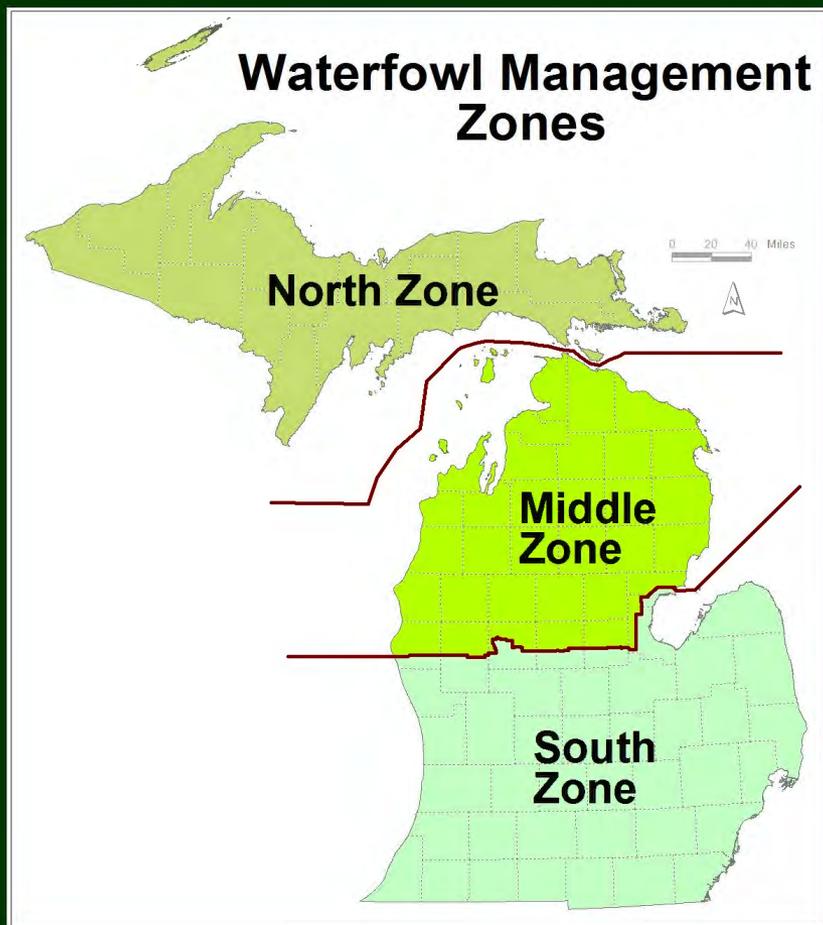
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – North Zone



- Sept. 1-30
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20
- Oct. 1 – Dec. 16
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20



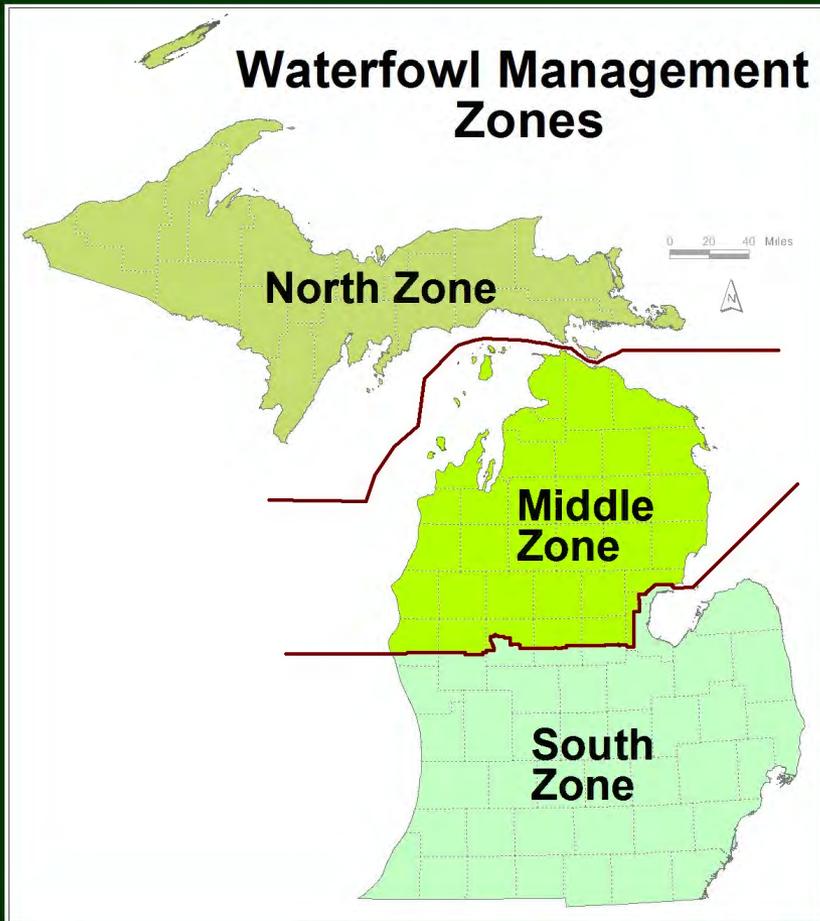
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – Middle Zone



- Sept. 1-30
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20
- Oct. 1 – Dec. 16
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20



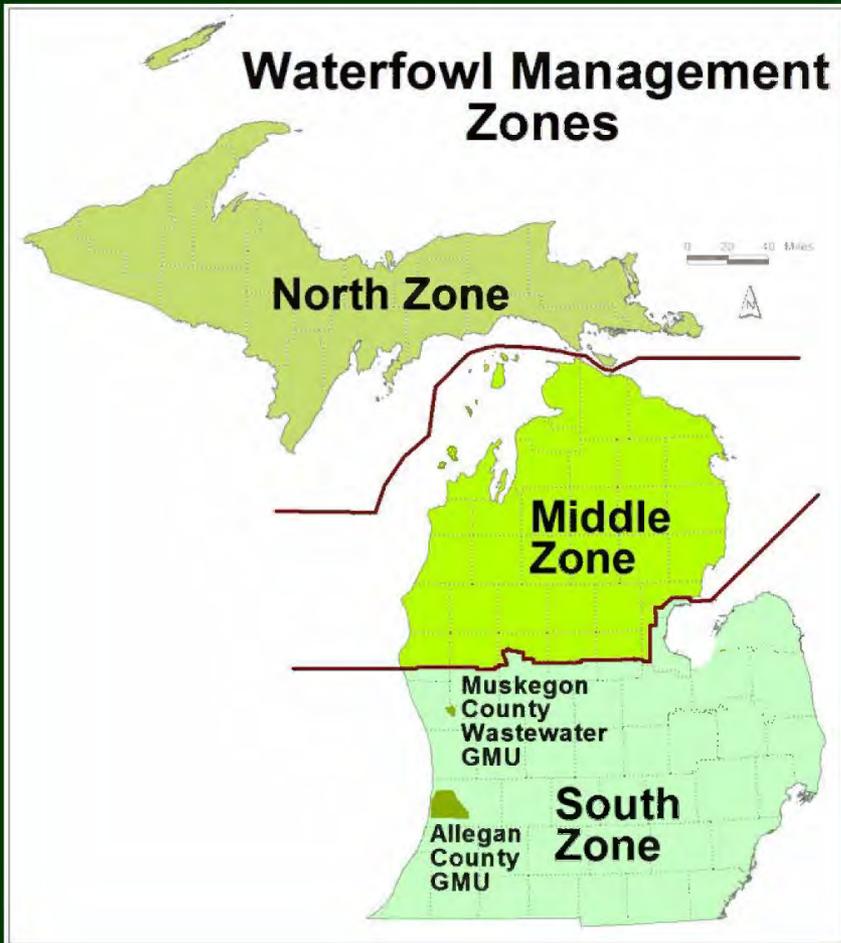
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – South Zone



- Sept. 1-30
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20
- Oct. 10 – Dec. 6, Dec. 26-27, and Jan. 23-Feb. 8, 2021
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20



2020 Goose Season Recommendations – GMUs



- Allegan County
 - Sept. 1-30
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20
 - Nov. 7-14; Nov. 26-Dec. 6; and Dec. 19 – Feb. 14, 2021
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20



2020 Goose Season Recommendations – GMUs



- Muskegon County Wastewater
 - Oct. 17 – Dec. 22
 - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
 - Light goose daily limit = 20

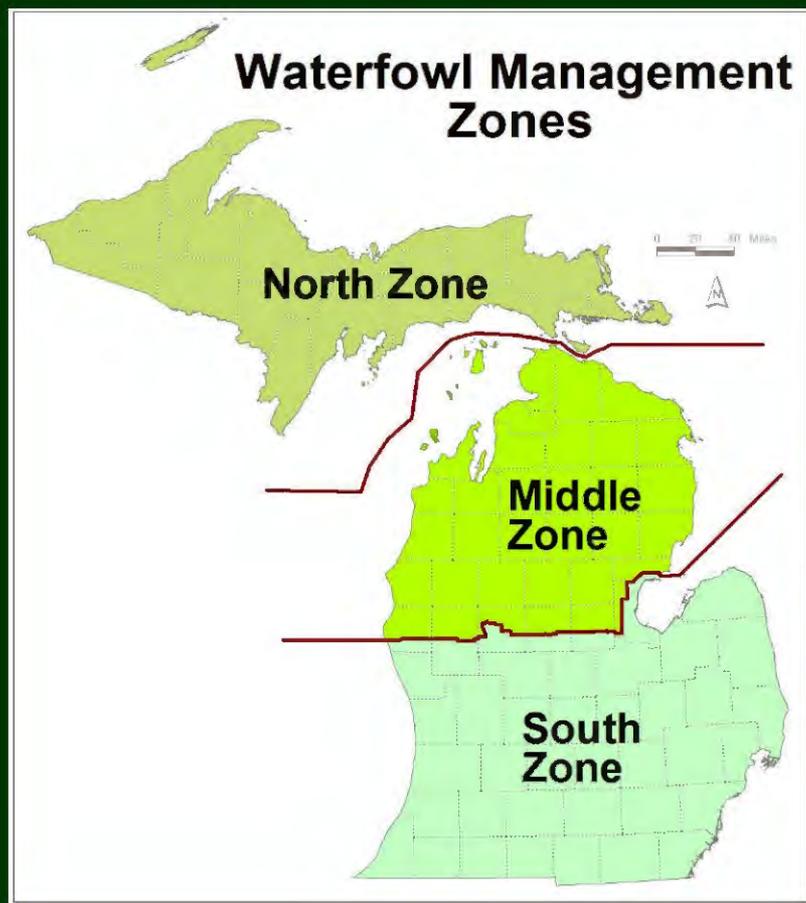


2019 Duck Population Status

- Mid-Continent duck populations down slightly from 2018
- Mid-continent mallards similar to 2018
- Michigan total duck and mallard estimates down from 2018



2020 Duck Season Federal Framework

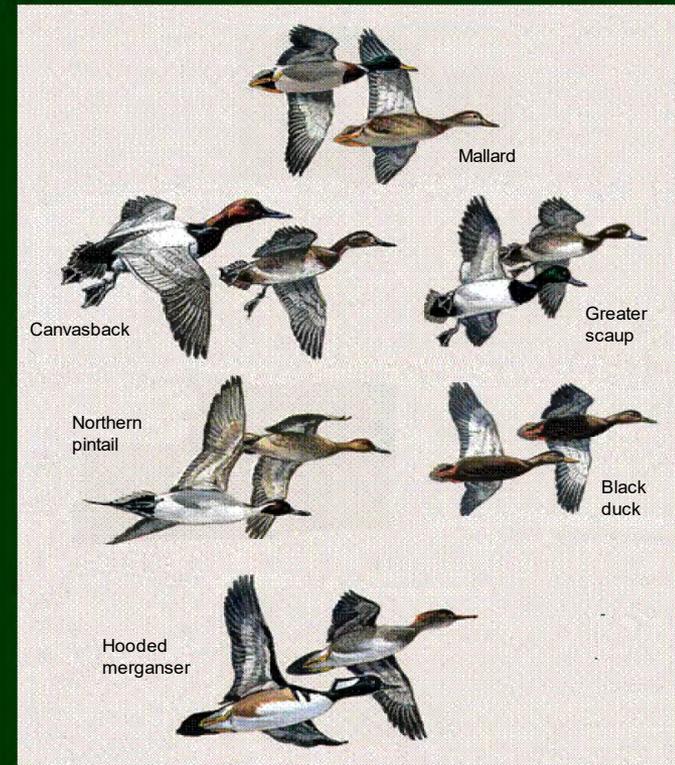


- Liberal season
 - Maximum 60 days
 - Between Saturday nearest Sept. 24 and January 31
 - Maximum 6 birds per day
- Possession limit 3X daily limit
- Seasons set by Zone
- One split per Zone

2020 Duck Season

Federal Framework – Daily Limits

- 6 ducks combined
 - Mallard
 - Maximum 4 birds
 - Maximum 2 hens
 - Wood duck
 - Maximum 3 birds
 - Redhead, Canvasback, & American black duck
 - Maximum 2 birds
 - **Scaup**
 - 2 for 45 days and 1 for 15 days
 - Northern pintail
 - Maximum 1 bird
 - All other ducks
 - 6 birds
- 5 mergansers combined
 - Maximum 2 hooded mergansers

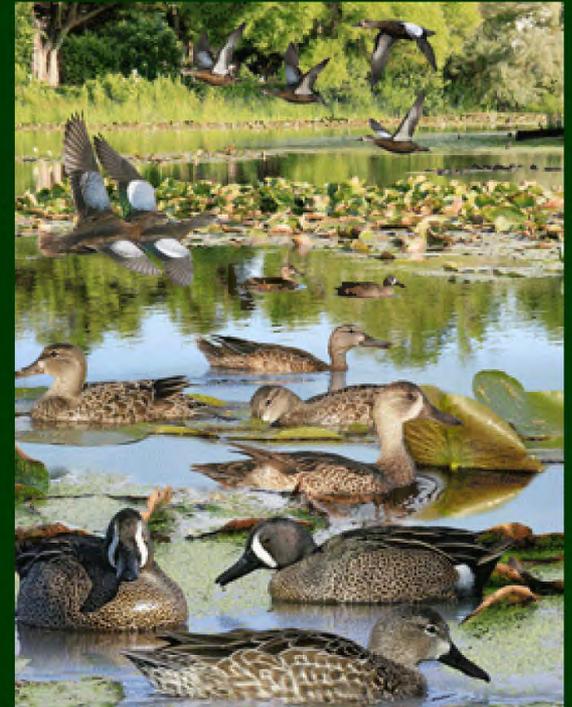


2020 Michigan Duck Season Recommendations



2020 Early Teal Season Recommendation

- Sept. 1 – 16 Statewide
- Daily limit 6 teal
- Possession 3X
- Hunting hours begin at sunrise



2020 Youth Season Recommendations

- Remain 3rd weekend in September (Sept. 19-20)
- Daily and possession limits same as regular waterfowl seasons



Veterans and Active-Duty Waterfowl Hunt Recommendations

- New opportunity
- 2 days in addition to regular duck seasons
- Hold concurrently with Youth Season
(September 19-20)
- Bag limits for Youth Season apply



3-Year Stable Opening Dates

- North Zone – last Saturday in Sept.:
 - 2019 = Sept. 28
 - 2020 = Sept. 26
 - 2021 = Sept. 25
- Middle Zone – 1st Saturday in Oct.:
 - 2019 = Oct. 5
 - 2020 = Oct. 3
 - 2021 = Oct. 2
- South Zone – 2nd Saturday in Oct.:
 - 2019 = Oct. 12
 - 2020 = Oct. 10
 - 2021 = Oct. 9



2020 Duck Season Recommendations – Dates



- North Zone
 - Sept. 26 – Nov. 22
 - Nov. 28 – 29
- Middle Zone
 - Oct. 3 – Nov. 29
 - Dec. 12 – 13
- South Zone
 - Oct. 10 – Dec. 6
 - Dec. 26 – Dec. 27



2020 Duck Season

Recommendations – Daily Limits

- Maximum allowed under Federal Frameworks
- Scaup:
 - North Zone: Sept. 26 to Nov. 9 (2-bird limit), Nov. 10 - 22 (1-bird limit), and Nov. 28 - 29 (1-bird limit)
 - Middle Zone: Oct. 3 to Nov. 16 (2-bird limit), Nov. 17 – Nov. 29 (1-bird limit) and Dec. 12 – Dec. 13 (1-bird limit)
 - South Zone: Oct. 10 - 25 (1-bird limit), Oct. 26 to Dec. 6 (2-bird limit), and Dec. 26 - 27 (2-bird limit)

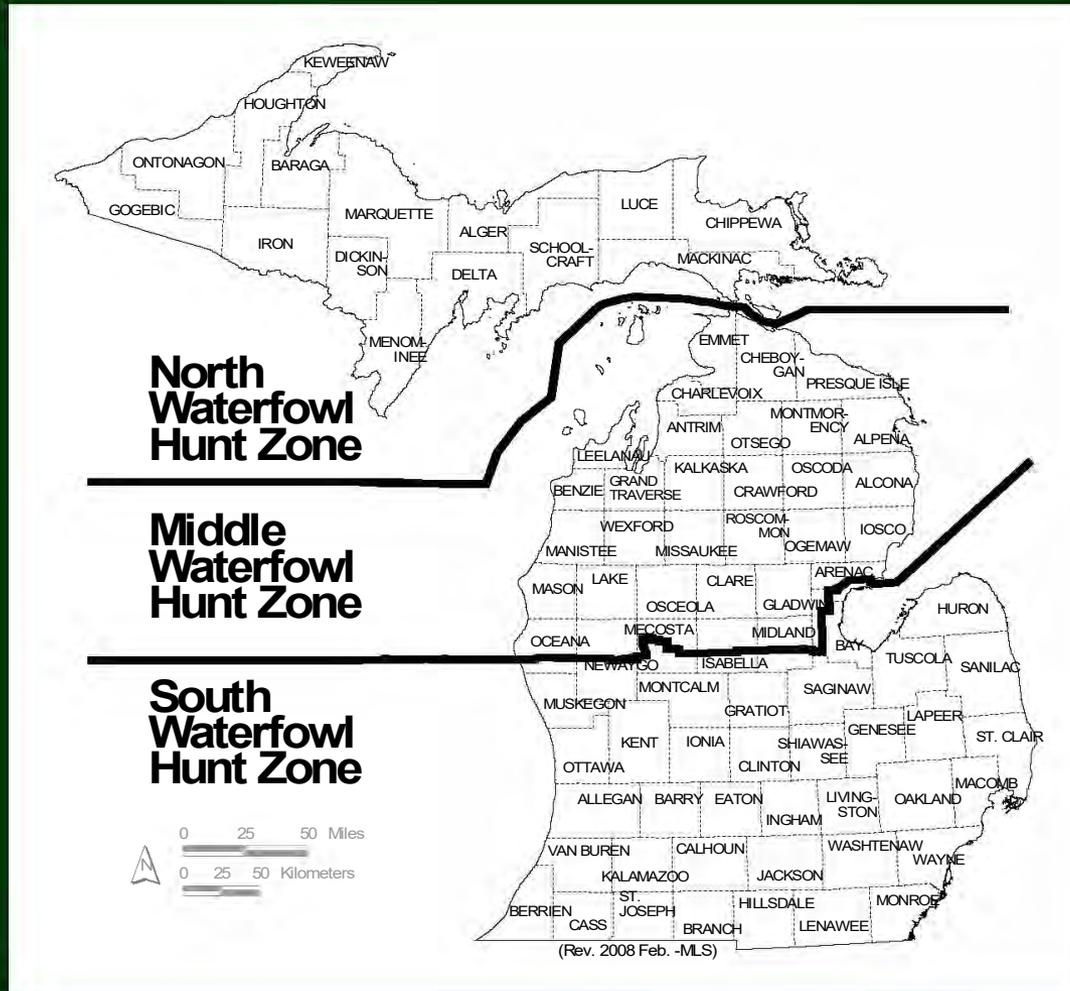


2020 Falconry Season Recommendations

- Same dates as gun hunting
- Additional days for ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens:
 - Dec. 28 – Jan. 10, 2021
 - Feb. 24 – Mar. 10, 2021
- No change to daily bag limits
- Possession limits 3X daily limit



Duck Hunting Zones and Splits for 2021-25 Seasons



Process

- January – June, 2019 submit proposals
- July 1, 2019 proposals due
- July 22, 2019 Waterfowl Workgroup meeting to review proposals
- August 10, 2019 CWAC meeting to discuss proposals
- August – December, 2019 solicit input on submitted proposals
 - Online waterfowl hunter survey
- December 16, 2019 Waterfowl Workgroup meeting
- February 1, 2020 CWAC meeting
- March 19, 2020 NRC (Information)
- April 16, 2020 NRC (Action)
- July 1, 2020 deadline for changes
- Implement 2021-22 hunting season (for 21-25 seasons)



Duck Hunting Zones and Splits for 2021-25 Seasons

- 3 proposals evaluated:
 - Eastern UP (move the area east of I-75 in the UP to the Middle Zone)
 - Saginaw Bay (move the area north of M-25 into the Middle Zone)
 - Northwestern LP (move the area west of US-131 into the South Zone OR move the area west of US-31 into the South Zone)



Online Waterfowl Hunter Survey

- Available Oct. 10 - Nov. 8
- Sent to 85,522 emails (RSS and Gov Delivery)
- 2,705 responses (3.16% response rate)
- Questions asked about:
 - Waterfowl hunting activity
 - Type of land hunted
 - Preferred hunting zone and region
 - Opinions about the 2018 duck hunting season
 - Opinions about season structure
 - 77% support 3 zones with split season
 - Preference for hunting zone configurations in 3 regions



2021-25 Waterfowl Hunting Zone Recommendation

- Move Saginaw Bay to the Middle Zone using M-25 as the dividing line between Middle and South Zones
 - Support from survey
 - 62% of Saginaw Bay hunters lose hunting opportunity late in season because of weather
 - Preference for this change in all zones and regions
 - Support from Saginaw Bay waterfowl hunting groups
 - Support from DNR managed waterfowl hunting area staff and SE Regional staff

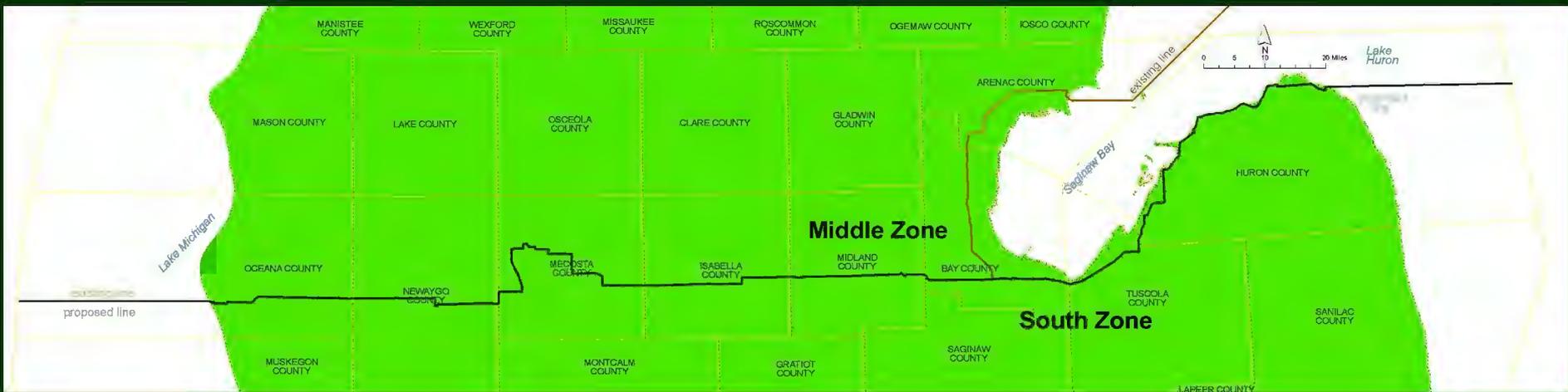


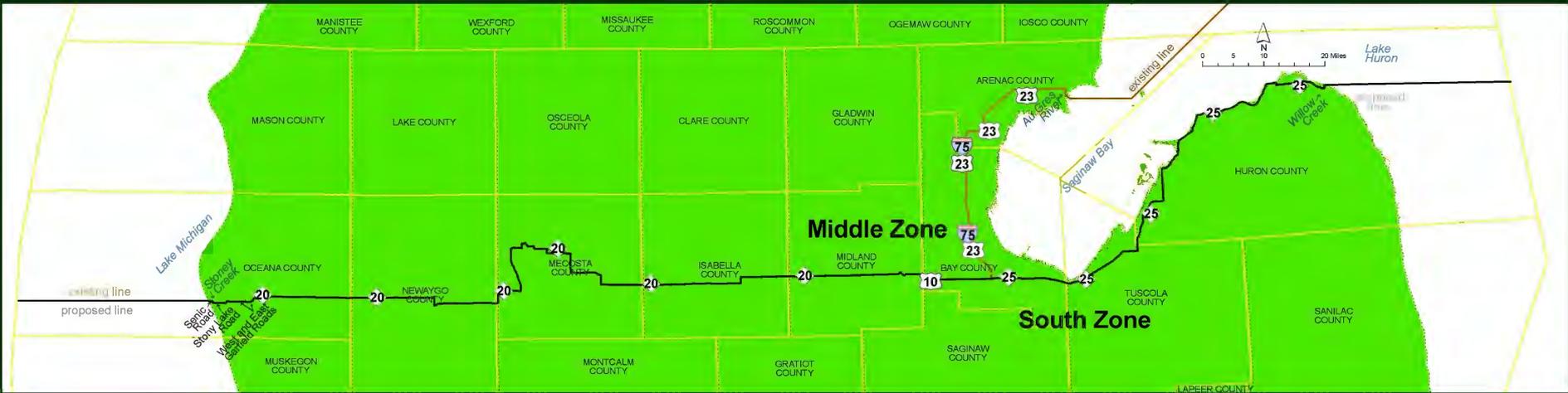
Waterfowl Management Zones



Waterfowl Management Zones







Thank You



Dan O'Brien DVM PhD
Kelly Straka DVM MPH
Wildlife Disease Lab
MDNR



Photo: M. Cosgrove, MDNR

2019 BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS SURVEILLANCE



Natural Resources
Commission Update
April 16, 2020