ANNUAL HARVEST SUMMARY REPORT
DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Hell Creek WMA

2025-2026 Season



The goal for this club/cooperator based on the most recent Annual DMAP Application completed is as follows:

A description of this goal, as well as other deer herd management goals may be found in Section 8 of the Annual DMAP Application. To view your Annual DMAP Application contact your DMAP Biologist or visit https://xnet2.mdwfp.com/NRIS/ .

DMAP VISION

To put the landowner/ cooperator in a better position to manage their lands for a healthy deer herd, while maintaining habitat integrity.

DMAP REPORT

For more information, visit our website
www.mdwfp.com/dmap

DMAP Harvest Summary

Date: 11/09/2026 *** Hell Creek WMA *** Club ID: 6995

Season: 2025		Acres: 2344
Location: Union County, MS		Years on DMAP: 27
Soil Region: Interior Flatwoods	Biologist: Justin Hughes	% Data Collected: 100

Table 1. Harvest Summary

	Number Harvested	Acres Per Deer Harvested
Bucks	11	213
Does	12	195
Totals	23	102

Table 2. Harvest History

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	RG 2024	Club Avg
Acres	2344	2344	2344	2344	2344	2344	2344	2344	2344	2284	32747	2338
Total Deer	23	28	17	21	17	24	26	12	23	5	253	20
Buck	11	7	2	6	5	5	3	2	8	N/A	92	5
Doe	12	21	15	15	12	19	23	10	15	5	161	15
Acres/Deer	102	84	138	112	138	98	90	195	102	457	129	119
Acres/Buck	213	335	1172	391	469	469	781	1172	293	N/A	356	477
Acres/Doe	195	112	156	156	195	123	102	234	156	457	203	159

Table 3. Age Distribution

	Bucks		Does		Management Bucks		Criteria Bucks	
Age	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1.5	3	27	2	17	0	0	3	27
2.5	2	18	4	33	0	0	2	18
3.5	2	18	1	8	0	0	2	18
4.5	3	27	0	0	0	0	3	27
5.5	1	9	2	17	0	0	1	9
6.5	0	0	2	17	0	0	0	0
7.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.5	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	0

DMAP Harvest Summary

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Table 4. Statistics for Doe Harvest

Age	Number Harvested	Avg Live Weight	Percent Lactating
0.5	0	0	0
1.5	2	90	0
2.5	4	97	50
3.5	1	100	100
4.5	0	0	0
5.5	2	100	50
6.5	2	100	100
7.5	0	0	0
8.5	1	120	0
Totals	12	101	

Table 5. Doe Harvest History

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	RG 2024	Club Avg
Total Does	12	21	15	15	12	19	23	10	14	5	163	15
Acres/Doe	195	112	156	156	195	123	102	234	167	457	201	160
% Harvest By Age												
% 0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	3	1
% 1.5	17	10	40	20	33	32	13	20	36	20	13	23
% 2.5	33	14	33	40	42	37	43	40	29	60	8	35
% 3.5+	50	76	27	40	25	32	43	30	36	20	73	41
Average Weight												
0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	59	50
1.5	90	77	86	87	94	76	93	88	93	100	84	87
2.5	97	84	101	98	106	97	98	109	103	94	101	99
3.5+	103	94	96	109	122	112	102	108	123	125	109	105
% Lactation												
% 1.5	0	0	0	0	25	17	0	50	40	0	11	15
% 2.5	50	0	80	83	60	71	40	75	50	33	23	57
% 2.5+	60	39	88	58	62	50	60	71	33	25	55	55
% 3.5+	67	47	100	33	67	20	80	67	20	0	59	53

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Lactation Sample Size (2.5+ does checked for lactation)

2025: 10 does checked. Sample size is too small. Using 10 or fewer samples to estimate lactation rate could generate inaccurate conclusions.

Season	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Does checked	12	8	12	8	18	10
Raw rate	0.50	0.63	0.58	0.88	0.39	0.60
Avg harvest date	Oct 25	Oct 20	Oct 23	Oct 12	Oct 25	Oct 14
Days past parturition	96	91	94	83	96	85
Adjusted rate	0.75	0.86	0.82	1.00	0.63	0.82

Change in Lactation Rate Needed to Indicate a Trend in Recruitment

N	Earlier rate	Change
30-39	LR >= 0.9	0.10
30-39	0.9 > LR >= 0.8	0.14
30-39	0.8 > LR	0.18
40-49	LR >= 0.9	0.08
40-49	0.9 > LR >= 0.7	0.13
40-49	0.7 > LR	0.16
50-69	LR >= 0.9	0.08
50-69	0.9 > LR >= 0.8	0.10
50-69	0.8 > LR	0.14
70-89	LR >= 0.9	0.06
70-89	0.9 > LR >= 0.7	0.10
70-89	0.7 > LR	0.12
90+	LR >= 0.9	0.06
90+	0.9 > LR >= 0.8	0.08
90+	0.8 > LR	0.10

DMAP Harvest Summary

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Table 6. Statistics for Yearling Bucks

	Number	Percent	Avg. Live Weight	Average Points
Spikes	0	0	0	0
Forks	3	100	112	3
Totals	3			

Table 7. Buck Statistics

	Live Weight		Points		Base		Length		Spread	
Age	Number	Average	Number	Average	Number	Average	Number	Average	Number	Average
0.5	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
1.5	3	112	3	3.3	3	2.0	3	6.7	3	5.3
2.5	2	124	2	5	2	3.3	2	11.1	1	13.0
3.5	2	152	2	7	2	3.5	2	16.2	2	13.6
4.5	3	167	3	8	3	4.2	3	20.2	3	14.2
5.5	1	165	1	9	1	5.0	1	20.0	1	14.8
6.5	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
7.5	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
8.5	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A

DMAP Harvest Summary

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Table 8. Buck Harvest History (All Bucks)

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	RG 2024	Club Avg
Bucks	11	7	2	6	4	5	3	2	7	0	93	5
Acres/Buck	213	335	1172	391	586	469	781	1172	335	N/A	352	449
% .5 Bucks	0	14	0	17	0	20	0	0	0	0	2	6
# .5 Bucks	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Avg Weight	0	75	0	60	0	48	0	0	0	0	64	61
% 1.5 Bucks	27	29	0	0	0	20	0	50	57	0	16	23
# 1.5 Bucks	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	15	1.22
% Spikes	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	50	0	53	27
Avg Weight	112	140	0	0	0	76	0	135	116	0	103	117
Avg Points	3.33	4.5	0	0	0	2	0	8	3.25	0	2	4
Avg Base	2.0	2.5	0	0	0	1.5	0	2.5	2.6	0	1.7	2.2
Avg Length	6.7	11.3	0	0	0	1.5	0	8.9	9.4	0	5.7	8.0
Avg Spread	5.3	9.1	0	0	0	3.0	0	7.0	7.5	0	6.2	6.6
% 2.5 Bucks	18	14	50	50	50	20	100	0	29	0	17	32
# 2.5 Bucks	2	1	1	3	2	1	3	0	2	0	16	1.67
Avg Weight	124	135	127	145	142	115	152	0	154	0	139	141
Avg Points	5	8	6	6	9	6	6.67	0	7	0	6	7
Avg Base	3.3	3.0	3.2	2.5	3.6	3.0	3.3	0	3.2	0	2.8	3.1
Avg Length	11.1	11.8	14.5	15.0	18.2	15.6	15.7	0	15.6	0	13.6	14.9
Avg Spread	13.0	11.2	12.0	11.8	13.5	12.0	12.6	0	14.0	0	11.1	12.6
% 3.5 Bucks	18	43	50	33	50	20	0	0	14	0	26	26
# 3.5 Bucks	2	3	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	24	1.33
Avg Weight	152	173	170	172	155	175	0	0	150	0	144	165
Avg Points	7	9	8	7	8.5	8	0	0	6	0	6	8
Avg Base	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.2	4.2	3.6	0	0	4.2	0	3.3	4.0
Avg Length	16.2	18.7	15.5	18.9	20.0	20.5	0	0	19.9	0	14.0	18.5
Avg Spread	13.6	14.7	13.5	17.0	14.6	17.8	0	0	17.0	0	10.9	15.2
% 4.5 + Bucks	36	0	0	0	0	20	0	50	0	0	27	13
# 4.5 + Bucks	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	16	0.67
Avg Weight	166	0	0	0	0	175	0	150	0	0	172	165
Avg Points	8.25	0	0	0	0	6	0	8	0	0	8	8
Avg Base	4.4	0	0	0	0	4.0	0	3.9	0	0	4.2	4.2
Avg Length	20.2	0	0	0	0	18.0	0	19.6	0	0	18.5	19.7
Avg Spread	14.4	0	0	0	0	16.5	0	15.0	0	0	14.7	14.8

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Table 9. Criteria Buck Harvest History

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	RG 2024	Club Avg
Bucks	11	7	2	6	4	5	3	2	7	0	91	5
Acres/Buck	213	335	1172	391	586	469	781	1172	335	N/A	360	449
% .5 Bucks	0	14	0	17	0	20	0	0	0	0	2	6
# .5 Bucks	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Avg Weight	0	75	0	60	0	48	0	0	0	0	64	61
% 1.5 Bucks	27	29	0	0	0	20	0	50	57	0	16	23
# 1.5 Bucks	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	15	1.22
% Spikes	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	50	0	53	27
Avg Weight	112	140	0	0	0	76	0	135	116	0	103	117
Avg Points	3.33	4.5	0	0	0	2	0	8	3.25	0	2	4
Avg Base	2.0	2.5	0	0	0	1.5	0	2.5	2.6	0	1.7	2.2
Avg Length	6.7	11.3	0	0	0	1.5	0	8.9	9.4	0	5.7	8.0
Avg Spread	5.3	9.1	0	0	0	3.0	0	7.0	7.5	0	6.2	6.6
% 2.5 Bucks	18	14	50	50	50	20	100	0	29	0	18	32
# 2.5 Bucks	2	1	1	3	2	1	3	0	2	0	16	1.67
Avg Weight	124	135	127	145	142	115	152	0	154	0	139	141
Avg Points	5	8	6	6	9	6	6.67	0	7	0	6	7
Avg Base	3.3	3.0	3.2	2.5	3.6	3.0	3.3	0	3.2	0	2.8	3.1
Avg Length	11.1	11.8	14.5	15.0	18.2	15.6	15.7	0	15.6	0	13.6	14.9
Avg Spread	13.0	11.2	12.0	11.8	13.5	12.0	12.6	0	14.0	0	11.1	12.6
% 3.5 Bucks	18	43	50	33	50	20	0	0	14	0	26	26
# 3.5 Bucks	2	3	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	24	1.33
Avg Weight	152	173	170	172	155	175	0	0	150	0	144	165
Avg Points	7	9	8	7	8.5	8	0	0	6	0	6	8
Avg Base	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.2	4.2	3.6	0	0	4.2	0	3.3	4.0
Avg Length	16.2	18.7	15.5	18.9	20.0	20.5	0	0	19.9	0	14.0	18.5
Avg Spread	13.6	14.7	13.5	17.0	14.6	17.8	0	0	17.0	0	10.9	15.2
% 4.5 + Bucks	36	0	0	0	0	20	0	50	0	0	25	13
# 4.5 + Bucks	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	14	0.67
Avg Weight	166	0	0	0	0	175	0	150	0	0	172	165
Avg Points	8.25	0	0	0	0	6	0	8	0	0	9	8
Avg Base	4.4	0	0	0	0	4.0	0	3.9	0	0	4.2	4.2
Avg Length	20.2	0	0	0	0	18.0	0	19.6	0	0	18.5	19.7
Avg Spread	14.4	0	0	0	0	16.5	0	15.0	0	0	14.9	14.8

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Table 10. Management Buck Harvest History

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	RG 2024	Club Avg
Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acres/Buck	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
% .5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# .5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Weight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% 1.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# 1.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% Spikes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Weight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Points	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Base	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Spread	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% 2.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# 2.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Weight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Points	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Base	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Spread	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% 3.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# 3.5 Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Weight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Points	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Base	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Spread	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% 4.5 + Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# 4.5 + Bucks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Weight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Points	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Base	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Length	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avg Spread	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Description of the Data and Glossary of Terms

This report is based on data MDWFP receives from DMAP clubs. The club/cooperator information in the heading, including acres under management and soil region, is based on the Annual DMAP Application. Please contact your DMAP Biologist if any of the information in the heading is incorrect. The "% Data Collected" field is the percentage of deer reported on the DMAP datasheet for which jawbones were received. Harvest totals in Tables 1 and 2 are based on deer harvest reported on the DMAP datasheet (regardless of whether a jawbone was received). All other tables are based on submitted jawbones in adequate condition to age using the tooth wear and replacement technique. For all tables including Soil Region Average data, the regional data column is labeled "RG20xx." For all tables, Criteria Buck and Management Buck are defined below. Buck designations are made by the DMAP Biologist. If no designations are made, all bucks are classified as Criteria. If you have questions about Management and Criteria bucks, please contact your DMAP Biologist.

Soil Region Average (e.g., Regional Average or RG20xx) – the average of all deer in a specified parameter (i.e., harvest total, lactation, weight, etc.) reported for the year in question is used as an indicator of overall deer herd health by comparing club averages to other DMAP clubs in the same soil region.

Criteria Buck or perhaps a "trophy buck" – a buck deemed to have antler characteristics that satisfy the club's goals for antler quality. This determination is generally made by the DMAP biologist in collaboration with the DMAP club and considers buck age, antler characteristics, soil region averages, and the goals of the DMAP club.

Management Buck or perhaps a "cull buck" – a harvested buck deemed to have below average antler characteristics compared to other bucks in the same age class and soil region. As with Criteria bucks, this determination is generally made by the DMAP biologist in collaboration with the DMAP club.

Lactation Index – the percentage of does for which a DMAP club recorded "detecting lactation" on the datasheet. Where sample sizes are sufficient, this index is used to determine the number of adult does that successfully raised fawns and is used to help estimate fawn recruitment. These data may be highly variable based on the timing of doe harvest in the annual cycle, as well as how thoroughly club members check for lactation. Generally, a favorable lactation index would be 60% or greater for adult does. A low lactation index (with adequate sample size) may indicate poor habitat, overpopulation, or a significant predation influence. Doe harvest early in the season (Oct- Dec) is generally better in estimating fawn recruitment vs late season harvest (after does finish lactating). For this report, lactation index is adjusted to account for late-season harvest.

Dressed Weights - average weight to the nearest pound of a dressed animal. A dressed animal should have both the forward (heart and lungs and rear (intestines) viscera removed but not any part of the remaining carcass. Comparing club average body weights from year to year or to the coordinating soil region average can be an indicator of overall herd health. Typically, doe carcass condition is a more reliable indicator of herd health than that of bucks due to the drastic fluctuation of buck body weights during the rut. Significant annual changes in carcass condition may indicate changes in habitat, mast crop, herd density, disease influence, or even severe weather conditions.

Age Distribution of Harvest – an estimate of age structure of the population, though generally only the doe segment is assessed, as buck harvest is often biased. Balanced deer herds typically show some harvest across all age classes. However, an age structure with more older animals (>40% 3 years old or greater) may indicate a stockpile of older animals which could signal an overabundant deer herd. Age distribution data is generally best considered in context with other harvest data (i.e., lactation index, doe body weights), as well as observation data (i.e., adult sex ratio, fawn recruitment) and even camera survey data (i.e., deer density, buck age structure).

Fawn Recruitment – a measurement of the number of fawns per adult doe that survive to at least 4-6 months of age. Recruitment tends to improve with increased harvest due to freeing up available resources. Generally fawn recruitment is measured using hunter observation data or camera surveys.

Adult Sex Ratio – ratio of the total number of does to total number of bucks in a deer herd. Typically, adult sex ratio is measured using observation data or camera surveys. Deer are born at nearly a 1:1 ratio of does to bucks. Thus, adult sex ratios closer to 1:1 are ideal. In trophy management scenarios adult sex ratio may be skewed towards more bucks, but most deer herds range from 1.5:1 to 3:1.

Important DMAP Reminders for Each Season

- For more information, visit www.mdwfp.com/DMAP and check out the Deer Managers Toolkit.
- If club acreages are incorrect, they should be updated on your DMAP Application. Contact your DMAP Biologist for help updating your DMAP Application.
- Calibrate your body weight scale(s) each year, especially if your club has multiple scales.
- Don’t forget to retrieve jawbones from taxidermy bucks. The mature bucks are the most important to have aged.
- Do your best to collect all data completely. Check udders thoroughly for lactation.
- Hunter observation data can provide useful information, especially in clubs with small harvest data sets. Ask your biologist about hunter observation books.