

2019 Fall Hunting Summary

Marine Corps Base Quantico
Natural Resources Section



Purpose

The purpose of this report is to summarize results from annual surveys relevant to hunters as well as provide all species harvest data to hunters. Harvest data within includes Bear (Table 1), Small Game (Table 2), Trapping (Table 3), Turkey (Table 4, Figure 1), Waterfowl (Tables 5, Table 6), and Deer (Table 7, Table 8, Figure 2, Figure 3).

Fawn Study

We conducted a fawn study in the spring of 2019 equipping deer fawn with radio-collars that allow us to track their survival over the summer and fall. The collar stitching is made of cotton thread and wears over time, falling off generally sometime between late fall and late the following spring. This year we caught 31 fawns and tracked them daily until 1 October. On October 1st, 16 of our original 31 fawns still had their collars on. This equates to a crude estimate of 52% of the fawns successfully recruited into the population. As for the remaining 15 fawns, for some of them the collars simply fell off, others we found evidence of either predation, abandonment, or unknown cause.

Mast Crop

On an annual basis, we conduct a mast survey at the end of the summer to obtain an indicator of how much acorn mast is available. The 2019 acorn mast crop resulted in what is referred to as a “mast failure”. Mast failure is cyclic and simply means wildlife must seek out other sources of food such as grasses, forbs and soft mast for nourishment often relying on fields and road edges during failures. As mast crops are cyclical, every few years we see a “bumper” crop (a high mast yield) in mast production as well as every few years we see a failure crop. For reference, the last mast failure was 2015. Both 2016 and 2017 showed bumper crop mast production.

Hemorrhagic Disease

Hemorrhagic Disease, a general term used to describe one of the various strains of either EHD (epizootic hemorrhagic disease) or blue tongue virus, is a common disease that occurs to some degree annually in the Southeastern U.S., including Virginia. This disease is not transmitted by direct contact, but via tiny biting flies (midges, gnats, no-see-ums). Outbreaks of HD occur in late summer into the fall; deer can often be found lying dead near water – creeks, streams, lakes, etc. As for Quantico, we received two reports of dead deer near water this year: one on mainside and one in 6C. None of the harvested deer this year on Quantico showed signs of HD. **As such, we have no evidence to believe Quantico experienced an HD outbreak in the fall of 2019.**

Chronic Wasting Disease

A case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was documented in the fall of 2018 in Culpeper County, approximately 15 miles west of the base. Additionally, VDGIF confirmed a case of CWD in the northwest corner of Fauquier County, approximately 30 miles from the base. We remain outside of the mandatory CWD testing area and CWD is not known to be present within the resident deer population.

Taking a proactive approach, we took CWD samples from a select number of deer this season. The results are still pending and will be released by VDGIF in the coming weeks. For more information on Chronic Wasting Disease in Virginia, please visit the [VDGIF Website on CWD](#).

Bear

Species	Training Area	Weight
Black Bear	14B	262 lbs.

Table 1. Bear harvest on Quantico

Small Game

Species	Number Harvested
Squirrel	150
Woodcock	55
Rabbit	27
Dove	7
Coyote	4
Red Fox	1

Table 2. Small Game harvest on Quantico

Trapping

Species	Number Killed	Number Released
Coyote	4	
Raccoon	4	
Otter	3	
Red Fox	2	2
Opossum	1	
Beaver	1	

Table 3. Trapping harvest on Quantico

Fall Turkey

	Male	Female
Adult	2	1
Juvenile	3	11
Totals	5	12
	17	

Table 4. Turkey harvest on Quantico

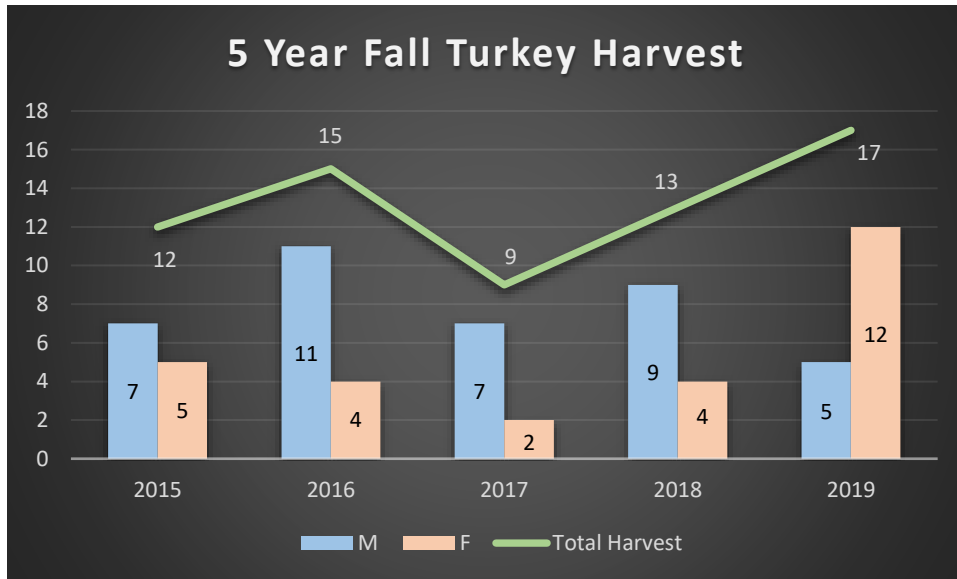


Figure 1. 5 Year fall turkey harvest by sex and total harvest

Waterfowl

Species	Number Harvested
Wood Duck	34
Goose	28
Mallard	27
Hooded Merganser	15
Gadwall	10
Black Duck	8
Ring necked Duck	7
Common Merganser	7
Bufflehead	5
American Wigeon	4
Ruddy Duck	2
Lesser Scaup	1
Northern Pintail	1
Total Geese	28
Total Ducks	121

Table 5. Waterfowl harvest on Quantico by species.

	Blind or TA	Number Harvested
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind 2	1
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind 3	11
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind 4	24
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind A	15
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind C	17
Quantico Creek	Blind 5	8
Quantico Creek	Blind 6	7
Quantico Creek	Blind 7	1
Quantico Creek	Blind 8	5
Quantico Creek	Blind E	1
Potomac River	DV/WW*	2
Potomac River	DV/WW*	8
Smith Lake	Blind 16	5
Wounded Warrior	DV/WW*	7
Jump shooting	10A	1
Jump shooting	10B	8
Jump shooting	10C	1
Jump shooting	11A	6
Jump shooting	DV/WW*	7
Jump shooting	17A	5
Jump shooting	17B	1
Jump shooting	9C	4
Jump shooting	9D	4

Table 6. Waterfowl harvest on Quantico by Blind or TA

*DV/WW: Distinguished Visitor / Wounded Warrior

Deer

	Buck	Doe
Adult (2.5+)	128	79
Yearlings (1.5)	47	23
Fawn (0.5)	30	30
Totals	205	132
	337	

Number of trips to kill 1 deer:	29
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Table 7. Deer harvest on Quantico by Age Class and Sex

Area	Buck	Doe	Total
MS	12	14	26
2	4	5	9
3	5	5	10
4	2	0	2
ETA	1	0	1
5A	9	5	14
5B	9	6	15
5C	1	9	10
6B	4	3	7
6C	6	4	10
7A	7	2	9
7B	2	2	4
7C	1	0	1
8A	8	9	17
8B	3	6	9
9B	1	1	2
9C	3	1	4
9D	10	4	14
10A	6	2	8
10B	8	1	9
10C	10	1	11
11A	7	0	7

Area	Buck	Doe	Total
11B	5	4	9
11C	3	2	5
12A	4	0	4
12B	1	0	1
13	6	2	8
14A	2	4	6
14B	8	7	15
15A	1	2	3
15B	4	0	4
15C	4	2	6
16A	5	3	8
16B	0	1	1
16C	3	1	4
16D	2	0	2
16E	2	1	3
16F	0	1	1
16G	8	5	13
17A	10	2	12
17B	10	2	12
17C	5	2	7
17UP	3	11	14
Totals	205	132	337
% of Harvest	61 %	39 %	

Table 8. Deer harvest on Quantico by Sex and Training Area

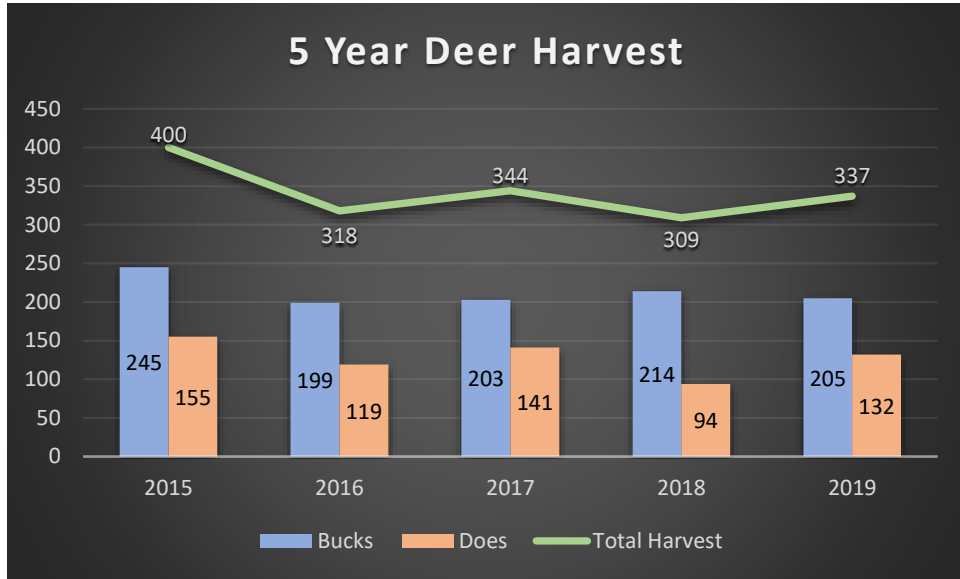


Figure 2. 5 Year Deer harvest by sex and total harvest

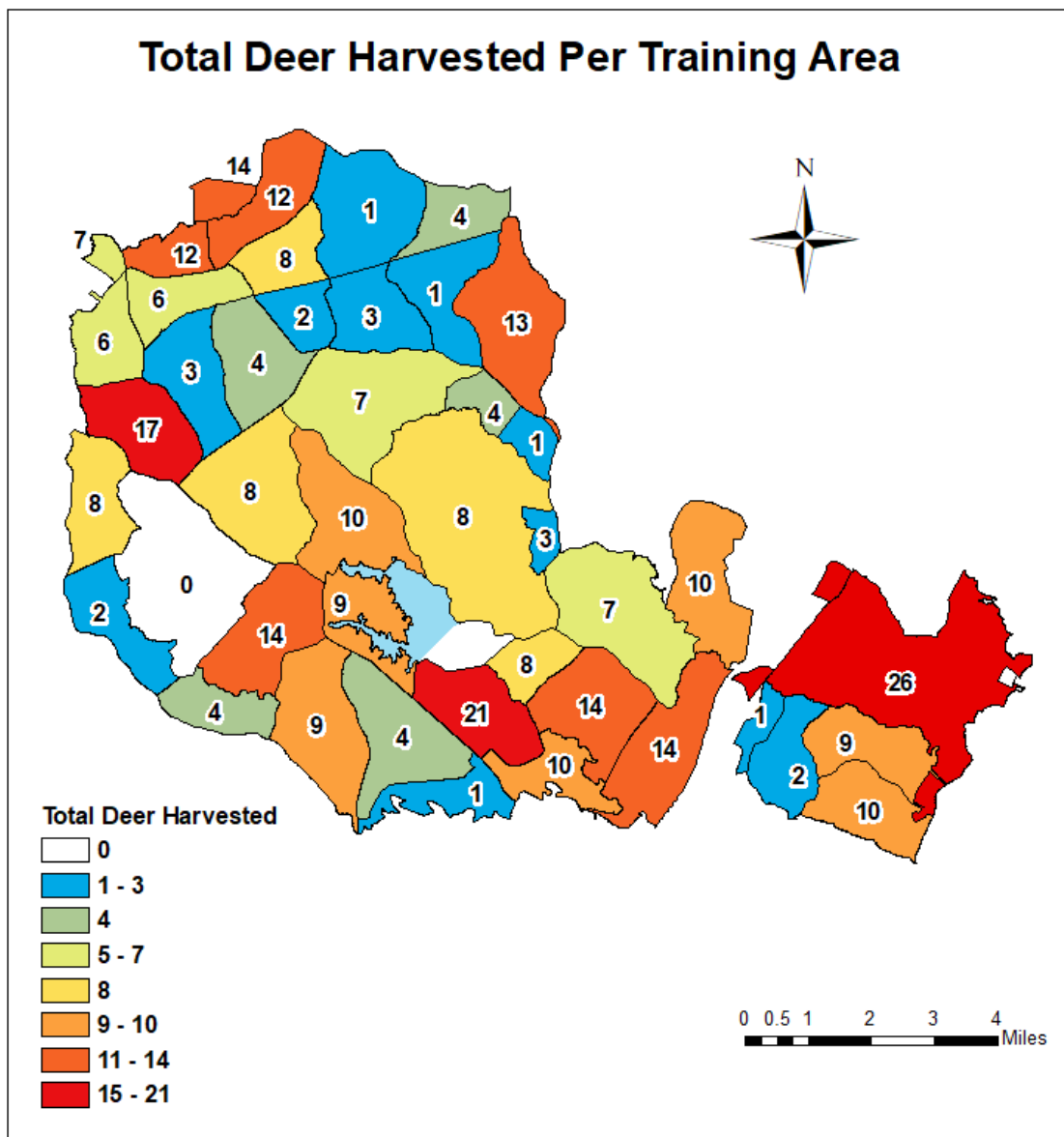


Figure 3. Deer harvest on Quantico per training area