Hunter survey results on the 2017-18 hunting season

The FWC commissioned Responsive Management, an internationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, to conduct an annual scientific survey of licensed deer hunters in Florida. The survey was conducted to determine deer harvest in Florida by deer management unit (DMU) during the 2017-2018 hunting season. In June 2018, the firm interviewed by telephone a random sample of deer hunters in each of the 12 DMUs to collect data on the number of people who hunted deer, where they hunted (county or WMA), how many days they hunted, what methods of take were used, how many deer they harvested (bucks and does), and number of antler points. The following graphs summarize highlights of this statistically valid survey. Please email DeerManagement@MyFWC.com for complete survey results.

**Figure 1.** Bar graph showing estimated harvest of bucks and does in each DMU during the 2017-18 hunting season: Zone A (2,430 - bucks, 1,056 - does), DMU-B1 (2,547 - bucks, 888 - does); DMU-C1 (3,557 - bucks, 1,629 - does); DMU-C2 (2,681 - bucks, 1,554 - does); DMU-C3 (9,825 - bucks, 4,154 - does); DMU-C4 (5,816 - bucks, 3,606 - does); DMU-C5 (5,436 - bucks, 3,538 - does); DMU-C6 (6,752 - bucks, 3,642 - does); DMU-D1 (8,944 - bucks, 5,329 - does); DMU-D2 (11,656 - bucks, 9,554 - does)
Figure 2. Bar graph showing estimated harvest of deer on public and private land in each DMU during the 2017-18 hunting season: Zone A (1,091 - public, 2,401 - private); DMU-B1 (1,221 - public, 2,210 - private); DMU-C1 (833 - public, 4,350 - private); DMU-C2 (1,698 - public, 2,537 - private); DMU-C3 (2,975 - public, 11,007 - private); DMU-C4 (3,303 - public, 6,118 - private); DMU-C5 (754 - public, 8,135 - private); DMU-C6 (1,024 - public; 9,377 - private); DMU-D1 (4,230 - public, 10,006 - private); DMU-D2 (4,418 - public, 16,745 - private).
Figure 3. Bar graph showing estimated harvest of bucks per hunter during the 2017-18 hunting season: 64.7% - 0, 20.0% - 1, 9.1% - 2, 3.7% - 3, 1.1% - 4, 0.6% - 5, 0.8% - 6+.
Figure 4. Bar graph showing estimated harvest of does per hunter during the 2017-18 hunting season: 77.7% - 0, 14.0% - 1, 5.6% - 2, 1.6% - 3, 0.3% - 4, 0.3% - 5, 0.5% - 6+. 
Statewide Estimated Average Number of Antler Points per Harvested Buck by Hunting Season

Figure 5. Bar graph showing average number of antler points per harvested buck from the 2013-14 hunting season through the 2017-18 season: 5.9 – 2013-14, 6.2 – 2014-15, 6.5 – 2015-16, 6.6 – 2016-17, 6.7 – 2017-18. Note: New antler point regulations (APRs) were established in Zone D for the 2014-15 hunting season and statewide beginning with the 2015-16 season.
Figure 6. Pie chart showing estimated percentage of deer taken during each hunting season during 2017-18: 65.0% - general gun, 20.9% - archery, 8.3% - muzzleloading gun, 5.9% - crossbow.
Figure 7. Pie chart showing the estimated hunter satisfaction with the 2017-18 hunting season: 52.6% - satisfied, 23.7% - very satisfied, 8.2% - ambivalent, 10.8% - dissatisfied, 4.4% - very dissatisfied, 0.2% - don't know.