

# 2024 Fall Hunting Summary

Marine Corps Base Quantico  
Natural Resources Section



## **Purpose**

This report summarizes results from annual surveys and species harvest data for Marine Corps Base Quantico (MCBQ) relevant to hunters and includes harvest summaries for bear (Table 1), small game (Table 2), trapping (Table 3), turkey (Table 4; Fig. 1), waterfowl (Table 5, Table 6), and deer (Table 7, Table 8; Fig. 2, Fig. 3).

## **Mast Crop**

We conduct an annual mast survey at the end of the summer to obtain an indicator of how much acorn mast is available. In 2024, the acorn mast crop was lower overall for white oaks compared to red oaks, similar to the mast crop pattern seen in 2023. Compared to the previous year however, overall acorn mast dropped considerably in 2024 (2024 average percentage of tree crown with acorns = 13.75%, 2023 average percentage of tree crown with acorns = 45%). Although average crops are most common, both red and white oak crops are cyclical, occasionally resulting in bumper crops or failures. During mast failures, wildlife must seek out other sources of food such as grasses, forbs, and soft mast, often relying on fields and road edges. In this instance, wildlife may have turned to red oak crop and especially alternate food sources during 2024 in lieu of a strong white oak crop.

## **Hemorrhagic Disease**

Hemorrhagic Disease, a general term used to describe one of the various strains of either epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) or blue tongue virus (BTV), is a common disease that occurs annually to some degree in the Southeastern United States. This disease is transmitted by biting flies such as midges, gnats, and no-see-ums. Outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease are highly variable and occur from late summer into the fall. Deer can often be found lying dead near bodies of water such as creeks, streams, or lakes. One case was reported on MCBQ during the 2024 season, which is the first case of hemorrhagic disease on base since one case was reported in 2021 following the 22 cases recorded in 2020.

## **Chronic Wasting Disease**

In 2019, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) confirmed a case of CWD in the northwest corner of Fauquier County, approximately 30 miles from MCBQ. Consequently, Fauquier County was included within Disease Management Area (DMA) 2, incorporating all MCBQ Trainings Areas within Fauquier County lines. In 2022, a case of CWD out of Fairfax County resulted in all neighboring counties being added to DMA2. These counties included Prince William County, which makes up about one-third of MCBQ. As of 2023, all Training Areas in Fauquier and Prince William Counties were incorporated into DMA2.

Taking a proactive approach, and in collaboration with VDWR, we again removed CWD samples from a select number of deer during the 2024 hunting season. The results are still pending and will be released by VDWR in the coming weeks. If your deer tests positive, VDWR will contact you directly. For more information on Chronic Wasting Disease in Virginia, please visit the [VDWR website on CWD](#).

## Bear

*Table 1. 2024 bear harvest at Quantico.*

Sex	Training Area	Weight (lbs)
Male	14A	162(dressed)

## Small Game

*Table 2. 2024 small game harvest at Quantico.*

Species	Number Harvested
Coyote	2
Dove	16
Rabbit	27
Gray Fox	--
Red Fox	--
Squirrel	173
Woodcock	12

## Trapping

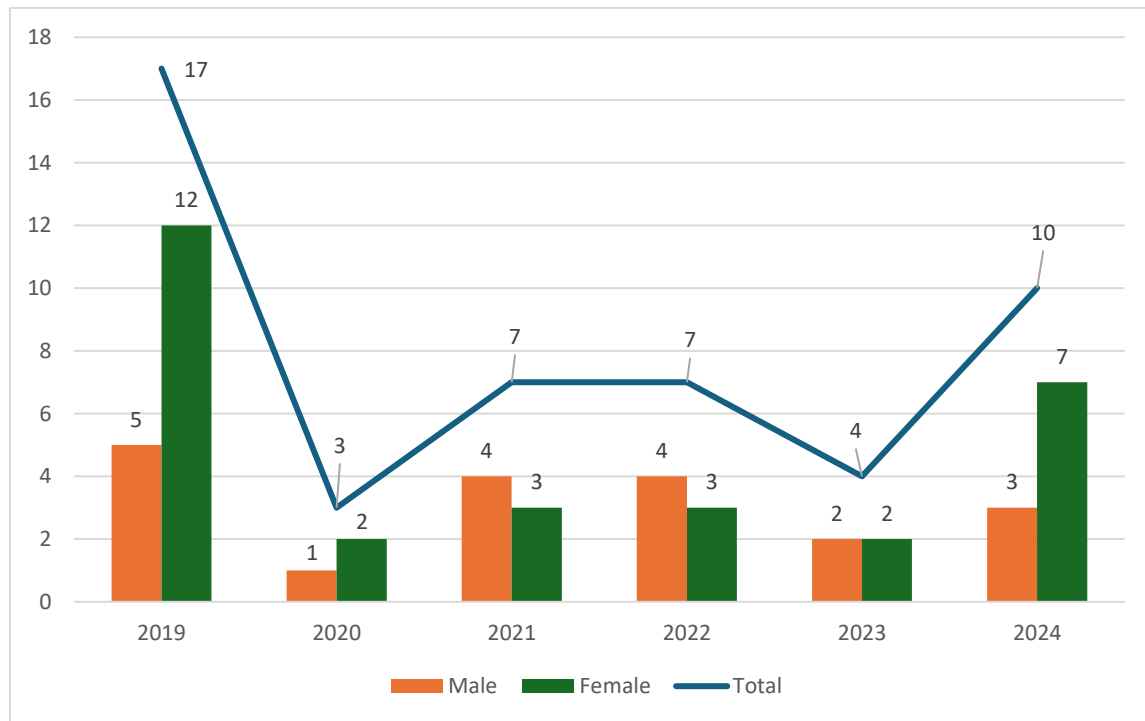
*Table 3. 2024 trapping harvest at Quantico.*

Species	Number taken	Number released
Beaver	7	1
Bobcat	1	--
Coyote	1	--
Opossum	2	2
Red Fox	1	--

## Fall Turkey

*Table 4. 2024 fall turkey harvest at Quantico.*

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Adult</b>	2	4	6
<b>Juvenile</b>	1	3	4
<b>Total</b>	3	7	10



*Figure 1. Six-year fall turkey harvest by sex at Quantico.*

## Waterfowl

*Table 5. 2024-2025 waterfowl harvest at Quantico by species.*

Species	Harvest
Mallard	85
Canada Goose	49
Ring-necked Duck	49
Ruddy Duck	49
Wood Duck	40
American Black Duck	36
Bufflehead	28
Hooded Merganser	17
Gadwall	13
American Widgeon	9
Redhead	8
Canvasback	7
Lesser Scaup	6
Northern Pintail	6
American Coot	5
Common Merganser	5
Green-winged Teal	5
Common Goldeneye	2
Greater Scaup	1
Northern Shoveler	1
Blue-winged Teal	--
Long-tailed Duck	--
Red-breasted Merganser	--
Tundra Swan	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>

**Table 6.** 2024-2025 waterfowl harvest at Quantico by blind or training area.

	<b>Blind or TA</b>	<b>Ducks Harvested</b>	<b>Geese Harvested</b>
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind 1	--	6
	Blind 1A	2	--
	Blind 2	13	9
	Blind 3	10	3
	Blind 4	19	--
	Blind A	15	1
	Blind C	50	2
Quantico Creek	Blind 5	15	--
	Blind 6	15	--
	Blind 7	33	2
	Blind 8	48	4
	Blind E	12	1
	Blind F	1	2
	Hospital Point	29	--
Potomac River	Blind 9	--	--
	Blind 10	1	--
	Blind D	--	--
	MCAF 2	--	1
Smith Lake	Blind 16	6	--
	Blind 17	3	2
Dalton Pond	Dalton Pond	2	--

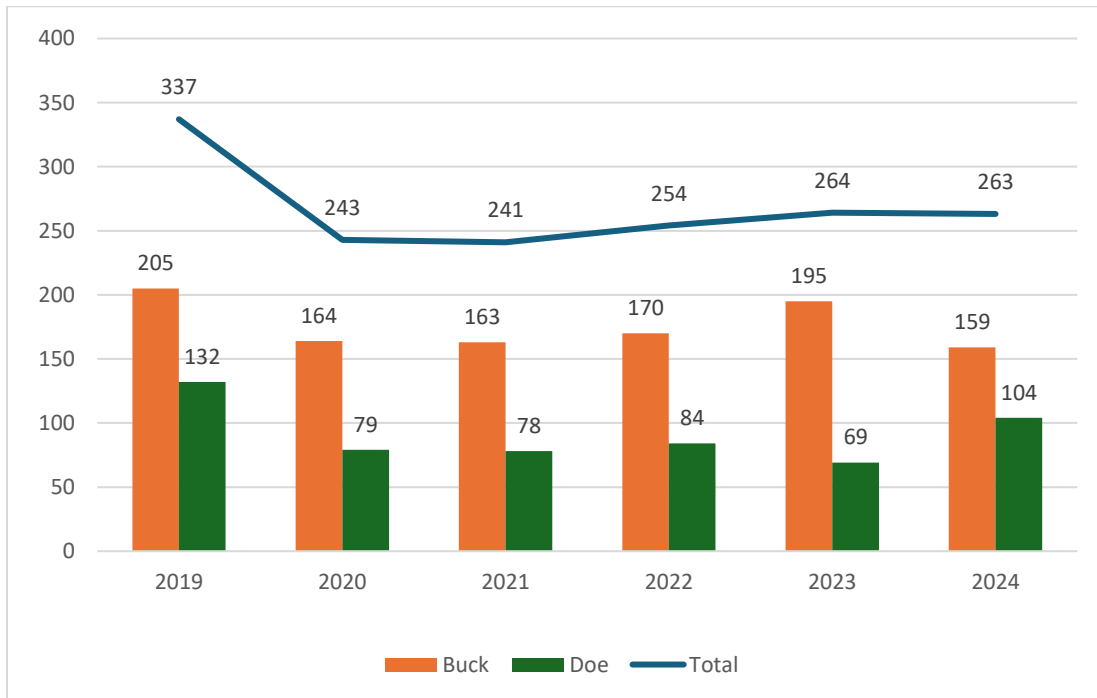
*Table 6 continued.*

	<b>Blind or TA</b>	<b>Ducks Harvested</b>	<b>Geese Harvested</b>
Jump Shooting	7B	1	--
	9C	8	1
	9D	2	--
	10A	7	2
	11A	2	10
	13	4	--
	14B	1	--
	15A	5	--
	17A	6	--
	17B	4	--

## Deer

**Table 7.** 2024 Quantico deer harvest by sex and age class.

Age Class	Buck	Doe	Total
Adult (2.5+)	99	75	174
Yearling (1.5)	49	19	68
Fawn (0.5)	10	10	20
Unknown	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>263</b>



**Figure 2.** Six-year deer harvest by sex at Quantico.

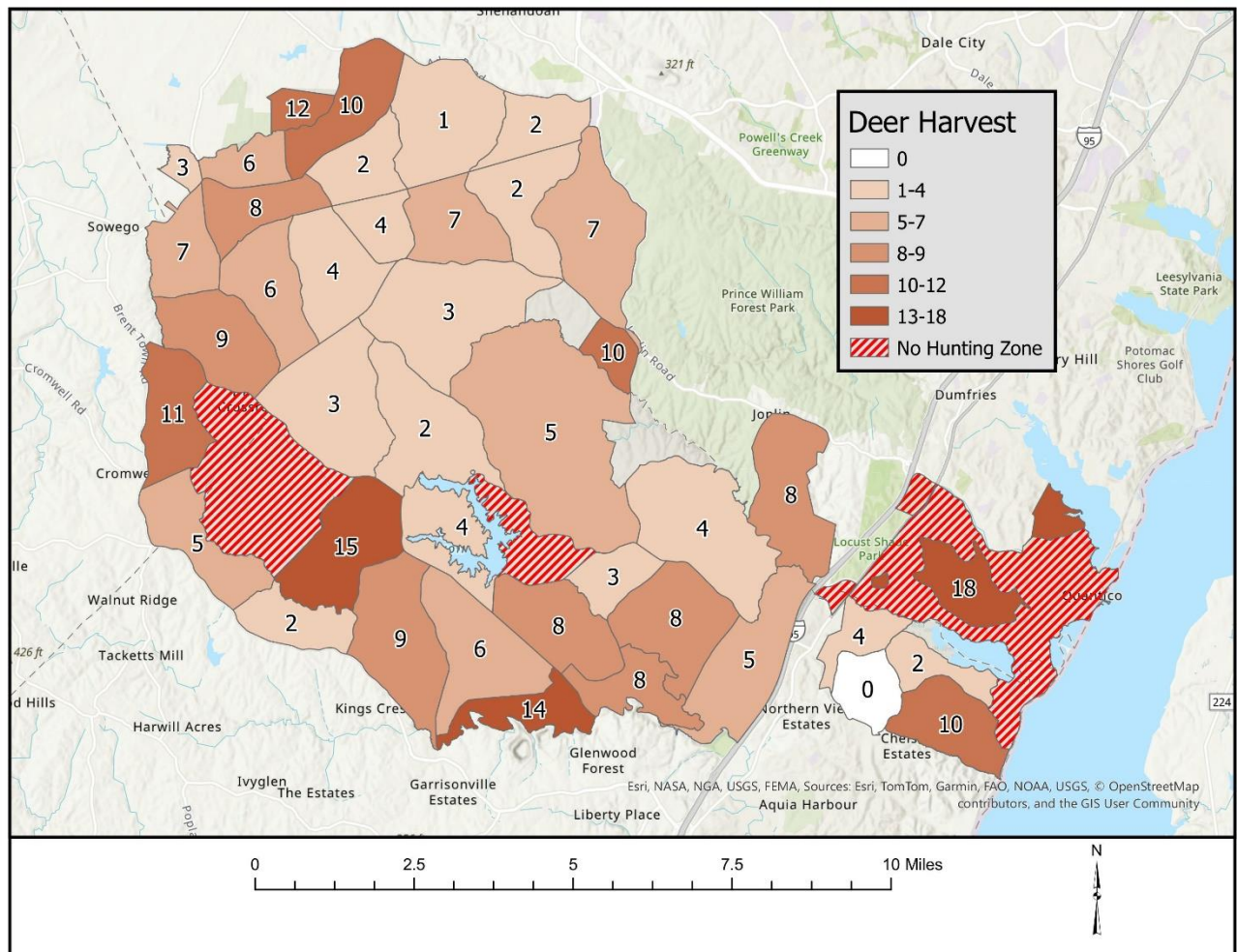


**Table 8.** 2024 Quantico deer harvest by sex and training area.

<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Buck</b>	<b>Doe</b>	<b>Total</b>
CAMP UPSHUR	2	10	12
OCS 2	2	0	2
OCS 3	2	8	10
OCS 4	0	0	0
MAIN SIDE	12	6	18
TA 05A	5	3	8
TA 05B	5	0	5
TA 05C	4	4	8
TA 06A	3	0	3
TA 06B	4	0	4
TA 06C	5	3	8
TA 07A	5	4	9
TA 07B	4	2	6
TA 07C	7	7	14
TA 08A	3	5	8
TA 08B	2	1	3
TA 09B	4	1	5
TA 09C	1	1	2
TA 09D	7	8	15
TA 10A	1	2	3
TA 10B	2	2	4
TA 10C	1	1	2
TA 11A	2	1	3
TA 11B	2	3	5
TA 12B	7	3	10
TA 13	9	2	11
TA 14A	4	3	7
TA 14B	7	2	9
TA 14C	2	1	3

*Table 8 continued.*

<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Buck</b>	<b>Doe</b>	<b>Total</b>
TA 15A	6	0	6
TA 15B	2	2	4
TA 15C	7	1	8
TA 16A	2	0	2
TA 16B	1	0	1
TA 16C	2	0	2
TA 16D	3	1	4
TA 16E	5	2	7
TA 16F	1	1	2
TA 16G	5	2	7
TA 17A	2	4	6
TA 17B	5	5	10
TA 17C	2	1	3
TDSA	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	159	104	263
<b>% of Total</b>	60%	40%	



*Figure 3. Quantico total deer harvests by training area.*