

2021 Fall Hunting Summary

Marine Corps Base Quantico
Natural Resources Section



Purpose

This report summarizes results from annual surveys and species harvest data relevant to hunters, and includes harvest summaries for bear (Table 1), small game (Table 2), trapping (Table 3), turkey (Table 4, Fig. 1), waterfowl (Tables 5 and 6), and deer (Tables 7 and 8, Fig. 2 and 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 2021, the acorn mast crop was average. Although average crops are most common, mast 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.

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 U.S. This disease is transmitted by tiny biting flies (midges, gnats, no-see-ums). Outbreaks of HD are highly variable and occur in late summer into the fall. Deer can often be found lying dead near bodies of water such as creeks, streams, or lakes. In 2019 we found no evidence of HD on base, but found 22 cases in harvested deer in 2020 and only 1 case in 2021.

Chronic Wasting Disease

In the fall of 2018, a case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was documented in Culpeper County, approximately 15 miles west of the base. In the fall of 2019, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) confirmed a case of CWD in the northwest corner of Fauquier County, approximately 30 miles from the base. Consequently, the entirety of Fauquier County was included within Disease Management Area (DMA) 2, incorporating Training Areas 9B, 13, 14A, 14B, and 14C.

Taking a proactive approach, and in collaboration with VDWR, we again removed CWD samples from a select number of deer this 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](#).

Grassland Project Update

As you may have noticed, some of our open 'field' areas have taller vegetation this year. We are continuing the restoration process of these fields, returning them to native warm season grasslands. Native grasslands are composed of diverse plant communities, providing resources for game and non-game species alike including deer, turkey, quail, and rabbits, as well as pollinators, songbirds, raptors, and small mammals. Successful conversion of habitat takes time and a sustained effort, so continue to watch these areas change over the next few years.

Bear

Table 1: 2021 bear harvest at Quantico

Sex	Training Area	Weight (lbs)
Male	10C	235

Small Game

Table 2: 2021 small game harvest at Quantico

Species	Number Harvested
Squirrel	105
Woodcock	45
Rabbit	12
Dove	22
Coyote	4
Red Fox	2
Gray Fox	8

Trapping

Table 3: 2021 trapping harvest at Quantico

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

Fall Turkey

Table 4: 2021 fall turkey harvest at Quantico

	Male	Female
Adult	2	1
Juvenile	2	1
Unknown		1
Total	4	3

5 Year Fall Turkey Harvest

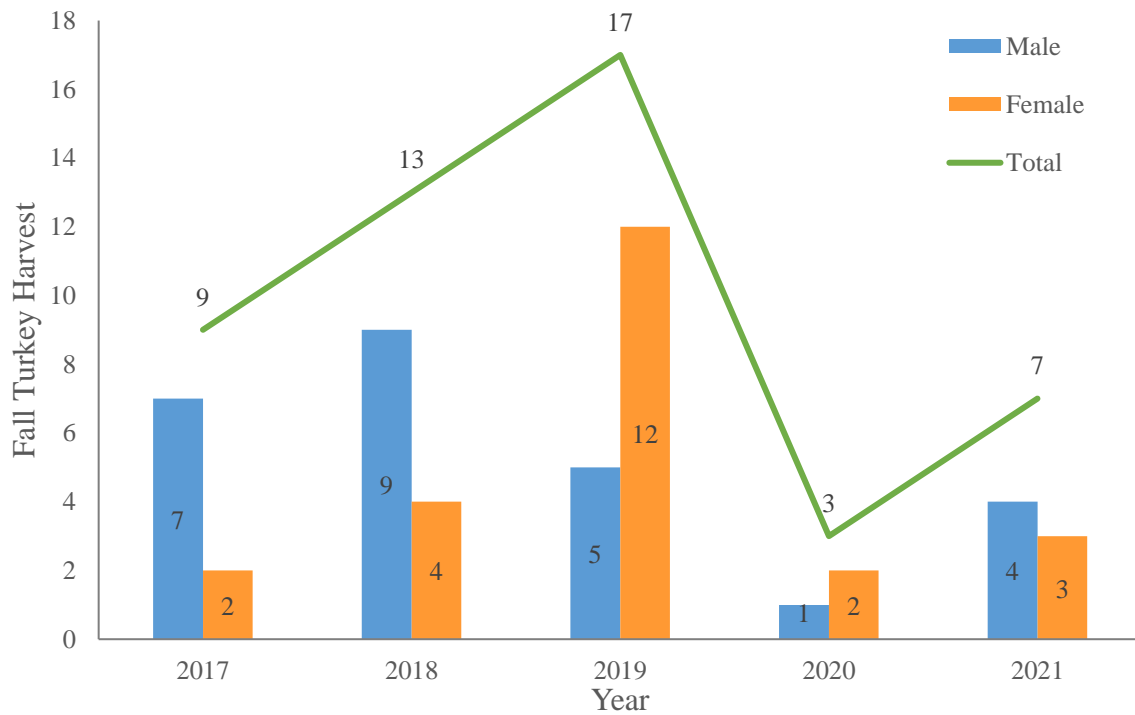


Figure 1. Five-year fall turkey harvest by sex at Quantico

Waterfowl

Table 5: 2021 waterfowl harvest at Quantico by species

Species	Harvest
Canada Goose	20
Wood Duck	21
Mallard	42
American Black Duck	4
Gadwall	9
Northern Pintail	1
Northern Shoveler	1
American Wigeon	2
Blue-winged Teal	1
Green-winged Teal	5
Canvasback	2
Redhead	10
Lesser Scaup	4
Ring-necked Duck	14
Common Goldeneye	2
Bufflehead	16
Hooded Merganser	16
Ruddy Duck	2
American Coot	2
Total	174

Table 6: 2021 waterfowl harvest at Quantico by blind and training area

Blind or Training Area	Harvest			
	Geese	Dabbling Ducks	Diving Ducks	Other
<i>Chopawamsic Creek</i>				
Blind 1*	0	2	0	0
Blind 2	0	0	0	0
Blind 3	1	3	4	1
Blind 4	0	2	1	0
Blind A	5	0	14	0
Blind C	0	26	0	0
<i>Quantico Creek</i>				
Blind 5	1	2	0	0
Blind 6	0	18	7	0
Blind 7	0	5	10	0
Blind 8	4	6	5	0
Blind E	0	1	1	0
Hospital Point	0	0	3	0
<i>Potomac River</i>				
9	0	0	1	0
D	1	5	8	1
<i>Smith Lake</i>				
Blind 16	2	0	2	0
Blind 17	4	1	0	0
<i>Dalton Pond</i>	0	4	0	0
<i>Jump shooting</i>				
9C	2	2	1	0
9D	0	3	0	0
11A	0	0	3	0
13	0	0	1	0
14B	0	0	3	0
<i>Wounded Warrior</i>	0	6	2	0
Total	20	86	66	2

*Closed 12/15/21-1/29/22 for nesting Bald Eagles.

Deer

Table 7: 2021 Quantico deer harvest by age class and sex

Age Class	Buck	Doe
Adult (2.5+)	111	51
Yearlings (1.5)	44	9
Fawn (0.5)	8	9
Totals	163	78

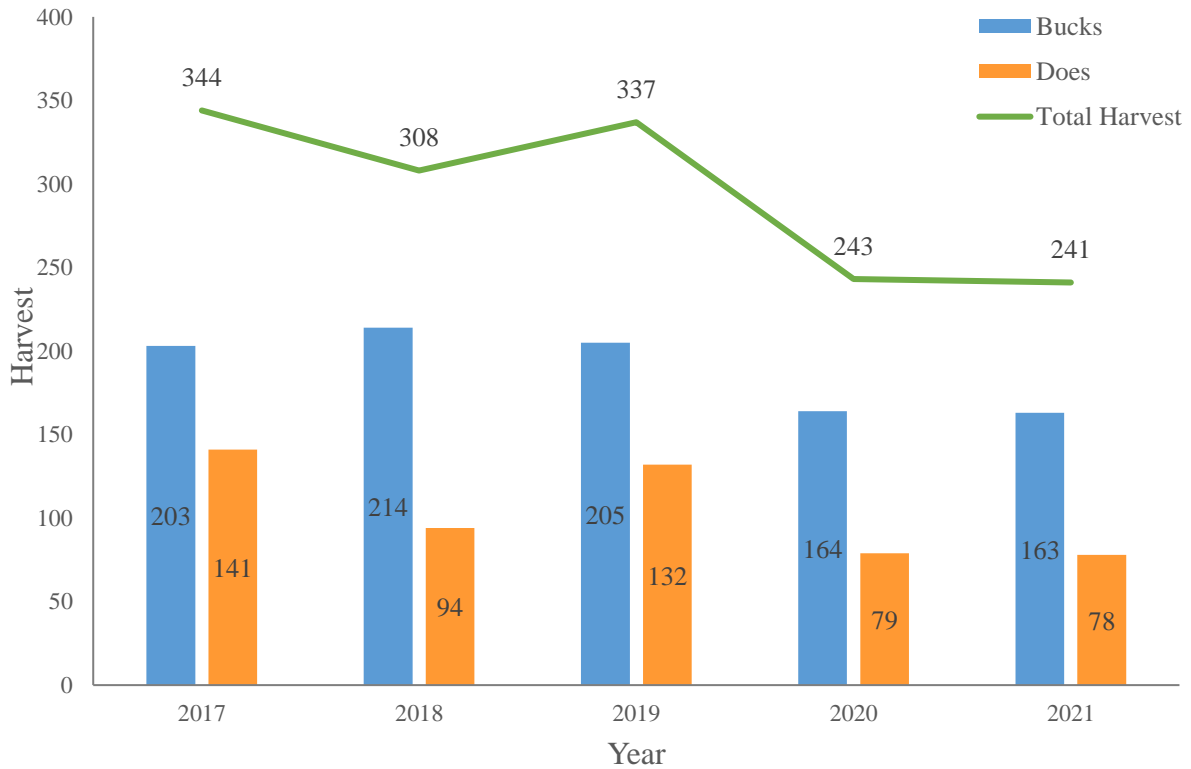


Figure 2: Five-year deer harvest by sex.

Table 8: 2021 Quantico deer harvest by sex and Training Area

Training Area	Buck	Doe	Total
OCS 2A	1		1
OCS 2B	2		2
OCS 3	7	8	15
OCS 4	1	2	3
Mainside (P1-P8)	22	6	28
TDSA	1	4	5
5A	8	1	9
5B	6	7	13
5C	5	2	7
6A	3	2	5
6B	3	2	5
6C	9	3	12
7A	6	2	8
7B	6	1	7
7C	7	7	14
8A	4	3	7
8B	1	1	2
9B	3	2	5
9C	1		1
9D	5	2	7
10A	3	1	4
10B	4		4
10C	5		5
11A	4		4
11B	1		1
12A		1	1
12B	2	3	5
13	2		2
14A	5		5
14B	5		5
14C	1		1
15A	1	2	3
15B	2	2	4
15C*			
16A	3	5	8
16B	6	3	9
16C	2		2
16D	3		3
16E	2	2	4
16F	2		2
16G	6	3	9
17A*			
17B*	1		1
17C	2	1	3
Total	163	78	241

*Closed for all or most of the 2021 season.

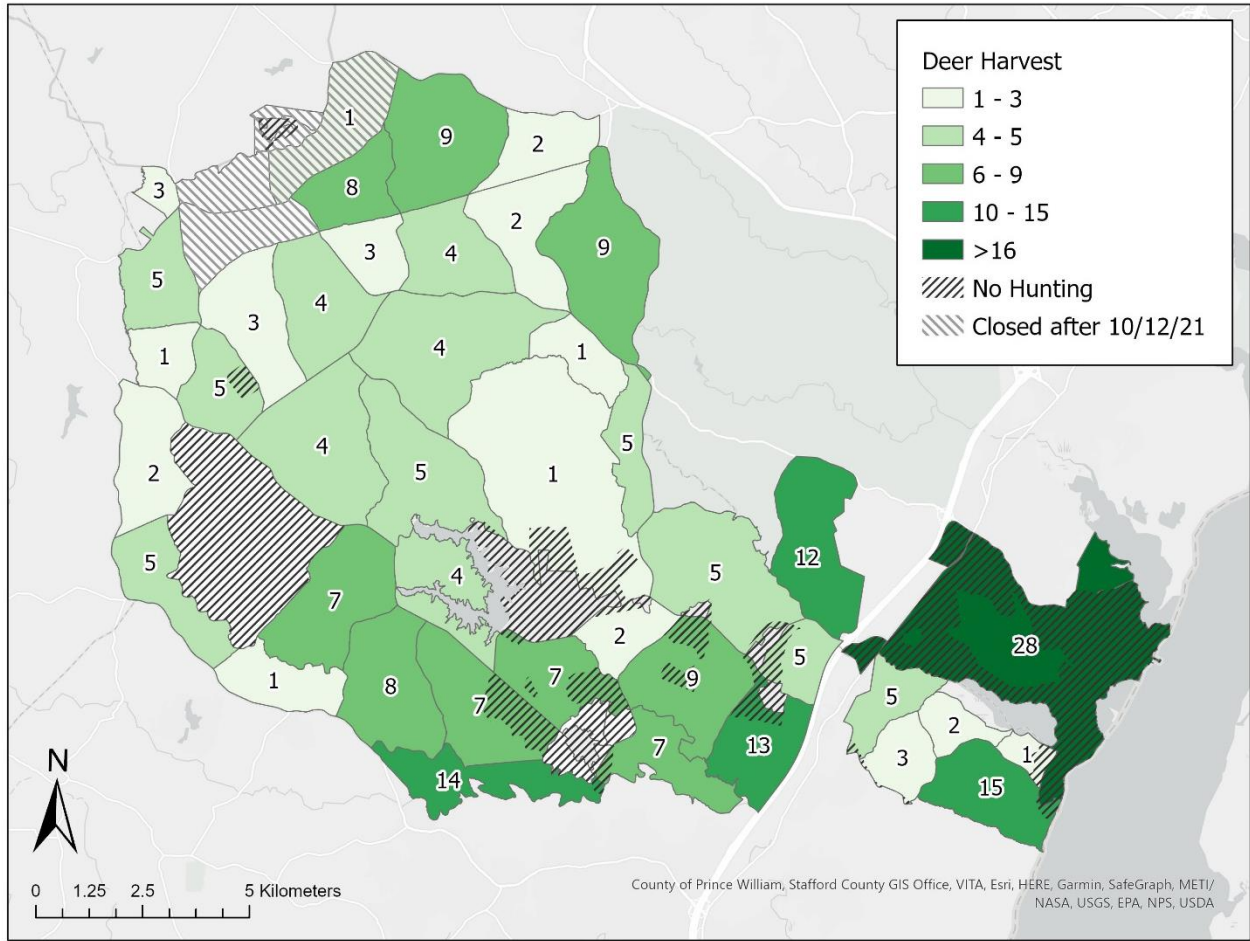


Figure 3: 2021 Deer harvest at Quantico by training area.