

# 2025 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) for the fall 2025-winter 2026 MCBQ hunting season.

## **Mast Crop**

We conduct an annual mast survey at the end of the summer measuring a sample of the percentage of oak tree canopy containing acorns to obtain an indicator of how much acorn mast is available from red oak and white oak species on base. In 2025, the acorn mast crop was higher overall for white oaks in our sample compared to red oak species, which is opposite the pattern of the previous two years of the survey. However, both white oak and red oak mast coverage was relatively high this season at  $\approx 54$  and  $\approx 39$  percent average coverage, respectively. Compared to the previous year's sample, overall white oak acorn mast rose dramatically in 2025 (2024 average percentage of white oak canopy with acorns = 3%), and a similar increase in percent canopy coverage was also seen for red oak species (2024 average percentage of red oak canopy with acorns = 13.75%). Both red and white oak crops are cyclical, occasionally resulting in bumper crops or mast failures among years. Thus, in fall 2025 it seems MCBQ may have experienced a bumper crop year for acorn mast as compared to the fall 2024 season. The cyclic nature of acorn masting has important ecological implications on local populations of species such as deer or turkey that rely on acorn crop for food. Bumper crop years, for instance, may reduce wildlife movements in search of food sources where acorns are plentiful which can in turn potentially curb hunter success.

## **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. This season on MCBQ, a total of four harvested deer were reported as having exhibited symptoms of the disease, which may be indicative of a slight uptick in occurrence of EHD on the installation this season compared to last year when only one case was reported.

## **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. Additionally, the first positive case of CWD within Prince William County was detected in the far northern portion of the county in 2025. As of 2023, all Training Areas in Fauquier and Prince William Counties have been 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 2025 hunting season (total samples taken this season = 68).

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.** Fall 2025 black bear harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Sex	Training Area	Weight (lbs)
Male	11B	155, dressed
Male	10C	144, dressed

## Small Game

**Table 2.** Fall 2025-winter 2026 small game harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Species	Number Harvested
Coyote	1
Dove	9
Rabbit	17
Squirrel	102
Woodcock	2
Bobcat	1

## Trapping

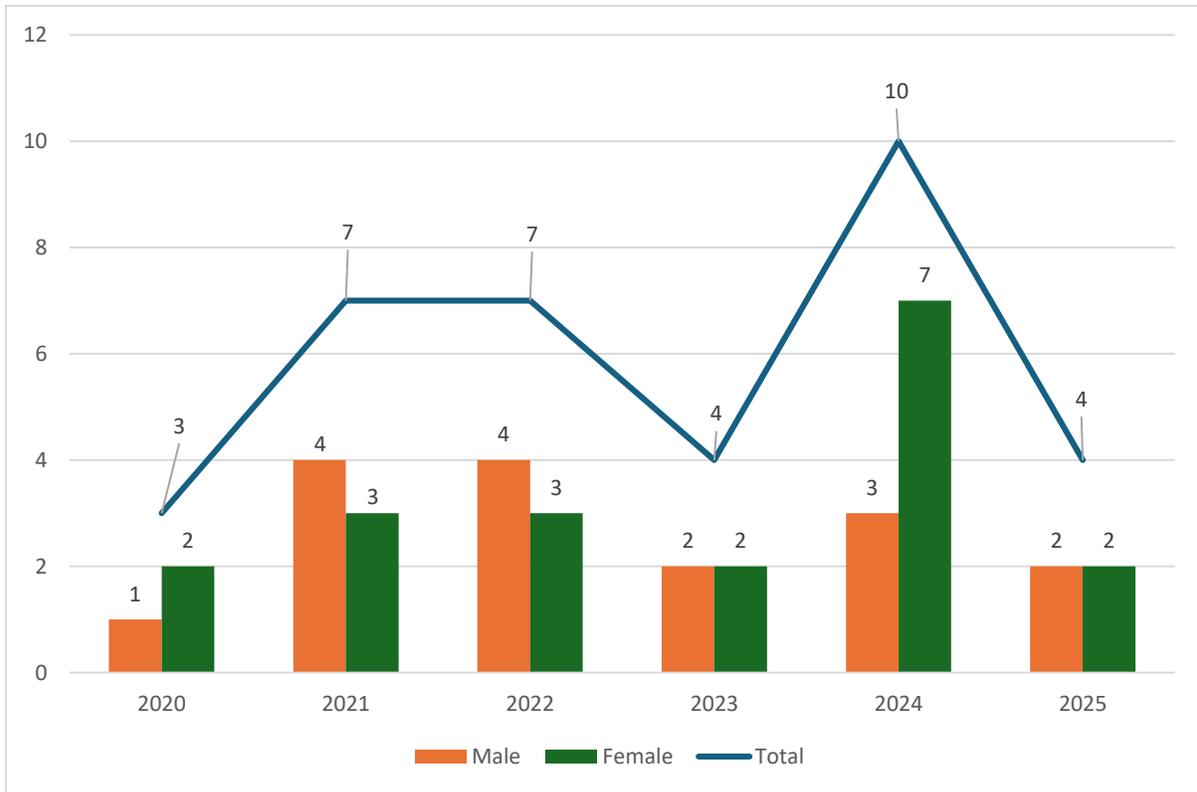
**Table 3.** Fall 2025-winter 2026 trapping harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Species	Number taken	Number released
Coyote	2	--
Gray Fox	1	--

## Fall Turkey

**Table 4.** Fall 2025 turkey harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Adult</b>	2	2	4
<b>Juvenile</b>	--	--	None
<b>Total</b>	2	2	4



**Figure 1.** Six-year fall turkey harvests by sex at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

## Waterfowl

**Table 5.** Fall 2025-winter 2026 waterfowl harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico by species.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Harvest</b>
Hooded Merganser	31
Wood Duck	30
American Black Duck	20
Mallard	20
Bufflehead	15
Canada Goose	10
Ring-necked Duck	9
Gadwall	8
Ruddy Duck	5
Green-winged Teal	3
American Widgeon	2
Common Merganser	2
Blue-winged Teal	2
Northern Pintail	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>

**Table 6.** Fall 2025-winter 2026 waterfowl harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico by blind or training area.

	<b>Blind or TA</b>	<b>Ducks Harvested</b>	<b>Geese Harvested</b>
Chopawamsic Creek	Blind 1	--	--
	Blind 1A	6	--
	Blind 2	4	--
	Blind 3	15	--
	Blind 4	17	--
	Blind A	6	--
	Blind C	26	1
Quantico Creek	Blind 5	12	--
	Blind 6	6	--
	Blind 7	3	--
	Blind 8	8	--
	Blind E	2	--
	Blind F	1	--
	Hospital Point	8	2
Potomac River	Blind 9	1	--
	Blind 10	--	--
	Blind D	1	--
	MCAF 2	--	--
Smith Lake	Blind 16	5	--
	Blind 17	--	2
Dalton Pond	Dalton Pond	5	--

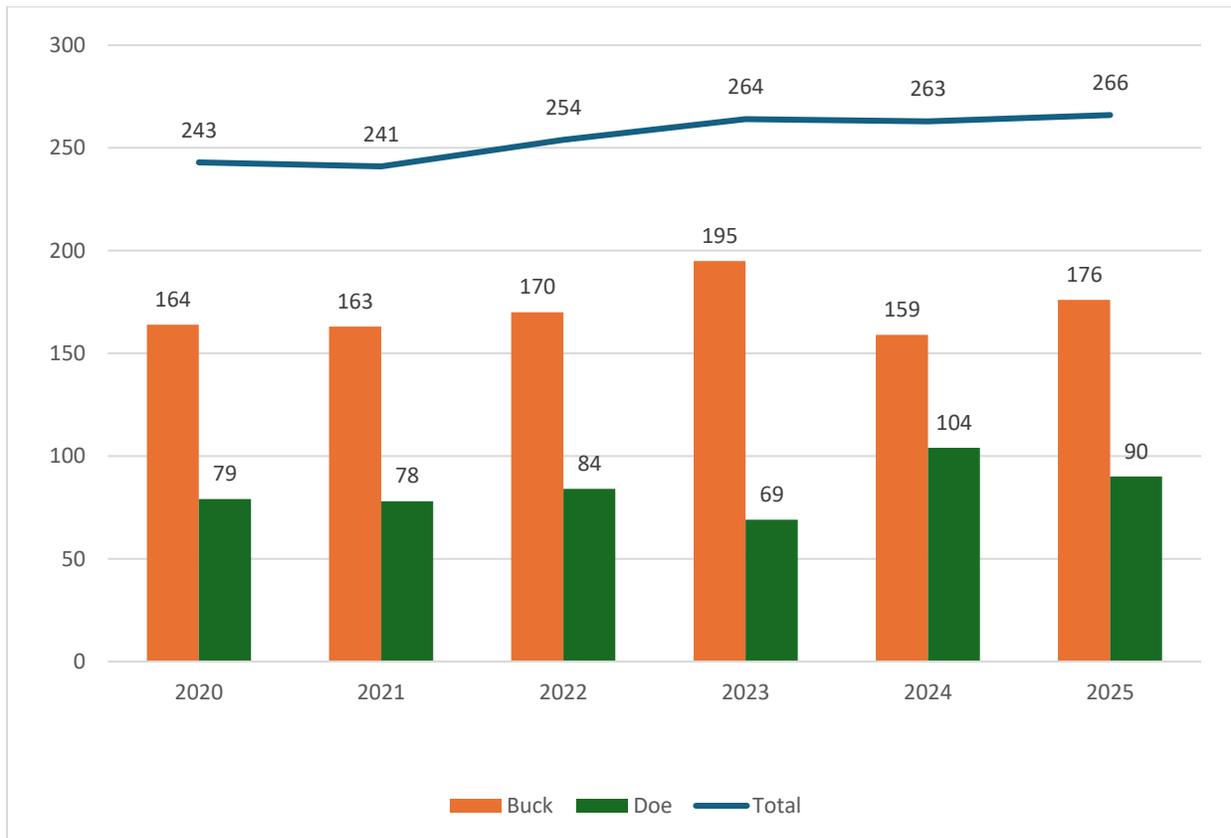
*Table 6 continued.*

	<b>Blind or TA</b>	<b>Ducks Harvested</b>	<b>Geese Harvested</b>
Jump Shooting	7B	--	2
	9C	6	--
	9D	3	--
	10A	3	--
	13	1	--
	14B	4	--
	17A	1	--

## Deer

**Table 7.** Fall 2025 white-tailed deer harvest on Marine Corps Base Quantico by sex and age class.

Age Class	Buck	Doe	Total
Adult (2.5+)	111	68	179
Yearling (1.5)	56	15	71
Fawn (0.5)	9	7	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>266</b>



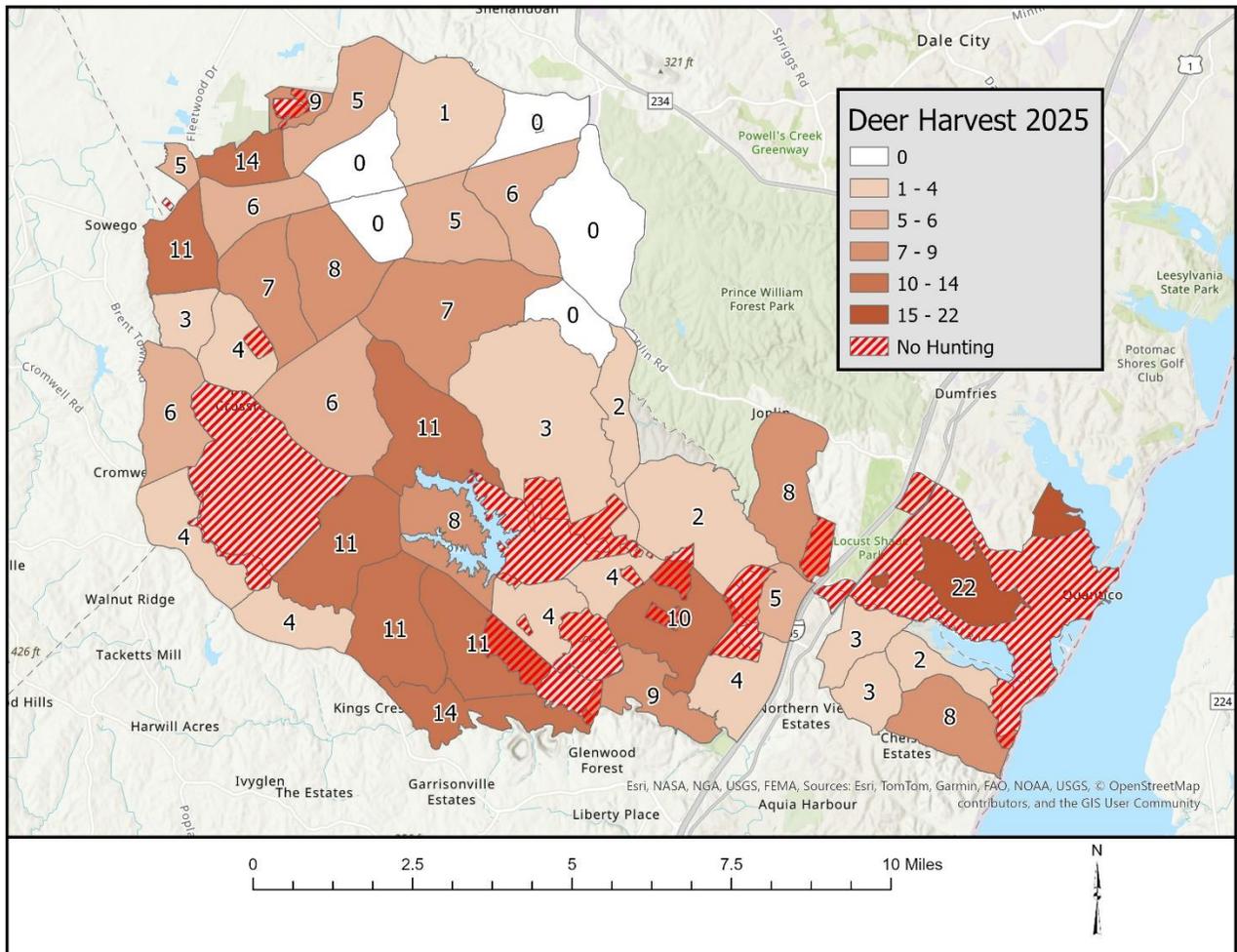
**Figure 2.** Six-year white-tailed deer harvests at Marine Corps Base Quantico by sex.

**Table 8.** Fall 2025 white-tailed deer harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico by sex and training area.

<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Buck</b>	<b>Doe</b>	<b>Total</b>
CAMP UPSHUR	4	5	9
OCS 2	--	2	2
OCS 3	2	6	8
OCS 4	1	2	3
MAINSIDE	13	9	22
TA 05A	7	3	10
TA 05B	2	2	4
TA 05C	5	4	9
TA 06A	4	1	5
TA 06B	2	--	2
TA 06C	6	2	8
TA 07A	9	2	11
TA 07B	9	2	11
TA 07C	9	5	14
TA 08A	3	1	4
TA 08B	3	1	4
TA 09B	3	1	4
TA 09C	2	2	4
TA 09D	7	4	11
TA 10A	5	1	6
TA 10B	6	2	8
TA 10C	9	2	11
TA 11A	5	2	7
TA 11B	2	1	3
TA 12B	--	2	2
TA 13	5	1	6
TA 14A	7	4	11
TA 14B	4	--	4

*Table 8 continued.*

<b>Training Area</b>	<b>Buck</b>	<b>Doe</b>	<b>Total</b>
TA 14C	2	1	3
TA 15A	3	4	7
TA 15B	6	2	8
TA 15C	4	2	6
TA 16A	--	--	0
TA 16B	1	0	1
TA 16C	--	--	0
TA 16D	--	--	0
TA 16E	5	--	5
TA 16F	3	3	6
TA 16G	--	--	0
TA 17A	8	6	14
TA 17B	3	2	5
TA 17C	4	1	5
TDSA	3	--	3
<b>Total</b>	176	90	266
<b>% of Total</b>	66%	34%	



**Figure 3.** Fall 2025 white-tailed deer harvest at Marine Corps Base Quantico by training area.