



Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Preliminary 2014 Deer Harvest Summary

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) reports that the preliminary deer harvest for 2014 (excluding Quabbin and any data not yet received) is 11,165, which is close to last year's harvest. The preliminary archery season harvest is 4,456, the preliminary shotgun season harvest is 4,742, and the preliminary primitive season harvest is 1,967.

Zone	Archery	Shotgun	Primitive	Total
1	63	129	42	234
2	122	230	96	448
3	111	254	79	444
4N	133	213	86	432
4S	76	62	41	179
5	186	324	108	618
6	25	91	31	147
7	220	302	97	619
8	242	427	137	806
9	386	409	188	983
10	1,205	656	470	2,331
11	1,176	873	423	2,472
12	106	114	37	257
13	198	337	59	594
14	207	321	73	601
Total	4,456	4,742	1,967	11,165

[Click here for a wildlife management zone map.](#)

Preliminary Summary by Zone: The 2014 preliminary harvest data for zones 1-5 shows low female harvest and a corresponding increase in adult male harvest, indicating that deer densities in these zones are generally increasing toward DFW's goals. Deer densities in zones 6-9 appear to be within DFW's goals. Densities in Zones 10 and 11 are still above goal, but more towns are increasing access to lands for hunting, which is one of the most important parts of managing deer in a suburban setting. Deer densities on Martha's Vineyard (zone 13) and Nantucket (zone 14) remain significantly above DFW's management goals.

While total harvest by zone can be informative, it doesn't provide the complete picture for monitoring trends in deer density because total harvest is influenced by antlerless deer permit allocations in each zone. The DFW Deer Project Leader analyzes harvest, biological, and hunter effort data, along with hunter success rates, female versus male harvest, and other factors to manage deer populations in each zone. An analysis of this information is now underway for the annual spring deer management review. A complete harvest summary will be posted on the DFW website shortly after the annual deer review, so please check back in May or June.

Keep an eye on your email inbox for our annual hunter survey. All hunters who included a valid email address in their *MassFishHunt* profile will receive a hunter survey by email in February or March.