

Deer Program Accomplishments

FY 2022–2023

Overview

The 2022-23 deer season was excellent with a total harvest of 271,207 deer. Updates to the Deer Harvest Dashboard show total harvest estimates adjusted for reporting compliance. Hunter satisfaction for the 2022-23 deer season was excellent with 92% of survey respondents rating their season as satisfactory, good, or excellent. Georgia’s Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) is progressing well with 153 cooperators managing over 220,000 acres of land. Program participants receive detailed habitat and herd management plans, harvest data analysis, and assistance with camera surveys.

Disease

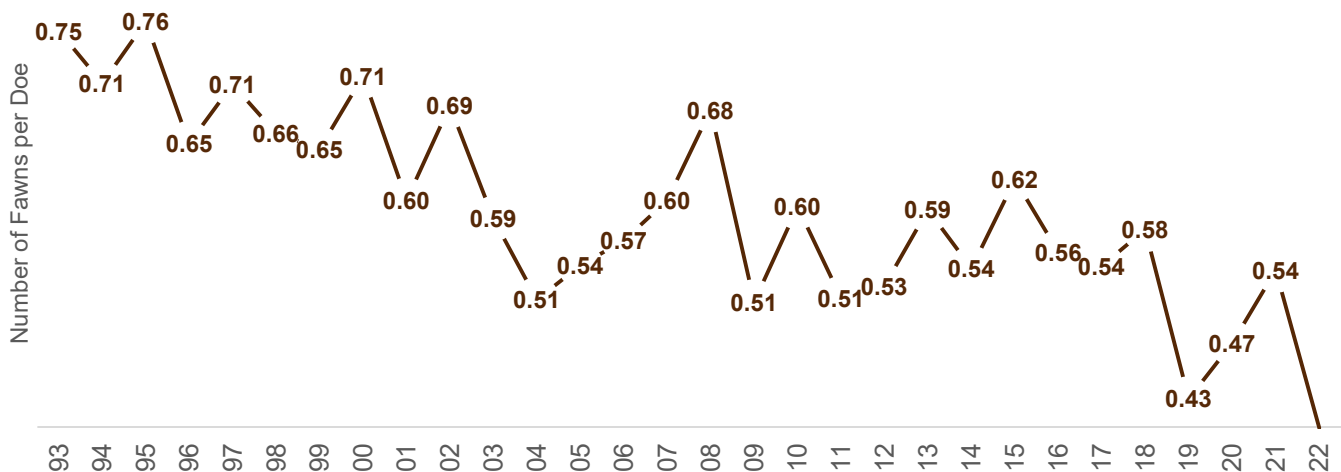
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has not been found in Georgia to date, however recent discoveries in Florida, Alabama and North Carolina have increased our level of concern. We are continually monitoring the population and adapt our disease surveillance strategy whenever new scientific information becomes available. WRD staff collected 1,495 samples in 2022-23. With the most recent discovery only 40 miles from our border we are increasing sampling in southwest Georgia and adding a full-time technician responsible for coordinating sampling in the region.

Research

The southwest Georgia breeding study completed another field season of data collection and expanded data collection in Calhoun County. As a result, the season was extended to our legal framework in 8 counties where we documented late rutting activity. We are currently working with UGA to implement a human dimensions project for opinions and attitudes towards CWD management.

		Archery	Muzzleloader	Firearm
Total Hunters		87,363	26,312	178,262
Total Harvest	Buck	18,211	4,075	100,162
	Doe	34,132	5,422	109,205
Weapon Subtotal		52,343	9,497	209,367
Percent Success		13.4%	3.34%	49.3%
		Statewide Total		271,207

STATEWIDE FAWN RECRUITMENT 1993 THROUGH 2022



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