

## Slaughter of California Deer During the 1800s

“ Of California, Longhurst (1953) writes. 'The miners shot deer year-round for meat and hides and they altered the deer range by logging, burning, grazing and cleaning. Some of these changes ultimately benefited the deer but the immediate effect of settlement was a marked decrease in deer numbers. Thirty-five thousand hides were shipped by a single firm in 1880. One hunter killed over 300 in a single year and a second marketed 120; a third killed 93 at a time when deer were already scarce. They were marketed by the wagon load”

[Source:](#) From History of NH Game and Furbearers by Helenette Silver, Research Clerk, NH Fish and Game. Dept. 1957  
Chapter VIII, Big Game, White Tail Deer  
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