

North Carolina Deer Population and Management Archive

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2023

['My kids' pictures have been posted': Tensions rising between NC landowners and deer hunters with dogs](#) April 10, 2023 North Carolina, WRAL

... There have been confrontations, so several landowners would only talk to us anonymously. One person describes the reaction from hunters that got personal. "We've been publicly threatened," the person said. "My kids' pictures have been posted. My businesses have been attacked." ...

[Don't eat anesthetized elk: New NC rule would forbid picking up elk](#) carcasses March 17, 2023 North Carolina Yahoo

... The rule, in part, is to prevent them from accidentally eating one of the large animals – which roam a part of Western North Carolina – after it was dosed with anesthesia...

[\\$6000 Reward: Elk calf killed with arrow in Cherokee, poaching investigation underway](#) January 5, 2023 North Carolina, KAKE

... Even if elk hunting was legal in North Carolina, according to the EBCI Natural Resources Office, "elk, like deer, are a protected animal under Cherokee code and cannot be hunted on tribal lands." ...

2022

[Exclusive video of extremely rare red wolf cubs showcases the crucial fight to save them](#) January 2, 2023 North Carolina, The Cool Down

... The red wolf is one of the [U.S.'s most endangered animals](#) and the only wolf that is solely native to the U.S. There are thought to be [between 19 and 21](#) red wolves left in the wild today. The tiny population lives in North Carolina, though they once inhabited a vast area spanning from New York to Florida and Texas..

[Can the new forest plan save the hunting traditions in the mountains?](#) October 11, 2022
North Carolina, The Transylvania Times

... Gino D'Angelo, assistant professor in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, highlights the loss of young forest habitat in the Chattahoochee causing an almost two-thirds loss of the deer populations in the past 40 years... the lack of thick cover in these young forest areas deer fawns have limited areas to hide from predators...

[2021-22 NC deer harvest numbers remain high following increased hunting interest during the pandemic](#) May 10, 2022 North Carolina, WNCN Raleigh

... hunters "reported harvesting 168,427 deer during the 2021-22 hunting season," which officials state is a 6.3 percent increase from the average harvest over the last three seasons... Officials said antlered bucks were harvested the most at 53 percent, followed by does at 42.6 percent, and button bucks made up 4.4 percent of the harvest... [see full report](#)

[9 Endangered Red Wolves To Be Released In North Carolina](#) February 9, 2022 Kiss 95.1

... The nine red wolves include a family and two breeding pairs. The animals will come from five different zoo facilities ...

2021

[What's next for elk in the Smokies 20 years after experimental release](#) November 22, 2021 North Carolina, WJHL

... As many as 10 million elk roamed across North America before European settlers arrived on the continent ... the last elk in North Carolina was killed in the late 18th century ... total population estimates around 200 ... in Great Smoky Mountains National Park [restocking] ...

[Deer are on the move in NC now](#) October 15, 2021 North Carolina, The (Raleigh) News & Observer

... “There should be no significant change in the deer population this year compared to last year or the year before,” [Moriah Boggess, a deer biologist with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission] ... Even though last year’s pandemic shutdowns gave some parts of nature a chance to heal and expand, the deer population likely was not affected..,

[Research Shows Red Wolves Coexist with Deer, Other Game Species](#) June 17, 2021 North Carolina, Public News Service

... Three decades ago, a small group of captive-bred red wolves were released into the state's Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. The number of wild red wolves peaked in the mid-2000s to more than 100, but has taken a steady nosedive and is now under ten..,

[Haywood sees huge surge in deer hunting last year](#) May 28, 2021 North Carolina, The Mountaineer

... “The pandemic resulted in more time at home and opportunity to engage in outdoor activities for lots of people. The increase in new hunters and overall hunter participation is an encouraging trend that we hope will continue in the future,” said Wildlife Commission Biologist Jon Shaw..,

[Deer harvest is up in North Carolina](#) May 18, 2021 thewashingtondailynews.com

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[Eight red wolves released into the wild in eastern North Carolina in hopes of keeping the species from going extinct](#) May 17, 2021 The Progressive Pulse

... Four adult red wolves were released into a wildlife refuge in eastern North Carolina, and four red wolf pups were fostered to a female in hopes of rebuilding the world’s only wild population of the endangered species...

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[North Carolina’s deer harvest increased in 2020-21 season](#) April 27, 2021 WWAY TV

... hunters across the state reported harvesting 169,973 deer during the 2020-21 hunting season — a 9.1 percent increase compared to the average harvest the last three seasons... 50.8 percent were antlered bucks, 4.7 percent were button bucks and 44.5 percent were does ... [Data](#) ..,

[NC Senate bill takes aim at hunters in effort to protect deer population](#) February 12, 2021 North Carolina, myfox8.com

... The reason for the bill begins with an extremely contagious illness called Chronic Wasting Disease... Lawmakers in the North Carolina Senate are bringing Senate Bill 66 to the floor next week, which would make it illegal for hunters to use deer excretions that have not been tested for the disease...

2020

[State wildlife commissioners considering Sunday hunting](#) December 27, 2020 North Carolina, The Coastland Times

... will consider Sunday hunting on its game lands during the 2021-22 annual rules cycle under new authority granted in 2017 with the Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act...

[Video](#): Monitoring North Carolina's Deer Herd: A Look at Databases and Key Metrics Presented by: Jonathan Shaw – NCWRC Deer Biologist

Our agency's goals for deer hunting and management involves using "science-based" decision making. As such, scientific surveys, research, and data monitoring are the foundation for management and rule-making decisions. Periodic research and survey projects are used to fill knowledge gaps and build on principles of deer management, but these projects can be costly, and their application may only apply to a particular point and time. State agencies rely heavily on monitoring herds with recurring databases to assess herd trends over space and time, and to develop and evaluate management decisions. Numerous recurring databases exist in NC that provide unique and valuable information on white-tailed deer health, disease, condition, and nuisance and damage issues. Four primary databases are used to monitor harvest and herd demographics, and key metrics within these databases are used to evaluate the status of the state's herd with respect to biological objectives. These independent databases provide a safeguard against potential data biases, and together provide the necessary information needed to support the agency's goals for deer hunting and management.

[Rearing White-Tailed Deer In Pisgah Forest](#) October 26, 2020 North Carolina, The Transylvania Times

... By the early 1900s the white-tail deer population had declined to the point of concern. George Vanderbilt undertook efforts to re-stock deer on his vast estate. Then, following the creation of the Pisgah National Forest, a game preserve was established leading to a rebound in the number of deer in this relatively safe environment..,

Deer Harvest for 2019-20 Season Up Nearly 7 Percent from Previous Three-Year Average

April 21, 2020 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission News

RALEIGH, N.C. (April 21, 2020) — Results from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's annual deer harvest summary indicate hunters across the state reported harvesting 161,940 deer during the 2019-20 hunting season — a 6.7 percent increase compared to the average harvest the last three seasons.

Of the deer harvested, 51.1 percent were antlered bucks, 4.5 percent were button bucks and 44.4 percent were does. Most deer were harvested with a gun (76 percent), followed by blackpowder (10.9 percent), bow (7.3 percent) and crossbow (5.8 percent). [Table](#) (PDF)

Deer harvests increased in all zones except for the Northeastern Zone, which saw a 2 percent decline. In the Western Zone, deer harvests increased by 20.8 percent; 9.6 percent in the Northwestern Zone; 8.6 percent in the Central Zone; and 6.7 percent in the Southeastern Zone. [Deer Zone Map](#) (PDF)

The [variation in harvest](#) (PDF) from year to year and from zone to zone is something biologists expect to see and is due to a number of factors that can include weather, mast (acorn and berries), disease, hunter effort, harvest selectivity, reporting compliance and rule changes.

2019-2020 was the second hunting season following implementation of significant rule changes intended to improve herd condition across the state. These changes included a statewide antlered bag limit of two and an antlerless bag limit of four.

"Changes in population demographics can take several years, but early reported harvest and other supporting data indicate we're moving closer towards meeting density, sex ratio, and age structure objectives across most of the state," said Jon Shaw, the Commission's deer biologist.

Other reported findings include:

- Deer harvested on game lands comprised 3.2% of the total harvest.
- Dog hunting comprised 20.1% of the harvest in counties where hunting deer with dogs is permitted.
- Eighty-one municipalities and communities participated in the Urban Archery Season or Community [Deer Management Assistance Program](#), and harvested mostly (88.9%) antlerless deer. These programs focus harvest on does to maintain lower populations in these areas.
- Forty-nine properties participated in the Deer Management Assistance Program and harvested 789 deer.

Reported harvest data provide valuable trend information that biologist use, in combination with other recurring agency surveys and biological data, to monitor the herd.

"We primarily focus on long-term trends rather than annual variations to monitor the population and have observed increasing trends in deer harvest in western North Carolina, likely due to an emerging deer herd and improved deer habitat on private lands," Shaw said. "Across most of the Northwestern and Central Zones we have relatively stable harvest trends, while in large portions of Eastern North Carolina, we've observed declining trends in harvest and deer numbers for a number of years. This year's reported harvest data may be an early indication that those trends are stabilizing or possibly increasing in many areas of Eastern North Carolina."

The Commission posts [annual harvest summaries on its website](#), as well as [live harvest reports](#), which are available anytime throughout the hunting season. For more information, visit the Commission's [white-tailed deer page](#).

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the sales counter at the Wildlife Commission's headquarters in Raleigh is closed. We encourage the public to visit our website, www.ncwildlife.org, to **[purchase fishing, trapping and hunting licenses](#)** and to renew a vessel registration. The Commission's License, Vessel Registration, and Wildlife Helpline Call Centers are open from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. For the most up-to-date information on agency-related closures, cancellations and postponements visit ncwildlife.org/covid19.

[Deer harvest for 2019-20 season up nearly 7%](#) April 25, 2020 North Carolina, thewashingtondailynews.com

... Deer harvests increased in all zones except for the Northeastern Zone, which saw a 2% decline. In the Western Zone, deer harvests increased by 20.8%; 9.6% in the Northwestern Zone; 8.6% in the Central Zone; and 6.7% in the Southeastern Zone...

2019

[Deer Harvest for 2018-19 Season Down 9 Percent from Previous Three Year Average](#) May 10, 2019 North Carolina, Caldwell Journal

... .. [deer hunt data](#) ... The Commission implemented rule changes in 2018-2019 to intentionally reduce harvest with the goal of stabilizing deer numbers and improving the sex ratio and age-structure of the herd. Additionally, in the Western Zone, the timing of doe harvest was shifted toward the opening of the season, which has numerous biological benefits for the herd...,

[Elk-in store for big surprise one day](#) May 1, 2019 North Carolina, Elkin Jonesville Tribune

... They had been extinct here since the 1790s. Then in 2001 the National Park Service and partners brought in 25 elk and set them down in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.. has pushed past 200 now ..,

[2001: Elk return to Western North Carolina](#) June 5, 2019 North Carolina, Smoky Mountain News

... there are at least 150 elk around, and probably more ... had been absent from North Carolina since the late 1700s ... 2001, when 25 elk captured from Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area in western Kentucky and Tennessee were released Feb. 2 ... by October 2002 the elk population had grown to nearly 60 animals ...,

[Deer Harvest for 2019-20 Season Up Nearly 7 Percent from Previous Three-Year Average](#) April 24, 2020 North Carolina, wataugaonline.com

... hunters across the state reported harvesting 161,940 deer during the 2019-20 hunting season ... Of the deer harvested, 51.1 percent were antlered bucks, 4.5 percent were button bucks and 44.4 percent were does. Most deer were harvested with a gun (76 percent), followed by blackpowder (10.9 percent), bow (7.3 percent) and crossbow (5.8 percent) ... [\[results county by county\]](#) ..,

[U.S. Forest Services approves Twelve Mile timber project in Pisgah National Forest](#)

February 15, 2020 North Carolina, MSN

... the project will help maintain a healthy and diverse forest that supports wildlife, including elk, deer, turkey and songbirds, provides a sustainable output of timber, improves water quality and aquatic habitat, and improves access to the forest, according to Jason Herron, project lead with the Forest Service...

[One of largest timber sales in Pisgah National Forest now open for public comment](#)

August 5, 2019 North Carolina, Citizen-Times

... not just a timber sale, but aims to address change in the forest needed to meet the Forest Service's mission of sustaining the health, diversity ... will also include permanent wildlife fields, which means removing stumps after logging so that they don't regenerate, and seeding the fields with vegetation grouse, turkey, elk and deer like...

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[Activity patterns and temporal predator avoidance of white-tailed deer \(*Odocoileus virginianus*\) during the fawning season](#) SD Higdon, CA Diggins, MJ Cherry, WM Ford -

Journal of Ethology, 2019, North Carolina and Tennessee

... We analyzed activity patterns of bucks, does, and nursery groups (i.e., groups that included fawns) relative to those of coyotes to determine the coefficient of overlap ...

Because adult deer are rarely prey for coyotes, whereas fawns are common prey during summer, the shift in activity patterns of nursery groups demonstrates a behavioral shift likely aimed at avoiding coyote predation on fawns...

[Deer Harvest for 2018-19 Season Down 9 Percent from Previous Three Year Average](#)

May 10, 2019 North Carolina, Caldwell Journal

... .. [deer hunt data](#) ... The Commission implemented rule changes in 2018-2019 to intentionally reduce harvest with the goal of stabilizing deer numbers and improving the sex ratio and age-structure of the herd. Additionally, in the Western Zone, the timing of doe harvest was shifted toward the opening of the season, which has numerous biological benefits for the herd...

[Elk-in store for big surprise one day](#) May 1, 2019 North Carolina, Elkin Jonesville Tribune

... They had been extinct here since the 1790s. Then in 2001 the National Park Service and partners brought in 25 elk and set them down in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.. has pushed past 200 now ..

[More controlled burns will save lives. property](#) April 11, 2019 North Carolina, The Mountaineer

... The burn, funded by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, aimed to enrich the soil and allow for more young plants to sprout up, which provides the growing herds with more nutrient-rich food... numerous news outlets reported on how a decrease in prescribed burns made the fires far more catastrophic...

[The recent spread of coyotes across North America did not doom deer populations](#)

March 20, 2019 North Carolina, Phys.org

... A new study of deer numbers across the eastern United States has found that the arrival and establishment of coyote predators has not caused the number of deer harvested by hunters to decline... Previous studies of how coyotes might be affecting deer populations have produced inconsistent results...

2018

[2018 North Carolina Deer Forecast](#) October 31, 2018 Game & Fish

... Despite an 8 percent harvest increase during the 2017-18 season and a herd estimated at one million, biologists were looking to the future when they proposed tightening regulations ... Deer populations are still rebounding from severe outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease in 2012 and 2014..,

[The WNC Deer Population Is Up and Hunting Season \(with guns\) Starts on November 19](#) November 5, 2018 North Carolina, WHKP

... the deer population on national forest land is now growing rapidly because of the lack of management in the national forests. Deer like to have open areas ... and in recent years the U.S. Forest Service has not done much timber cutting. So there is simply not as much open space ..,

[Antlered deer harvest in Western North Carolina hits record high](#) March 15, 2018 Asheville Citizen-Times

... hunters reported a total 161,854 white-tailed deer (antlered, button bucks and does) killed, or harvested, across the state during the 2017-2018 hunting season, an increase of 8 percent from the 2016-2017 season... overall emerging herd we have in WNC .., [reported data](#)

[Deer harvest for 2017-18 season sees eight percent increase](#) March 16, 2018 North Carolina, Mountain Xpress (blog)

... increasing trends in deer harvest in western North Carolina, likely due to an emerging deer herd and improved deer habitat on private lands,” said Jon Shaw, the Commission’s deer biologist. “In some areas we have relatively stable harvest trends, while in large portions of Eastern North Carolina, we are observing declining trends in harvest and deer numbers.” ...,

[Deer harvest for 2017-18 season increased](#) March 16, 2018 North Carolina, Elizabethtown Bladen Journal

... According to Shaw causes for deer declines can include ...Doe harvest opportunities have increased over the years ... Outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease have contributed to declines ... significant outbreaks occurred in 2012 ... The quality of habitat may be in decline due to land use practices, including development and increased efficiency in land management, such as farming and forestry practices... Coyotes and other predators have increased in numbers over the last two decades...

[Can red wolves be saved again?](#) February 5, 2018 North Carolina, Washington Post
... For nearly a century, red wolves were gunned down by order of state predator control programs and scattered as humans seized their habitat. By the late 1970s, the population was so depleted that coyotes — which the bigger wolves naturally chased away or killed — began to settle in the same range... how in the world can 25 animals running around affect the deer population?..,

Deer Harvest for 2017-18 Season Increased 8 percent from Previous Season

- 16 March 2018

RALEIGH, N.C. (March 16, 2018) — Results from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's annual deer harvest summary indicate hunters across the state reported harvesting 161,854 deer during the 2017-18 hunting season – an 8 percent increase over the 2016-17 season.

Deer harvest increased in districts 2 through 9, ranging from 3.4 percent in District 3 to 13.3 percent in District 4; however, District 1 showed a 3.9 percent decline in harvest. ([District map](#))

Of the deer harvested, 52.6 percent were antlered bucks, 5.6 percent were button bucks and 41.8 percent were does. The [2017-18 antlered buck harvest](#) was:

- Below (-13 to 25 percent) the 10-year average in Districts 1 and 3
- Near the 10-year average in Districts 2 and 4; and
- Above (13-60 percent) the 10-year average in Districts 5 through 9.

The [variation in harvest from year to year and from district to district](#) is something biologists expect to see and is due to a number of reasons that include weather, mast (acorn and berries) disease, hunter effort and hunter selectivity.

"We primarily focus on long-term trends rather than annual variations to monitor the population, and have observed increasing trends in deer harvest in western North Carolina, likely due to an emerging deer herd and improved deer habitat on private lands," said Jon Shaw, the Commission's deer biologist. "In some areas we have relatively stable harvest trends, while in large portions of Eastern North Carolina, we are observing declining trends in harvest and deer numbers."

According to Shaw causes for deer declines can include:

- Hunter harvest - Doe harvest opportunities have increased over the years, including most recently the addition of Sunday hunting with firearms in 2015.
- Disease – Outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease have contributed to declines in some areas, and significant outbreaks occurred in 2012 in Districts 7 and 8, and in 2014, primarily in District 3.

- Habitat – The quality of habitat may be in decline due to land use practices, including development and increased efficiency in land management, such as farming and forestry practices.
- Predators – Coyotes and other predators have increased in numbers over the last two decades. They can have significant impacts on fawn recruitment, but these impacts are highly variable across time and the landscape. Predators alone will not decimate deer populations, but their impacts may be additive with other factors that cause declines.

However, Shaw notes that there are some possible solutions to address concerns about deer numbers in areas where they are declining, such as continuing to promote hunting and trapping of coyotes, habitat improvement, doe harvest management, and overall harvest timing.

“We believe the recent passage of a statewide antlered bag limit of 2 and antlerless bag limit of 4 is a big step forward in addressing concerns about deer numbers and the overall condition of the herd,” Shaw said. “Of course, we will continue to research and monitor data and trends, and continue to evaluate ways to improve deer management in the state.”

The Commission posts [annual harvest summaries on its website](#), as well as [live harvest reports](#), which are available anytime throughout the hunting season. For more information, visit the Commission’s [white-tailed deer page](#).

[Elk get more room for growing population with new Maggie Valley state game land](#)

August 22, 2018 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... Experimental elk herds were introduced to the Cataloochee area of the Smokies in 2001 and 2002 after an absence of elk of some 200 years due to over-hunting and habitat loss. The herd has steadily grown to an estimated at 150 animals ..

[How many coyotes are in NC?](#) September 6, 2018 North Carolina

, News & Observer

... Until 1988, they didn’t exist in the state ... Between 2016 and 2017, that total reached an estimated 51,905 animals — a 29 percent increase over 2010-11, when the state began keeping track, according to the state’s [2018 Coyote Management Plan](#)..

[Officially extinct: North Carolina cougars are long gone](#) January 31, 2018 Greensboro News & Record

... N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission ... says: “Early records of North Carolina mammals indicate that the Eastern cougar’s populations declined throughout the 18th century as a result of persecution, hunting, loss of habitat and the parallel decline of its major prey species, the white-tailed deer. It is thought that by 1900, the Eastern cougar was extirpated throughout North Carolina.” ..,

Pender County, [Deer numbers slim after Hurricane Florence](#) October 18, 2018 North Carolina, StarNewsOnline.com

... “People have been talking about seeing lots of drowned deer in the Northeast Cape Fear River,” ... “I have been here 20 years. It’s the slowest I’ve seen it on opening day.” ... “I saw a tiny button buck that looked like he was starving,” ...

[The WNC Deer Population is Up ...](#) November 20, 2018 North Carolina, WHKP

... Our deer population has been increasing in recent years ... the deer population on national forest land is not growing as rapidly as on private land because of the lack of management in the national forests. Deer like to have open areas, he tells WHKP News, and in recent years the U.S. Forest Service has not done much timber cutting ...

[Gun season for deer underway](#) November 19, 2018 North Carolina, Wilkes

Journal-Patriot

... the deer harvest was down about 20 percent in District 7 during this year’s bow and blackpowder deer seasons, mostly due to excessive rain keeping hunters out of the woods... this year’s poor acorn crop should also contribute to hunter success ...

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[North Carolina voters add right to hunt, fish to state constitution](#) November 9, 2018

Guns.com

... The constitutional amendment was approved by more than 57 percent of voters on Tuesday ... adds language protecting the right to hunt and fish to the North Carolina Constitution while establishing public harvest by sportsmen using “traditional methods” as the preferred method of wildlife management...

[The WNC Deer Population Is Up and Hunting Season \(with guns\) Starts on November 19](#) November 5, 2018 North Carolina, WHKP

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... Despite an 8 percent harvest increase during the 2017-18 season and a herd estimated at one million, biologists were looking to the future when they proposed tightening regulations ... Deer populations are still rebounding from severe outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease in 2012 and 2014...

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[Wildlife Commission Asks Deer Hunters to Participate in Jawbone Submission Program](#)

September 20, 2018 North Carolina, Caldwell Journal

... Jawbones should be submitted from does and bucks of all ages, not just large deer. Biologists use the information from this program to estimate the age structure of the harvest...

[Wildlife Commission requests deer hunters help to report wildlife observations](#)

September 7, 2018 North Carolina, MountainXpress

... For the first time this season, participants can now enter their observations online in the field from any smart phone or small-screen device by using [the survey link](#) ...

[How many coyotes are in NC?](#) September 6, 2018 North Carolina, News & Observer

... Until 1988, they didn’t exist in the state ... Between 2016 and 2017, that total reached an estimated 51,905 animals — a 29 percent increase over 2010-11, when the state began keeping track, according to the state’s [2018 Coyote Management Plan](#)...

[A genetic condition wasn't the only unusual thing about this deer spotted in NC](#)

September 5, 2018 North Carolina, MSN.com

... irregular brown and white markings ... a red collar around its neck ... Putting a collar on a deer is technically legal in North Carolina, but doing so and treating them as pets is "strongly discouraged" ...

[Elk get more room for growing population with new Maggie Valley state game land](#)

August 22, 2018 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... Experimental elk herds were introduced to the Cataloochee area of the Smokies in 2001 and 2002 after an absence of elk of some 200 years due to over-hunting and habitat loss. The herd has steadily grown to an estimated at 150 animals ..,

[North Carolina voters face constitutional right to hunt and fish ballot question](#) June 26, 2018 Guns.com

... passed the legislature as [SB 677](#) by a wide margin on Monday, would open up the bedrock document and install the amendment protecting the right to hunt and fish while establishing public harvest by sportsmen as the preferred method of wildlife management...

['Tis the season doe hide their fawns near people](#) June 5, 2018 North Carolina, Stanly News & Press

... It's not uncommon for deer to place their fawns at locations safe from predators ... does and fawns do not bond like most animals. Instead, they bond over time through nursing and grooming sessions, Saintsing said. "So a fawn may run off with another doe or a doe may steal another fawn," ...

[Paula Gillikin Keeps Watch Over Wild Horses](#) April 30, 2018 North Carolina, Coastal Review Online

... The [horse] herd population, currently around 30, has had some ups and downs in the decades since but is stable now because of Gillikin and a birth-control method

called immunocontraception... While working on a white-tailed deer immunocontraception project in South Carolina with her adviser, Dr. Allen Rutberg from Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University near Boston, where Gillikin earned her master's in animals and public policy ...

[North Carolina Cotton: Evaluating, Managing Deer-Damaged Fields](#) April 12, 2018

AgFax

... The number of deer feeding complaints in cotton has risen sharply in the last five years; however, these cases are relatively isolated to fields that regularly encounter noticeably high numbers of deer and fields in close proximity to preferred bedding habitat...

[Deer Harvest Results for 2017 – 2018](#) April 11, 2018 North Carolina, The Tribune

Papers

... The total number of deer reported taken on the Pisgah National Forest was 496. That number on the Nantahala was 554. That's 1050 deer, or one deer per one thousand acres. It should be a red flag to both the National Forest and WRC leadership that habitat on those Forests are not meeting the needs of wildlife. With a 60% rise of harvest District wide, and low harvest on public lands, this indicates deer are moving off poor habitat National Forests onto private lands...

[Deer harvest for 2017-18 season sees eight percent increase](#) March 16, 2018 North

Carolina, Mountain Xpress (blog)

... increasing trends in deer harvest in western North Carolina, likely due to an emerging deer herd and improved deer habitat on private lands," said Jon Shaw, the Commission's deer biologist. "In some areas we have relatively stable harvest trends, while in large portions of Eastern North Carolina, we are observing declining trends in harvest and deer numbers." ...

[Antlered deer harvest in Western North Carolina hits record high](#) March 15, 2018

Asheville Citizen-Times

... hunters reported a total 161,854 white-tailed deer (antlered, button bucks and does) killed, or harvested, across the state during the 2017-2018 hunting season, an increase of 8 percent from the 2016-2017 season... overall emerging herd we have in WNC ...

[Wildlife Commission backs off changes to deer and bear hunting seasons](#) March 11, 2018 North Carolina, The Mountaineer

... Deer in the mountains breed later in the fall than elsewhere, a biological adaptation to the colder climate. Later breeding in turn means calves are born later in spring, after foliage has leafed out ... The proposal called for delaying the opening day of deer gun season ... to give more deer a chance to breed before hunters took to the woods...

[The problem with coyotes: Killing them is 'ineffective,' NC says](#) March 5, 2018 North Carolina, Charlotte Observer

... A key conclusion of the [plan approved last Wednesday](#): trying to reduce coyotes' numbers, such as by shooting them, has "proven ineffective." Hunters and trappers killed about 52,000 coyotes in the 2016-17 seasons ...

[Wildlife Commission Adopts Modified Rules for 2018-2019 Seasons](#) March 1, 2018 North Carolina, ncwildlife.org

... Implement a statewide bag limit of two antlered and four antlerless deer. Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Card are restricted to the Urban Archery Season only. Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) participants would retain harvest flexibility... Shift either-sex days to the beginning of the Introductory, Conservative, and Moderate Gun Either-Sex Seasons...

[Proposed changes to deer, bear hunting seasons aim to better manage populations](#)

February 19, 2018 North Carolina, WLOS

... Rifle season for deer would start after Thanksgiving week, but double the current three weeks into early January ... "Now, they're opening up gun season, taking does ... and what you're going to see is everything that we've worked for, trying to limit our harvest and get the deer population up, is about to be taken away," hunter Austin Neary said...

[Hunters make their voices heard](#) February 19, 2018 North Carolina, The Mountaineer

... "I went from seeing a small deer herd to a good deer herd, and I oppose the lengthened season. I don't think our deer herd can stand it," [Brent Hyatt, a retired wildlife officer] said. "It's took a good time to get what we got, and why would you want to kill that off?" ... most stood against the change in regulations ...

[Can red wolves be saved again?](#) February 5, 2018 North Carolina, Washington Post
... For nearly a century, red wolves were gunned down by order of state predator control programs and scattered as humans seized their habitat. By the late 1970s, the population was so depleted that coyotes — which the bigger wolves naturally chased away or killed — began to settle in the same range... how in the world can 25 animals running around affect the deer population?..,

[Officially extinct: North Carolina cougars are long gone](#) January 31, 2018 Greensboro News & Record

... N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission ... says: "Early records of North Carolina mammals indicate that the Eastern cougar's populations declined throughout the 18th century as a result of persecution, hunting, loss of habitat and the parallel decline of its major prey species, the white-tailed deer. It is thought that by 1900, the Eastern cougar was extirpated throughout North Carolina." ..,

[Wilson area bald eagle dies from lead toxicity](#) January 22, 2018 North Carolina, WNCN
... neurological signs that indicated lead toxicity and the level was so high the center could not get an exact reading... likely came from eating deer carcasses that had lead left from a hunter's gunshot ...

[Big shuffle underway in deer and bear hunting seasons](#) January 12, 2018 North Carolina, The Mountaineer

... deer gun season won't open until the week after Thanksgiving under a proposal by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission... "The biological reason for this is to shift the

majority of the buck harvest until after peak breeding season, so all the does get bred,” ... “It coincides so that fawns are born after the green up in the spring,” ...

[Commissioners unite against proposed deer hunting changes](#) January 9, 2018 North Carolina, Roanoke Chowan News Herald

... “It changes the hunting area. It puts us, the Northeastern counties, in one section. They propose to shorten deer season by two weeks, which would be nine days shorter. Hunters are upset about that...

['Dramatic' Changes Coming to NC Deer, Bear Hunting Rules](#) January 8, 2018 North Carolina, WFMY News 2

... The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is proposing changes to long-held hunting seasons for white-tailed deer and bear hunting in the mountains that could allow longer periods for hunting with guns in the woods and allow bear and deer hunting seasons in the mountains to overlap...

2017

[Wildlife Commission Proposes Changes in Deer Regulations for 2018-2019](#) December 1, 2017 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

... the deer herd can be improved by reducing young buck harvest, shifting the timing of harvest later in the year and adjusting doe harvest rates. Of the 33,750 hunters responding to the [2016 Deer Hunting and Management Survey](#), 81 percent of respondents were willing to accept changes in deer hunting seasons to improve buck age structure ...

[Grandfather Mountain Welcomes Elk With New Names](#) November 30, 2017 North Carolina, WFMY News 2

...Three male elk will be living in the non-profit's newest habitat ... It's been hundreds of years, but the animals used to rule the lands as shown in the names of some of the High Country towns and landmarks, like Banner Elk, Elk Park and Elk River Falls...

[Gun season for deer opens in Western North Carolina](#) November 20, 2017 Asheville Citizen-Times

... Jon Shaw, state deer biologist with the wildlife commission said there are ... about 1 million deer, most in the eastern part of the state. But the mountains are a growing deer haven. "Overall in WNC the deer herd is healthy and we're seeing an increasing deer population, and we expect it to continue to increase," ...

[Elk are coming to Grandfather Mountain, naming contest begins](#) November 17, 2017 North Carolina, Stanly News & Press

... Elk population once thrived in the High Country ... Their numbers were decimated by over-hunting and loss of habitat in the 18th and 19th centuries, and they were eventually eradicated entirely from the region... in 2001, the National Park Service began reintroducing elk into Great Smoky Mountains National Park ...

[Commission seeks deer hunter observation survey participants](#) September 27, 2017 North Carolina, News & Observer

... deer hunters across the state have been recording all of the mammals they saw ... A doe harvest of 30 percent of the population, which was a traditional guideline, may no longer be sustainable." ... while the survey is not truly scientific ... it yielded a statewide ratio of 0.6 fawns per doe – on par with other southeastern states...

[2017 North Carolina Deer Forecast](#) September 21, 2017 Game & Fish

... "We have roughly 1 million deer," said Jon Shaw, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Deer Biologist... Hemorrhagic disease contributed to declines ... "We are seeing bigger outbreaks occurring more frequently than they used to," ... In areas where deer are declining, the major factors are harvest, predators, disease and habitat...

[Elk are coming to Grandfather Mountain, naming contest begins](#) November 17, 2017 North Carolina, Stanly News & Press

... Elk population once thrived in the High Country ... Their numbers were decimated by over-hunting and loss of habitat in the 18th and 19th centuries, and they were

eventually eradicated entirely from the region... in 2001, the National Park Service began reintroducing elk into Great Smoky Mountains National Park ..

[North Carolina hunters must now use real-time harvest reports](#) September 5, 2017

North Carolina Sportsman

... The Commission no longer offers big game harvest reporting through Wildlife Cooperator Agents using paper record sheets... will also enable users to [track the status](#) of the harvest ...

[Top North Carolina public game lands for deer](#) September 3, 2017, North Carolina

Sportsman

... N.C. hunters killed 4975 deer on public lands last season... North Carolina has over two million acres of public game land available ...

[Do coal-black, white-tailed deer exist in WNC?](#) August 23, 2017 North Carolina,

Asheville Homepages Citizen Times Social Media

... I was running in a local park ... a big buck, and he was indeed solid black ... the park ranger said there were actually two black deer in the park, a younger female, and the buck I had seen...

[Wildlife Commission Adopts Resolution to Request Membership in Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact](#) July 31, 2017 North Carolina, NCWRC News

... The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission adopted a resolution on July 27, 2017 to formally request membership in the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (Compact), a voluntary reciprocal agreement among 47 states sharing sportsman hunting, fishing and trapping violations...

[Forest management planning process moves forward](#) July 5, 2017 North Carolina,

Smoky Mountain News

... Whitmire has been an advocate of increased logging in the national forest so as to create more of the young forest habitats that game animals such as grouse and deer need to thrive, and he likes that the new management area scheme provides the possibility of timber harvest across much of the forest...

[A Bill to Regulate the Practice of Hunting Deer with Dogs Stall ...](#) June 7, 2017 North Carolina, The Independent Weekly

... More than eighteen thousand deer were taken across the state in the 2016–17 season by hunters using hounds... HB 648 would give the Wildlife Resource Commission the authority to regulate the hunting of deer with dogs...

[Gun season for deer may be extended](#) May 23, 2017 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... hunters indicated a preference for a longer gun season in the survey and biologist don't think this would have a significant impact on the deer population... a season bag limit of four antlerless deer rather than the current six ... Shaw said ... reducing the doe harvest is by far the best management practice to increase deer numbers ...

[North Carolina hunters asked to give input on deer management](#) May 15, 2017 northcarolinasportsman.com

... these forums [May 16 to June 1] are not public hearings, and the potential management options presented are not proposed regulation changes...

[NC deer harvest is off 7.8 percent](#) May 2, 2017 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... last year's reported harvest ... 11.2 percent below the 10-year average ... statistics showed that the harvest declined across all nine of the state's wildlife districts ...

[N.C. Wildlife Commission hosts public forum series on white-tailed deer management](#) April 29, 2017 North Carolina, Mountain Xpress

... The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will conduct nine interactive public forums across the state to solicit input regarding white-tailed deer management, including potential changes to seasons and bag limits. [starting May 16]

[North Carolina deer harvest dips this season](#) April 25, 2017 WRAL.com

... State hunters reported 149,811 deer killed during the 2016-2017 hunting season, down 7.8 percent from the 2015-2016 season... The statewide deer estimate is around 1 million ..., [deer kill by county](#)

[NC deer harvest up overall despite season's decrease](#) April 24, 2017 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... The statewide deer herd estimate is about 1 million, Shaw said, with rough estimates that it has been as high at 1.4 million over the past 30 years. Since 2010, when a survey of deer hunters began annually, the number of deer hunters has stayed about the same, with 250,000 active deer hunters..,

[Changes to reduce doe harvest possible](#) April 25, 2017 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... the commission's deer biologist, said, "We've killed a lot of does and that was by design, but there may be places where the decline has gone farther than hunters wanted to see. The most effective thing is to pull back on the doe harvest in some places and that's where we're at now." ...

[North Carolina deer harvest dips this season](#) April 25, 2017 WRAL.com

... State hunters reported 149,811 deer killed during the 2016-2017 hunting season, down 7.8 percent from the 2015-2016 season... The statewide deer estimate is around 1 million ... [deer kill by county](#)

[NC deer harvest up overall despite season's decrease](#) April 24, 2017 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

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[NC hunters seek changes to bill that could impact using dogs](#) April 20, 2017 North Carolina, WAVY-TV

... "A person could potentially be charged with criminal trespass if their dog got in a place where it was not wanted," ...

[Legislature considers expanding Sunday hunting to include public lands, waterfowl](#) April 10, 2017 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... H559 ... would allow Sunday hunting with firearms for any game species ... H614 ... declares that management of ... game animals — would be shared by the General Assembly ...

[NCWRC sets hunting, fishing regulations for 2017-18](#) February 20, 2017 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... Hunters will begin reporting their big game harvest either by phone or Internet, starting with deer season this fall. This change completes the conversion of big game harvest reporting from paper to an electronic registration system ...

[2017 North Carolina Deer Forecast](#) September 21, 2017 Game & Fish

... "We have roughly 1 million deer," said Jon Shaw, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Deer Biologist... Hemorrhagic disease contributed to declines ... "We are seeing bigger outbreaks occurring more frequently than they used to," ... In areas where deer are declining, the major factors are harvest, predators, disease and habitat...

[Gun season for deer opens in Western North Carolina](#) November 20, 2017 Asheville Citizen-Times

... Jon Shaw, state deer biologist with the wildlife commission said there are ... about 1 million deer, most in the eastern part of the state. But the mountains are a growing deer haven. "Overall in WNC the deer herd is healthy and we're seeing an increasing deer population, and we expect it to continue to increase," ..,

[North Carolina Deer Information](#) October, 2017 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

... North Carolina's population of white-tailed deer is estimated at around 1 million animals. The state had a growing population of white-tailed deer until either-sex seasons were liberalized in the early 1990s. This liberalization of either-sex seasons across most areas of the state allowed for increased opportunity for sportsmen/women to harvest antlerless deer. The population trend of our state's deer herd quickly stabilized and has actually started to decrease for most areas of the state. However, there are areas throughout the state where localized populations continue to increase. Those areas where populations are rapidly increasing are typically urban/suburban areas where the utilization of hunting as a management tool has been greatly hindered.

It is estimated that only 10,000 deer inhabited the state in 1900. North Carolina's major efforts to restore our state's deer resource took place in the 1940s through the 1970s. Our state's restoration program was responsible for stocking approximately 4,000 deer throughout the state.

The cost of our state's white-tailed deer restoration program has been conservatively estimated at \$1.2 million (in 1950-1970 dollars). Today, North Carolina sportsmen/women spend approximately \$311 million on deer-related hunting expenses every year.

More people hunt white-tailed deer than any other game species in North Carolina. Each year approximately 250,000 sportsmen/women take more than 2.9 million trips afield in pursuit of deer.

Wildlife Commission Adopts Resolution to Request Membership in Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact July 31, 2017 North Carolina, NCWRC News

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission adopted a resolution on July 27, 2017 to formally request membership in the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (Compact), a voluntary reciprocal agreement among 47 states sharing sportsman hunting, fishing and trapping violations. The Compact promotes compliance with the statutes, laws, ordinances, resolutions, administrative rules and regulations relating to the management of wildlife resources and provides fair and impartial treatment of wildlife violators operating within the participating states. In 2008, the General Assembly passed [**G.S. 113-300.5**](#) requiring North Carolina to adopt rules and join the Compact. The Commission's adoption of this resolution was the last step needed to make application to join the Compact.

The violation of wildlife laws interferes with the management of wildlife resources and may endanger the safety of persons and property. The Compact establishes a process by which wildlife law violations conducted by a non-resident while in a member state may be handled as if the person were a resident in the state where the violation took place. This allows the individual to agree to appear in court, therefore preventing the individual from being arrested, booked and bonded. This reduces the burden on court and jail facilities and reduces failure to appear and non-compliance cases. This process increases officer efficiency by allowing more time for enforcement duties rather than violator processing procedures that are required for arrest, booking and bonding of non-residents.

The Compact also includes a reciprocal recognition of license privilege suspension by member states, so any person whose license privileges are suspended in a member state may also have their license suspended in their home state, but only if the violation is a comparable and revocable offense in their home state. Wildlife law violators are held accountable since their illegal activities in one state can affect their privileges in all participating states, including the individual's home state. For example, if a North Carolina resident has their hunting privileges suspended in Virginia, their privileges may also be suspended in North Carolina and in all other compact states, only if the hunting violation is a comparable and revocable offense in their home state or other Compact state. This cooperative interstate effort will enhance the ability to protect and manage our wildlife resources for the benefit of citizens in all member states.

Hawaii and Massachusetts are not members of the Compact. State legislation, however, is pending in Massachusetts to enter the Commonwealth into the Compact and to update penalties for existing wildlife crimes.

[NC Wildlife Commission hears input on proposed changes](#) January 17, 2017 North Carolina, WLOS

... One proposal would extend the archery season for hunting deer from mid-December until Jan. 1 ...

2016

[Become a citizen scientist with Candid Critter Program](#) December 29, 2016 North Carolina, WECT-TV6

... "You don't need to be a scientist to run a camera," Kay explained. "We can now work with citizens to have them run the camera traps, and they get the fun of seeing these pictures and learning about animals." And best of all it's free and easy. Just check out the kit from your local library, after taking a quick online course...

[Wildlife Commission to conduct nine public hearings](#) December 26, 2016 North Carolina, Montgomery Herald

... eliminate the use of paper Big Game Harvest Record sheets (H7). Hunters would report their big game harvest either by phone or Internet. If passed, this proposal would complete the conversion of big game harvest reporting from paper to an electronic registration system, which began with turkey harvest reporting in 2003... The comment period ... February 1, 2017..

[Elk Depredation Rules Announced](#) October 26, 2016 North Carolina, TheTribunePapers
... North Carolina statute allows landholders to take wildlife at any time with firearms without a permit or license while it is in the act of destroying their property. The adopted amendment will require a landowner who takes a depredating elk without a Commission-issued depredation permit to report that take to the Commission within 24 hours of the kill...

[NC 'citizen scientists' sought for wildlife camera survey](#) October 25, 2016 North Carolina, News & Observer
... North Carolinians will soon be able to check out motion-activated cameras from their local libraries to discover what wildlife lives around them... aims to place camera traps at 20,000 to 30,000 sites ... scientists are particularly interested in studying the distribution patterns of deer across the state, particularly in relation to the number of coyotes...

[NC researchers ask for help in camera trap survey](#) October 18, 2016 North Carolina, BlueRidgeNow.com
... recruiting schools and residents to participate in "North Carolina's Candid Critters," the largest camera trap survey ever, with a goal of 20,000 to 30,000 active sites ... Participants may borrow a camera trap ... help scientists learn more about deer reproduction ...

[Some Davidson County residents concerned about illegal deer hunting at night](#) October 14, 2016 North Carolina, FOX 8
... They are planting deer decoys in open fields at night in areas where residents have reported night hunting...

[North Carolina Deer Forecast for 2016](#) October 11, 2016 Game & Fish

... hunters reported harvesting 162,558 deer during the 2015-16 hunting season. That is 5.8 percent higher than the lackluster harvest of 153,629 during the 2014-15 hunting season, but 3.9 percent below the 10-year average ... declines on the coast could be attributable to antlerless deer harvest, changes in habitat quality and predation...

[Conservationists Butt Heads With U.S. Government Over Red Wolf Repopulation Program](#) October 6, 2016 North Carolina, Smithsonian

... while government officials set aside ranges for the wolves in the middle of North Carolina, wild animals don't often abide by lines drawn on a map. The wolves soon began crossing onto nearby private property, harrasing livestock and scaring away deer, which angered landowners and hunters alike ...

[Study sniffs out effects of dogs, humans on wildlife](#) October 4, 2016 North Carolina, Phys

... "The bottom line of our work is that we have a ton of dogs using our parks, but most stay on-trail and don't harass wildlife much," says co-author Roland Kays, wildlife biologist with North Carolina State University ... Using camera traps, the project documented over 23,000 cases of dogs using natural areas, but 99 percent of dogs stuck to the trail and 97 percent were with their owners...

[Portions of Duke Forest close for deer hunting](#) October 1, 2016 North Carolina, News & Observer

... Duke University has been participating in the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Deer Management Assistance Program for nine years ... They eat seedlings and saplings ... it will take a while to understand the larger impact on the deer population and future growth of the forest...

[Disturbing trend of illegal deer carcass dumping in Davidson County](#) September 21, 2016 North Carolina, myfox8.com

..."The hind quarters and the antlers were cut off," James said. "It is an eyesore."

James says the eyesore not only looks and smells bad but has attracted other insects and animals... Six deer carcasses were dumped near Highway 49 and Highway 8...

Video Below: Elk once roamed the southern Appalachian mountains and elsewhere in the eastern United States. They were eliminated from the region by over-hunting and loss of habitat. The last elk in North Carolina was believed to have been killed in the late 1700s. In Tennessee, the last elk was killed in the mid-1800s. By 1900, the population of elk in North America dropped to the point that hunting groups and other conservation organizations became concerned the species was headed for extinction. - September 17, 2016

[America's very best idea'](#) September 2, 2016 Tennessee, Oak Ridger

... "In 1934, there were 12 whitetail deer in Tennessee and six in North Carolina. ... U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn ...

[Deer Harvest Report Shows 5.8% Increase Over Previous Season](#) August 31, 2016

North Carolina, NCWildlife.org

...coastal region harvest decreased from the previous season in all districts ... The piedmont region harvest increased in all districts ... where high levels of hemorrhagic disease activity contributed to depressed harvest during the 2014-2015 season. The mountain region saw an increase in harvest ...

Public Hearing on Sept. 8 Will Address Proposed Elk Depredation Rule Changes

August 31, 2016 North Carolina, Commission News

The Wildlife Commission is holding a public hearing on Sept. 8 at 7 p.m., to take comments on proposed changes to elk management regulations. The hearing will be held in the auditorium of [Haywood Community College](#), located at 185 Freedlander Drive in Clyde. If passed, the proposed changes will require landowners who do not have a depredation permit issued by the Wildlife Commission and who kill a depredating elk to report that kill to the Commission within 24 hours of the kill. Additionally a landowner who has an elk-depredation permit and takes a depredating elk must report it on the form provided with the permit. [More](#) ...

[Coyotes and deer fawn depredation](#) August 15, 2016 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... habitat improvement would help. With good habitat and thick cover, more fawns would survive. Also, if we improve the (buck/doe) balance in the breeding season, does would drop fawns at the same time. Predators can take only so many (fawns) at a time. We'd flood the market, so to speak ...

['Friend of Conservation' award is given to Chatham family](#) June 1, 2016 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... "In 1935, there was not a deer east of Asheville or west of Moore County. Deer were purchased and liberated on Roundabout. Today, all the deer that are in northwestern North Carolina are descendents of the ones stocked in 1938," .. .Lewis Petree became superintendent of the farming and game operations in 1947 ...

[A better deer season for hunters](#) March 9, 2016 North Carolina, News & Observer

... Shaw estimated the deer herd in North Carolina is close to 1 million. He said a three-year study is underway to determine what improvements, if any, might be needed... Among the biological objectives of the study are a balanced sex ratio before peak rut, limiting ...

[Changes In Regard To Antlered, Antlerless Deer](#) September 21, 2016 Tennessee, Full Coverage

... An antlered deer is now defined as any male or female deer with an antler protruding above its hairline. An antlerless deer is now defined as any deer with no antler protruding above its hairline...

[Coyotes make themselves at home in WNC](#) November 17, 2016 North Carolina, Smoky Mountain News

... If you want a scapegoat to blame for fewer deer and turkey sightings over the years, [Wildlife Commission's district biologist Justin McVey] said, coyotes probably aren't the best one... "We have so much national forest out here that is in a mature state, that doesn't really bode well for deer. If we could get more early successional habitat in our state, our deer population would benefit greatly." ...

[Managing wildlife crucial in hunt areas](#) August 4, 2016 North Carolina, The Wilson Times

... we once believed in order to manage a deer population properly, that does should not be harvested. The resulting circumstances left the state with an overabundance of does, few quality bucks, and a huge population increase. Why? Because, one buck can mate with many females...

[Farm bill benefits agriculture, governor](#) July 30, 2016 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... Sets up a voluntary assessment on deer farmers that the state would collect and remit quarterly to the N.C. Deer and Elk Farmers Association. The money would be used to promote the fledgling industry, in which deer are raised for their antlers and meat...

[Statewide deer hunting survey underway](#) July 12, 2016 North Carolina, Public Radio East

... The current study expounds on another conducted in 2006 with 10,000 hunters. Officials hope to reach over 220,000 this time ... distribution of white tailed deer was highest in Craven County, with 30 to 44 deer per square mile... year-and-a-half old bucks account for more than 30 percent of the antlered-buck harvest... would like to see that number less than 20 percent...

[Deer-food tax on hunters ousted at N. C. legislature](#) July 2, 2016 North Carolina, northcarolinasportsman.com

... an amendment to the 2016 Farm Bill, SB 770, that would have levied an excise tax on any supplemental deer foods and minerals purchased not only by owners of deer farms but by deer hunters, with proceeds going to the N.C. Deer and Elk Farmers Association ...

[Deer food on the cheap](#) April 8, 2016 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... Deer need foods rich in protein. Most native spring and summer foods are low in protein content ... The best, economical options for a warm-season planting are

mixtures of legumes and grains such as oats, buckwheat, cow peas and red clover. The mixture of legumes and grains will work with each other by providing necessary nitrogen and competition to help prevent weedy invaders...

[Deer harvest of 2015-16 shows improvement over previous year](#) April 25, 2016 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... North Carolina hunters tagged 162,558 whitetails during the 2015-16 season, a 5.8-percent increase over the previous season ... better than in 2014-15, when hemorrhagic disease and a huge acorn crop dropped the harvest by a stunning 18.3 percent... ... [Read the full report](#) ...

[Deer harvest increases 33 percent in WNC](#) April 29, 2016 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... Hunters taking advantage of the now-legal, but long tabooed Sunday hunting - on private land - was one of the reasons behind an increase in the deer harvest across North Carolina last year. The 2015-16 season harvest was up 5.8 percent ...

[The politics of deer farming in North Carolina—lessons learned](#) RD Brown - Wildlife Society Bulletin, 2016

... Prior to 2015, white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) were allowed to be raised and sold in-state and out-of-state, but not hunted behind high fences in North Carolina, USA ... Despite the appointment of a WRC task force to study the potential impact of such rules on the proliferation of CWD and substantial public and legislative opposition to such changes, the legislature approved the changes in the last hours of its 2015 session. In addition, regulatory authority over deer farms was transferred from the WRC to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services...

[Hiking, hunting has minor effects on mammals in protected eastern forests](#) June 7, 2016 North Carolina, Science Daily

...The most-hunted species in the study -- white-tailed deer, raccoons, eastern grey squirrels and fox squirrels, which are common throughout the region -- were detected less often at sites where hunting was allowed. Coyotes, in contrast, frequented hunting areas more often than nonhunting sites, and they did not steer clear of hiking areas...

[Will fewer deer be the new norm?](#) May 2, 2016 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot ... The total annual harvest in Wilkes was typically well above 4,000 deer before hemorrhagic disease ... in 2012... in 2015 when hunters reported taking a total of 3,402 ... More data is needed before N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission biologists can determine if deer harvests in Wilkes are stabilizing at a new lower level or are trending downward ...

[WNC weighs in on proposed elk hunt](#) January 13, 2016 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... “When we feel like the population of elk reaches the point where it can withstand hunting pressure, we can issue permits for bull tags ... rough estimate is that 140-160 elk live inside and outside [Smoky Mountains] ... the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians are trying to find a more accurate way of counting elk and managing the herd ...

[North Carolina Proposes Opening Elk Hunt](#) January 19, 2016 First For Wildlife ... In 2001, an experimental herd of 25 elk was reintroduced to the state of North Carolina... another 27 elk were reintroduced to the Cataloochee Valley of Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 2002... today the state has a rough estimate of around 140-160 elk.

2015

[2015 North Carolina deer season preview](#) August 1, 2015 North Carolina, northcarolinasportsman.com

... last year’s outbreak of epizootic hemorrhagic disease, may wonder whether or how it will affect the 2015 season... “Deer build up immunities to the virus, but a new strain may appear and infect deer. That happened in 2014.” ...

[2015 Trophy Deer Forecast: North Carolina](#) October 21, 2015 North Carolina, Game & Fish

... The deer harvest suffered a severe decline during the 2014-15 hunting season ... The Commission has resisted such efforts to restrict antlered buck harvest ... The total harvest decreased 18.3 percent from 188,130 to 153,629. The buck-to-doe harvest ratio increased from 46.0 percent to 47.8 percent...

[America's Forgotten Wolf Still Lives In North Carolina](#) January 14, 2015 Indefinitely wild

... there were wolves roaming freely in North Carolina ... The red wolf, *Canis rufus*, endemic to the United States, once chased deer from New England throughout the Southeast and as far west as Texas. Smaller than its relative, the gray wolf and larger than a coyote ... in the early 1900s only small, isolated populations remained in remote corners of Louisiana and Texas ...

[Are all the deer and fish really gone?](#) February 23, 2015 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... commission spokesman Geoff Cantrell ... provided these historical North Carolina deer population estimates: 1900 — 10,000 (population was lowest in the early 1900s), 1950 — 150,000. 2000 — 1.1 million. Current estimate — 1,165,000.

[Rearing White-Tailed Deer In Pisgah Forest](#) October 26, 2020 North Carolina, The Transylvania Times

... By the early 1900s the white-tail deer population had declined to the point of concern. George Vanderbilt undertook efforts to re-stock deer on his vast estate. Then, following the creation of the Pisgah National Forest, a game preserve was established leading to a rebound in the number of deer in this relatively safe environment..,

[Coyote predation on fawns may demand direct attack](#) April 17, 2015 North Carolina, Penn Live

... after spending a lot of time and money removing a lot of coyotes, did not measure a significant increase in fawn recruitment. Thus follows the advice: If fawn recruitment is falling, reducing doe harvest is easier, cheaper and possibly more effective than spring trapping."

[Coyotes becoming a nuisance in Eastern North Carolina](#) March 29, 2015 North Carolina, New Bern Sun Journal

... according to the state Wildlife Resources Commission, “Coyotes first made their appearance in Eastern North Carolina in the 1980s because of illegal translocations and releases from outside of the state for the purpose of sport hunting with hounds...

[Coyotes filling wolves' niche in southeastern US](#) March 26, 2015 North Carolina, Phys.org

... Coyotes are native to western North America but moved to North Carolina only in the last few decades... Most impressive was the apparent top-down influence coyotes had on [deer populations](#) at Fort Bragg. A recent paper in PLoS ONE showed that coyotes killed one out of every two deer fawns born. "Only 14 percent of fawns survived for the first 16 weeks of life," ...

[Debate over deer management in NC](#) July 10, 2015 North Carolina, 1050 WFSC

... “We don’t want to see the expansion of deer and elk farming in our state, which has led around the country to chronic waste disease ... “It’s basically ebola for deer.” ... North Carolina Wildlife Federation CEO Tim Gestwicki ...

[Who Should Manage North Carolina Captive Deer?](#) July 9, 2015 The Center for Public Integrity

... The [Wildlife Resources Commission](#) was formed in 2002 after chronic wasting disease began to decimate herds in other states. Gestwicki says it has not entered North Carolina, but he fears looser regulations under the Agriculture Department would increase the risk...

[Deer Farm Bill Ignites North Carolina Residents](#) June 18, 2015 The Street

... North Carolina's Constitution and law explicitly prohibit the sale of deer. Whitetails are recognized as a public trust asset, a benefit and enjoyed resource for all citizens. Representative West's language would begin to unravel the long-standing history with little debate from residents...

[House moves NC closer to allowing Sunday hunting](#) June 18, 2015 North Carolina, News & Observer

... A bill to allow Sunday hunting on private land in North Carolina passed the House 88 to 26 after a compromise to add a midday ban advanced in the House and Senate...

[Protect White-Tailed Deer Against Diseases](#) June 23, 2015 North Carolina, National Wildlife Federation

... t special interests are promoting bills that would reclassify captive deer and elk as “livestock” and transfer oversight away from the Wildlife Resources Commission - placing North Carolina's wild deer populations in peril across the state....

[Deer Farmers drain Family Farmers USDA / FSA Funds](#) June 17, 2015 North Carolina, PR Newswire (press release)

... Deer Farmers have begun to benefit from the Federal [Livestock Indemnity Program](#), authorized by the USDA, which provides protection to commercial farmers when adverse weather or disease eradicates a large percentage of livestock ... unlike cattle farms that sell their meat for commercial distribution, captive cervid (deer) farms commercially breed their animals to sell to shooting pens...

[Deer farming bill heads to governor](#) September 30, 2015 North Carolina, WRA

... The original Senate version included a provision moving deer farms from the oversight of the Wildlife Resources Commission ... when it emerged from conference committee with the Senate, the deer farming provision was back in the bill... In 2002, when concerns emerged about the spread of chronic wasting disease ... the state spent nearly a quarter-million dollars to buy out most of the state's deer farms...

[N.C. lawmakers move with caution on deer, farm bill](#) September 24, 2015 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... The state House on Thursday tentatively approved a farm bill after removing several controversial provisions, including one that would have transferred regulation of captive deer from the state's wildlife office to the agriculture department...

[Deer farm authority passes to NC Dept of Agriculture after legislature reverses decision](#) October 2, 2015 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... The state legislature made a 180-degree turnaround early this week and handed over management of deer farms in North Carolina to the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, taking authority from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission... Adams said a major lobbying effort and backroom political tactics turned this change into one that came about almost overnight...

[Deer Farmers drain Family Farmers USDA / FSA Funds](#) June 17, 2015 North Carolina, PR Newswire (press release)

... Deer Farmers have begun to benefit from the Federal [Livestock Indemnity Program](#), authorized by the USDA, which provides protection to commercial farmers when adverse weather or disease eradicates a large percentage of livestock ... unlike cattle farms that sell their meat for commercial distribution, captive cervid (deer) farms commercially breed their animals to sell to shooting pens...

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[Deer farming changes debated](#) May 12, 2015 North Carolina, WRAL.com

... [Senate Bill 513](#), this year's omnibus Farm Bill ... One section of the bill would move the oversight of "captive cervid herds" – deer and elk farms – from the Wildlife Resources Commission to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and would allow deer to be transferred between farms within the state...

[NC farm bill moves captive deer regulation to ag department](#) May 12, 2015 North Carolina, WNCN

... Deer and elk breeders have sought the change in regulations, arguing their animals are livestock and the industry had dwindled under Wildlife Resources Commission oversight...

[Deer farming changes pass state Senate, go to House](#) May 20, 2015 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... "The N.C. Wildlife Federation is very disappointed in the actions of the N.C. Senate and the wildlife commission," said NCWF Camouflage Coalition coordinator Richard Hamilton, a former commission director. "We plan to continue our opposition in the House." ...

[Deer harvest is off 18 percent over 2013-14, NCWRC announces](#) May 7, 2015 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... In 2013-14, hunters tagged a record 188,130 whitetails. But in 2014-15, the harvest dropped a record 18.3 percent to 144,315 deer, the lowest harvest since 2005-06...

[Wilkes, statewide deer harvest down in 2014-15; acorn crop cited](#) May 8, 2015 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... "In years when we have a good mast crop, our harvest typically drops 5-8 percent and we receive numerous complaints about reduced deer sightings" because deer don't have to move around as much or leave the woods to find food, said Evin Stanford...

[Deer, swine, eels in NC farm bill that gets Senate OK](#) May 19, 2015 North Carolina, WNCT

... The bill approved 44-2 on Monday shifts regulation of North Carolina deer raised on farms from wildlife officials to the Department of Agriculture...

[Deer-farm supporters find two friends in state senate](#) March 31, 2015 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

...Two Republican state senators, Andrew Brock and Brent Jackson, have introduced a bill that would strip the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission of regulatory authority to manage penned-in deer and turn it over to the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services... The N.C. Wildlife Federation voiced opposition to the bill... [video](#)

[Deer-farming bill herded through committee](#) June 9, 2010 North Carolina, WRAL

... House leaders are pushing ahead on a bill that would allow the expansion of deer farming in North Carolina. Senate Bill 513, the Farm Act of 2015 ... would transfer the oversight of the state's handful of deer farms from the Wildlife Resources Commission, where it's been since 2002, to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ...

[Eastern coyote adapts easily to our area](#) November 15, 2015 North Carolina, News & Observer

... For thousands of years, North Carolina was wolf pack country... Wolves were introduced into Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in 1987, but they have not spread much... Deer typically make up one- to two-thirds of the diet of eastern coyotes... the eastern coyote ... has a dash of wolf and domestic dog genes ...

[N.C.'s newest predator makes itself at home in Alamance County](#) November 20, 2015 North Carolina, Times-News

... A study of coyotes in areas near Fort Bragg showed that the canines hunt and live in an average 33-square-miles annually. They'll travel hundreds of miles to find new territory. The study, released earlier this year by NCSU professors, also showed that coyotes are major predators of deer. Half of all fawns born in that area were killed by coyotes....

[Elmore files bill legalizing sale of deer skins in North Carolina](#) April 22, 2015 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... If the legislation passes, said Elmore, hunters would still be subject to existing tagging and reporting requirements and season limits... it's already legal to sell deer hides in most other states ...

[Find loggers and you'll find deer ...](#) December 1, 2015 North Carolina Sportsman ... North Carolina is known as the birthplace of sustainable forestry practices, aka, the Cradle of Forestry in America, and those practices offer a wide range of effects, from fresh clear- cuts to mature forests, and every stage of the game offers deer different opportunities to live...

[For World's Only Wild Red Wolves, a Fateful Decision](#) March 18, 2015 North Carolina, National Geographic

... an estimated 75 to 100 red wolves roam across eastern North Carolina—the world's only wild population of red wolves... North Carolina's Wildlife Resources Commission has asked the federal government to end its reintroduction program and to remove the wolves from private land ...

[Forest Lookouts: The inextricable -- but controversial -- ties among WNC economies and the national forests](#) April 17, 2015 North Carolina, Carolina Public Press

... Hunters ... have said that a lack of timber management has impacted the populations of deer and other game favored by hunters, thus displacing potential spending by hunters to regions with larger, more stable game populations. They are concerned that more land protections, such as wilderness, will limit the Forest Service's ability to effectively manage the forests...

[House approves bill expanding Sunday hunting](#) April 28, 2015 North Carolina, WRAL

... The bill has pitted hunters and others who say people should be able to enjoy their chosen recreation any day of the week against churchgoers and others who say Sunday should retain its special status as a day of rest...

['Sunday hunting' bill about more than hunting](#) April 27, 2015 North Carolina, Washington Daily News

... vast differences between the two bills. The Senate bill only addresses hunting on private land on Sunday ... House Bill 640, the "Outdoor Heritage Act," first calls for the establishment of trust fund intended to give children 16 and under more outdoor recreational opportunities ...

[Sunday hunting once again debated in NC Legislature](#) April 24, 2015 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... A bill clearing the way for Sunday hunting on private land has been approved by a state House committee ... North Carolina is one of only 11 states that restricts Sunday hunting. The state decided in 2010 to allow bow hunting and falconry on Sundays ...

[Hunters aren't seeing as many deer](#) November 19, 2015 North Carolina, Washington Daily News

... eastern North Carolina ... we seem to be seeing far less deer than we've seen in the past years... our deer herd could be in trouble... deer hunters how they feel about this perceived lack of deer this year, they usually reply that the relatively new and growing population of coyotes ...

[Is deer farming a threat to wildlife and deer hunting in NC?](#) August 20, 2015 North Carolina, Beaufort Observer

... one needs to go no further than the Cherokee White Tail Hunting Preserve in Robbinsville, where shooting a large buck commands \$14,000 and up... SB 513 would transfer control of farmed deer entirely to the Department of Agriculture, allowing him to control licensing and permits for deer farms and transportation of animals ...

[Nature keeps down most recent deer season numbers](#) May 14, 2015 North Carolina, Star News Online ·

... Evin Stanford, the commission's deer biologist, linked the decline to three likely factors: an abundance of natural food, ongoing hemorrhagic disease in some areas, and the high deer harvest over the last several seasons...

[NC Deer Farming Bill Threatens Federal Excise Gun Range Dollars](#) August 20, 2015 North Carolina, Beaufort Observer

... North Carolina's 335,000 hunters provided the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission with \$19,932,347 during the Fiscal year of 2014 alone. Should Deer Farming expand within North Carolina, causing our state to become CWD positive, and suffer the same percentage loss in licensed hunters as Wisconsin did on the year they discovered the disease, the state would face a conservation dollar loss of \$2,132,761 in one year alone...

[NC WRC Releases Deer Study Results](#) December 9, 2015 North Carolina, The Tribune Papers

... let's look at the dismal deer density figures... from Buncombe County west the deer population is less than 15 per square mile ... That's pretty bad for 100 counties in the state... the WRC must be more forceful with the U.S. Forest Service to do more wildlife habitat management work on the Pisgah and Nantahala forests...

[North Carolina Deer Forecast for 2015](#) September 8, 2015 Game & Fish

... [population down] ... three probable factors: an abundance of natural food, the ongoing incidence of hemorrhagic disease in some areas and the high deer harvest that has been occurring over the last several seasons... years of a strong deer harvest, last year's record harvest and long-term increasing doe harvest trends have also potentially contributed to population decreases ...

[North Carolina's game commission wants the red wolf program ended](#) February 6, 2015

North Carolina, The Retriever, Dog, & Wildlife Blog

...five counties where red wolves roam ... In May 2014, a court-ordered injunction banned coyote hunting ... by November, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission created a framework that would allow some limited coyote hunting in the area. Also, if one is legally hunting coyotes, one can kill a red wolf if it is taken by accident. I should note that red wolves look a lot like Eastern coyotes. ...

[Poor deer season last fall has multiple causes, biologist says](#) March 6, 2015 North

Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... a massive acorn crop —combined with EHD to create a perfect storm of fewer whitetails seen and harvested. "If people hunted field edges and agricultural areas, they may not have seen a lot of deer because deer stayed in the woods to eat acorns," ... said some of the hardest-hit EHD areas may have lost as much as 30 percent of their deer, said last fall's mast crop was North Carolina's second-largest since 1983...

[Hemorrhagic disease reported in Southern Appalachian deer](#) September 14, 2017 North

Carolina, Mountain Xpress

... Hemorrhagic disease ... tends to occur in North Carolina every year, although with varying degrees of severity ... last major outbreak of HD in the state was in 2014 in the Piedmont ... Other notable outbreaks occurred in 1939, 1955, 1961, 1971, 1976, 1988, 1994, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2007, 2011 and 2012..,

[2018 North Carolina Deer Forecast](#) October 31, 2018 Game & Fish

... Despite an 8 percent harvest increase during the 2017-18 season and a herd estimated at one million, biologists were looking to the future when they proposed tightening regulations ... Deer populations are still rebounding from severe outbreaks of hemorrhagic disease in 2012 and 2014...

[Regulating deer key to preventing disease](#) June 25, 2015 North Carolina, Star News Online

... The NCWRC has a CWD-action plan that would attempt to kill hundreds of deer surrounding an outbreak area divided along county borders. In states where the disease has occurred, similar measures have not contained it and hunting related expenditures have dropped as much fifty percent due to deer hunters curtailing activity...

[Sportsmen asked to oppose expansion of deer pens in NC](#) June 16, 2015 North Carolina, Sun Journal

... The N.C. Camo Coalition and other wildlife conservation groups are urging sportsmen to contact their elected state representatives and ask them to oppose NC Farm Bill Article 14, Senate Bill 513 which would allow the transfer of deer farm regulation from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to the N.C. Department of Agriculture...

[Star man uses dachshund to find injured deer for hunters](#) December 19, 2015 North Carolina, Asheboro Courier Tribune

... "Most of the deer that are lost and died could have been recovered with the use of an experienced dog," he said. "Tracking with dogs has only been allowed in North Carolina for the past four years..."

[Statewide survey shows deer hunters managing more for quality than in the past](#) December 10, 2015 North Carolina Sportsman

... they're proportionally tagging more does and fewer bucks each season, according to a survey of 22,500 hunters by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. In theory, the harvest trends should lead to a more-balanced, healthier herd with more big bucks ... Biologists point to 20 percent as a goal for the number of bucks that should be killed before the peak of the breeding season ...

[Turn up the heat on coyotes now](#) May 15, 2015 North Carolina, North Carolina

Sportsman

... the state's deer population has declined by 30 percent since 2002, and much of it is attributed to the coyote invasion... Newborn fawns emit fewer odors than adults, which helps them hide from predators, but coyotes' ultra-keen sense of smell makes young fawns vulnerable ...

[Two tales of timber: Managing your trees can help your wallet, wildlife](#) April 9, 2015

North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... Logging activities stimulate succession and growth of grasses, shrubs and saplings ... deer will begin to flood the area, munching on the tender, young vegetation. This brushy, early succession phase provides three to four times the bio-energy production of a mature stand...

[U.S. Forest Service Slaps Hunters in the Face](#) March 21, 2015 North Carolina, The

Tribune Papers

... We know the deplorable state of wildlife habitat on the National Forests... using the public input process they designed, identified wildlife habitat as the number one public concern and the draft plan reflected that. We did what they asked. To ignore that effort by those who really care about a healthy forest and wildlife is a slap in the face...

[White-tailed deer population dynamics and adult female survival in the presence of a](#)

[novel predator](#) MC Chitwood, MA Lashley, JC Kilgo, CE Moorman... - The Journal of Wildlife ..., 2015 North Carolina

... Recent localized declines in white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) populations in the southeastern United States have been linked to increasing predation pressure from coyotes (*Canis latrans*), a novel predator to the region. Studies have documented coyotes as the leading cause of mortality for neonates, and 1 study documented coyotes as a mortality factor for adult females... Our data indicate that for low-density deer populations with heavy predation pressure on neonates, protecting adult females from harvest may not completely offset population declines. Coyote removal might be a necessary strategy because it could possibly increase very low fawn survival, which

appears to be the most important vital rate influencing λ in our study. However, managers may have to start with reductions in adult female harvest ...

[Wild red wolf count falls as fewer parents making fewer pups](#) July 24, 2015 North Carolina, News & Observer

... A revised population estimate puts the world's only wild population of endangered red wolves at their lowest level since the late 1990s ... the federal agency has drastically cut its population estimate to between 50 and 75 wild red wolves. The revision was the result of fewer breeding adult wolves ... shooting deaths of red wolves since even experts often couldn't distinguish them from coyotes in a distant flashlight's glare...

[Wildlife Commission Passes Resolutions Regarding Red Wolves](#) January 30, 2015 North Carolina, NCWRC

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission on Thursday adopted two resolutions regarding reintroduction of red wolves in North Carolina — the first requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service end its experimental, non-essential red wolf reintroduction project in northeastern North Carolina, and the second requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service capture and remove all individual animals and subsequent offspring that were unauthorized releases on private lands by the federal agency. The Wildlife Commission cited hybridization with coyotes, encroachment onto private lands and a failure to meet project goals as reasons to end the program in North Carolina....

[Winter is time to burn](#) February 5, 2015 North Carolina Sportsman

... Prescribed burning is one of the most-overlooked and cost-effective habitat-modification techniques. All game species, including turkey, bobwhite quail, rabbits and deer, will benefit in similar ways... Fire removes unwanted woody/non-woody vegetation for access to new growth, and it converts dead plant material to usable nutrients for the establishment of new, tender forage for deer and other wildlife...

2014

[2 public meetings will allow comment on deer farming amendment](#) September 18, 2014
North Carolina, News & Observer

... The 7 p.m. meetings are scheduled for Oct. 7 at the Iredell county Extension Center in Statesville and Oct. 14 at commission headquarters, 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh...

Read the proposed change at <http://www.ncwildlife.org/ProposedRegulations.aspx>

[A federal program to bring back red wolves to North Carolina faces a challenge from landowners](#) October 19, 2014 Fayetteville Observer

... The red wolf disappeared from North Carolina before the first shots of the Civil War... coyotes and red wolves can, and often do, interbreed. Without keeping the species separate, the small wolf population would be absorbed by coyotes... Wildlife studies indicated nearly half of their diet is deer... 100 wolves should scarcely have an effect on deer population ...

[Acorn bumper crop turns heads in Western North Carolina](#) October 15, 2014 North Carolina, Spartanburg Herald Journal

... "Why we get this bumper crops every few years is largely a mystery," .. the 2012 and 2013 fall seasons were "essentially acorn failures," which is one factor why the deer population — measured by deer tagged by hunters per square mile — are at rather anemic rates ... The deer population in both Pisgah and Nantahala national forests are below what the state's wildlife commission would like to see ...

[Bucks Are Growing in North Carolina](#) December 2, 2014 North Carolina, NC Real Outdoors

... Most bucks don't see their 3rd birthday in the heavy hunted parts of the state. This seems to be changing and so is the conversation on deer management... managed the

herd by taking does and letting small bucks walk while taking the bucks with unfavorable genetics...

[Budget proposal to shift N.C. deer farming oversight finds opposition](#) July 22, 2014

North Carolina, StarNewsOnline.com

... North Carolina's "fair chase" law currently prevents these types of hunting outfits ... The language in the House budget doesn't specifically lift the ban on high-fenced hunts. What it does is shift management of deer farming from the Wildlife Resources Commission to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services...

[Captive deer are sold as lucrative trophies](#) November 29, 2014 North Carolina,

Greensboro News & Record

... Many captive deer facilities operate as hunting grounds where patrons pay up to \$30,000 to hunt prize bucks. Humans have gone from revering deer to exploiting them as mere trophies... Money changes hands among insiders while farmers and wild deer face threats of CWD ...

[Deer Relocated To Cherokee](#) February 24, 2014 North Carolina, WLOS ABC 13

... Wildlife officials are moving deer from the over-populated Morrow Mountain State Park and sending them to Cherokee ... There are less deer on the reservation because of over-hunting years ago...

[Tribe replenishing western North Carolina deer population](#) February 24, 2014 North Carolina, theonefeather.com ·

... "The white tail population native to the Qualla Boundary, home to our tribe for centuries, has dwindled," says Principal Chief Michell Hicks ... Like the successful elk reintroduction that took place 12 years ago, these deer represent a stock in the future of wildlife ... The deer were released into the Eastern Band's 5,130-acre natural preserve on Cherokee tribal lands where they will be carefully tracked ...

[Project could revive deer on reservation land](#) January 11, 2014 North Carolina, FOX News

... The sprawling Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian reservation in the western part of North Carolina has been trying for years to bring back a cultural symbol: White-tailed deer... between 25 and 50 white-tailed deer ... will be relocated from Morrow Mountain State Park to the reservation ... "Contrary to most people's perception, the forest is not actually the best deer habitat," ...

[White-tailed deer, a plentiful nuisance elsewhere, find welcome on Cherokee tribal lands](#) January 24, 2014 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... deer were a key part of Cherokee life and lore for centuries before the first European settlers arrived. The animals were plentiful across tribal territory that extended over what now are eight Southeastern states. They were the Cherokees' chief food source... Deer counts are estimated at no more than 12 per square mile on the Qualla Boundary today ... Deer hunting is outlawed on tribal lands ...

[N.C. tribe creates deer sanctuary](#) January 26, 2014 North Carolina, Delaware Wave

... Over the next three years, between 25 and 50 white-tailed deer — mostly females in small family groups — will be relocated from Morrow Mountain State Park to the reservation, known as the Qualla Boundary. The Cherokees will place the animals in a special habitat improved for browsing and off-limits to hunting. The program will begin this month, with biologists using darts to tranquilize the animals ...

[Commission faced with big decision Thursday on state's deer farms](#) October 28, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... At the heart of the discussion is the threat of Chronic Wasting Disease ... Supporters of deer-farming want the Commission's existing strict sanctions against the movement of pen-raised deer relaxed so that more farms can be created ... The state chapter of

the Quality Deer Management Association and the N.C. Wildlife Federation have weighed in against changing how deer farms are managed...

[Commission votes to continue restrictions on farm raised elk, whitetails](#) October 31, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission slowed a concerted push to create more deer pens in North Carolina at its regular monthly meeting on Thursday in Raleigh, voting to allow new farms to be built for axis, fallow and red deer – but not for whitetail deer and elk...

[Decision time arrives for wildlife commission on captive deer farming expansion](#)

October 31, 2014 North Carolina, News & Observer

... By a 246-to-1 ratio, according to a public comment summary, members of the public opposed the proposal ... temporary rules that would allow expansion of the state's captive deer farming industry... North Carolina has 37 deer farming operations...

[Dealing with deer causing rifts among neighbors](#) September 2, 2014 North Carolina, Henderson Daily Dispatch

... some soybean farmers in the area shoot deer that wander on their land to eat the beans. The wounded deer flee the farm and are left to die on a neighboring property — like Stars'... farmers are allowed to shoot deer that have eaten more than \$50 worth of a crop ...

[Deer farmers accuse NC agency of stoking fear and raiding farms](#) November 18, 2014 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... deer farmers stood before state lawmakers to accuse the state Wildlife Resources Commission of targeting their industry, unfairly stoking fears about a disease fatal to white-tailed deer ... North Carolina has 37 farms that raise deer for their antlers and meat and to sell outside the state for hunting ...

[Deer Management Basics](#) June 5, 2014 North Carolina, Mossy Oak Properties NC Land and Farms

... on average a whitetail deer's home range is roughly a square mile, or 640 acres... Providing cover by planting CRP or hinge cutting trees will assistance your efforts in providing deer a secure place to reside. Hinge cutting is a practice that is conducted with chainsaws and consists of cutting half way or three quarters the way through the tree trunk, about 2-4 feet from the ground...

[Deer reclaim historic home in Cherokee](#) March 12, 2014 North Carolina, Smoky Mountain News

.. Between 1699 and 1715, Southeastern tribes were shipping nearly 54,000 skins annually, and deer were nearly extinct in the Southeast by the time the deerskin trade ended in the 1750s. But unlike many other regions of the Southeast, this area has strong populations of bear and coyote ... The intersection between forest and open fields, called edge, can be one of the most biologically diverse areas ... have decreased greatly in public lands over the past 100 years ...

[Does love of money put wildlife at risk?](#) August 1, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... The portion of the proposed 2014 state budget bill that would put the N.C. Department of Agriculture in charge of cervids instead of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission — thereby creating less border security that could allow Chronic Wasting Disease into the state — makes no sense, unless you follow the money... the N.C. Deer/Elk Farmers Association, led by Tom Smith, the former CEO of Food Lion, tried unsuccessfully five years ago to get the Commission to loosen rules on importing deer...

[Eastern Band of Cherokee to participate in state park deer relocation](#) January 8, 2014 North Carolina, carolinapublicpress.org

... Morrow Mountain State Park will participate in a long-term project to relocate white-tailed deer from the park to reservation lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians ... Partners in the initiative are the state parks system, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, biologists from Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Cherokee Fisheries and Wildlife Management program...

[Eastern Cherokee Reclaim Deer Heritage](#) May 2, 2014 North Carolina, Indian Country Today Media Network

... the Cherokee ...who have cherished the animal for 10,000 years or more, do not have them on their own lands in what is today western North Carolina. A new program is taking deer from Morrow Mountain State Park in the Uwharrie Mountains in North Carolina ... and transplanting them into the Eastern Band's 5,130-acre natural preserve on Cherokee tribal lands...

[Gadugi Ecology: Combining old and new perspectives to understand deer in the Qualla Boundary](#) March 25, 2014 North Carolina, The Cherokee One Feather

... [an invitation to help identify the causes for the low deer population on Cherokee tribal land] ... We know deer numbers are low throughout the Qualla boundary... To help us understand the limitations of deer, we have recently transported over 30 wild white-tailed deer from a North Carolina state park to the Qualla Boundary... we could use your help. We ask that citizens of the Qualla Boundary help us catalog the recently released deer. These deer should have purple ear tags ...

[Hunting rules due for changes](#) January 11, 2014 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... "This was a request of the Polk County Commission," Pipkin said. "They asked it be moved to the same season structure in neighboring Cleveland and Rutherford counties ... [also] bring the western archery season into uniformity with the rest of the state ...

[Legislature to put NC Wildlife Resources Commission under microscope](#) November 17, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... A select committee of the N.C. House on “Regulatory Authority and Operations of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission” will meet at 10 a.m... Whether the Commission should use standards adopted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and standards of other states related to the regulation of cervids (elk and various species of deer) ...

[NC deer farmers, hunters battle over regulation of growing herds](#) November 22, 2014 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... a statewide association of deer and elk farmers ... has hired an influential lobbying firm in Raleigh. Smith ... has one of the state’s largest “captive cervid” operations; state records show he has almost 200 white-tailed deer and elk on 60 acres in Rowan County... They hope to persuade the legislature to allow new farms to open and to move regulation of the industry from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission ...

[NC hits record-high deer hunting season](#) April 24, 2014 North Carolina, Citizen-Times.com Blogs

... Deer came back from a devastating season of hemorrhagic disease the previous year ... According to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, hunters harvested a record 188,130 deer across the state in the 2013-14 season, up 12.5 percent from the previous year’s 167,249 deer harvested....

[NC Wildlife Commission approves regulations](#) March 7, 2014 North Carolina, Southernheadlines

... a longer season to hunt deer ... Following a process of reviewing public comments on the proposed changes, the Wildlife Commission voted to adopt all but four of the 40+ regulation changes at its recent business meeting in Raleigh...

[NCWRC's deer-farm vote deserves praise](#) December 1, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission bucked the state Legislature and governor by voting unanimously not to follow a portion of the already-signed-into-law Budget Act of 2014. The section would have allowed unfettered expansion of “captive cervid” farms...

[No change in captive deer farming jurisdiction](#) August 13, 2014 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... A proposal to reassign jurisdiction for captive deer from the commission to the N.C. Department of Agriculture was removed from Senate Bill 744 late in the General Assembly’s short session... a victory for wildlife conservation organizations that want no threat of change from the commission’s stringent efforts to keep chronic wasting disease from being imported from states with the disease...

[North Carolina Deer Hunting Forecast for 2014](#) October 2, 2014 gameandfishmag.com

... With liberalized deer hunting seasons and regulations, we experienced a leveling of the deer population from about 1993 through 2001, when the population was around 1.1 million. Then it jumped up around 1.35 million from 2003 to around 2005 and it has remained at about that level, although there may be places that have experienced localized declines.” ... with the harvest from two seasons ago, prior to the 2012 hemorrhagic disease outbreak, we have all indications that populations are recovering ...

[North Carolina red wolf also subject of conservation controversy](#) May 27, 2014 North Carolina, The Missoulian

... red wolves is they’ve been absent from the landscape for a much longer period of time than gray wolves ... As soon as Europeans started coming to the Eastern Seaboard in the 1700s, they were hunting them. They were pretty much wiped out by the 1850s ... U.S. District Court Judge Terrence Boyle on May 13 ordered an end to coyote hunting in five North Carolina counties where the red wolf has been reintroduced...

[Numbers show deer recovery is going well](#) April 30, 2014 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... Wilkes County's deer harvest during the 2013 hunting season exceeded the prior season's total by 57 percent, which state wildlife officials said indicated continued recovery from an outbreak of hemorrhagic disease in 2012... Stanford said the smaller harvest in 2012 was partly due to hunters intentionally taking fewer deer to help depleted herds recover...

[Piedmont Deer To Be Relocated On Cherokee Reservation](#) January 8, 2014 North Carolina, WFAE

... biologists will begin tranquilizing deer in Morrow Mountain State Park and then relocating them to the reservation. They'll try not to break-up families. "Just like anybody taking a move, if you have your family and folks with you, you're going to be a lot happier," ...

[Protect those buck fawns](#) October 6, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... Harvesting a buck fawn while trying to harvest a doe is not a good way to prepare for the future. A premature overharvest of young bucks is an effective way to disrupt the age dynamics ... In North Carolina, the button buck harvest makes up about 5 percent of the total harvest ... The first deer into the field is almost always a button buck ...

[Public hearing set to discuss use of dogs during deer season](#) June 19, 2014 North Carolina, Bladen Journal

... a proposal to prohibit the use of dogs for taking deer on approximately 1,700 acres of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 8, in the Bladen Community College Auditorium ...

[Restrictions on deer farms challenged](#) December 24, 2014 North Carolina, The News & Observer

... applied for a captivity license to start a white-tailed deer and elk farm, but the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission said it wasn't accepting applications for those animals. This week, Ellington filed a petition for a contested case ... a prerequisite to filing a lawsuit against a state agency...

[Sportsman are winners in budget bill signed Thursday](#) August 8, 2014 North Carolina, North Carolina Sportsman

... The bill did not wind up transferring control over farm-raised, penned deer and other cervids from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to the N.C. Department of Agriculture as was originally written into the Senate version. Because of worries about introducing deer into North Carolina from states where Chronic Wasting Disease has been ...

[Sportsmen urge commission 'to stand up for resource' on deer issue](#) October 15, 2014 North Carolina, News & Observer

... Speakers stated their opposition to proposed captive deer farming policy changes, and then they encouraged the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission members to stand against efforts to weaken rules they fear would allow chronic wasting disease, or CWD, into the state's wild deer herd...

[State will host meeting Tuesday to discuss deer farming expansion in NC](#) October 6, 2014 North Carolina, Charlotte Observer

... The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission plans to host a meeting Tuesday in Statesville to discuss regulation changes that would allow the expansion of deer farming in the state. The changes were proposed as a result of the budget act state legislators passed...

[Statewide Deer Harvest Increases, declines in some areas](#) May 5, 2014 North Carolina, Thetribunepapers

... District 8 and 9 have over half the Game Lands in North Carolina yet we have the lowest deer harvest records year after year. The reason for this is that Game Land is mostly National Forests which are not being properly managed for wildlife habitat. Except for squirrels there is no suitable habitat for most wildlife. Heck, the bears don't want to live there which is why they are moving into our neighborhoods...

[Wildlife agency will defend officers' protection of deer, bear](#) December 9, 2014 North Carolina, News & Observer

... North Carolina commissioners are moving forward with new rules regulating deer farms, as required in legislation enacted earlier this year. The law allows new permits to be issued for the first time in a dozen years, and for deer to be imported into the state beginning in 2017. The commission previously excluded white-tail deer and elk from the new law, because they are the animals most likely to carry the disease. (Chronic Wasting Disease) ...

[Wildlife Commission asking for input on captive deer rules](#) October 8, 2014 North Carolina, New Bern Sun Journal

... The proposed changes to current rules would allow the Wildlife Commission to issue new permits for the purpose of holding cervids in captivity and allow certified herd owners to sell or transfer cervids to any licensed facility. ..

[Wildlife Commission to Conduct Nine Public Hearings Starting Jan. 6](#) December 11, 2014 North Carolina, NCWR News

... hearings in January on proposed changes to the state's wildlife management, game lands and fishing regulations for the 2015-16 seasons. Among the wildlife management-related proposed changes are temporary rules regulating the holding of deer in captivity ... More information on all of the proposed regulations to the state's wildlife management, game lands and fishing regulations for the 2015-16 seasons, including additional ways to comment, can be found [online](#). The comment period for the

captive cervid temporary rules ends Jan. 23. The Commission will consider comments and consider a vote to adopt these temporary rules at its Jan. 29 meeting...

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2013

[Anti-poaching bill introduced WARNING: GRAPHIC PHOTOS](#) January 18, 2013 New Mexico, New Mexico Watchdog

... New Mexico Game and Fish investigators have always battled poachers but in recent years, they've seen a spike in stomach-churning cases of big game animals that have had their heads cut off with their bodies left to rot. "It's been a more common occurrence in the last couple years," Field Operations Colonel Robert L. Griego told New Mexico Watchdog.

[De La Tierra: Lions and martens and bears, oh my!](#) January 17, 2013 New Mexico, taosnews

... New Mexico is one of the last places in the United States where the Mountain lion seems to be holding its own... These big cats need the equivalent of about one deer a week to survive, and mountain lion densities in the Rocky Mountains tend to correlate

with deer densities. Mountain lions are adaptable creatures that may hunt by day or night...

[Draft Emergency Elk Management Environmental Assessment for](#)

[Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge](#) January 9, 2013 New Mexico

... The United States Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) is proposing a population management hunt through Special Use Permit (SUP) and staff culling of elk at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). The elk population on the Refuge is currently compromising the Refuge's ability to produce the grain crops used to support wintering sandhill crane. Therefore, the purpose of this action is emergency short-term strategies to reduce the elk population until long-term strategies are determined through the Refuge's 15-year comprehensive conservation plan. Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge is located in Socorro County five miles south of San Antonio, NM and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Providing foraging and roosting habitat for wintering and migrating sandhill cranes and migratory waterbirds is the management focus of the Refuge. Additionally, the Refuge maintains the pristine nature of three wilderness areas. The area surrounding the Refuge is primarily rural with main economic drivers of agriculture and ranching... The Service is authorized to take animal species which are surplus or detrimental to the management program of a refuge (50 CFR 31.14).

[Elk kill off remains a mystery](#)September 5, 2013 New Mexico, Southwest Farm Press

... unexplained kill off of about 100 elk ... "So far this remains a mystery," reports Dr. Kerry Mower, animal health specialist for the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish... he has ruled out any type of human involvement... All the elk were found dead within a small area on a ranch near Las Vegas, New Mexico ...

[Famed Investor Backs Fund Focused on Ranches](#) July 15, 2013 New Mexico, World Property Channel

... T. Boone Pickens is one of the initial investors in a fund looking to profit from converting swatches of pristine Western wilderness into sports ranches for hunting and fishing. In the last year Sporting Ranch Capital has used its initial \$30 million fund to buy four ranches in New Mexico, Colorado, Idaho and Utah ...

[G&F Forecast: Best Deer Hunting in New Mexico & Arizona in 2013](#) October, 2013 New Mexico

... Although the prolonged drought is a concern, fawn survival has been good and deer numbers are holding their own, explained Taylor. The Zuni Mountains of Unit 10 is no doubt a bright spot in the region. According to Taylor, the latest management survey showed a buck/doe ratio right at 36:100 ... The latest buck/doe ratio across Unit 6 hovered around 25:100 ... Unit 5B also yielded a buck/doe ratio of 25:100, and last season overall hunter success was over 70 percent... prolonged drought conditions have hampered mule deer recovery in the southwest corner of the state ...

[Game & Fish Dept. plans roadblocks in Taos County as hunting season begins](#) October 9, 2013 New Mexico, taosnews

... Officers from the Department of Game and Fish will install roadblocks on forest service roads and some state highways to collect harvest data... Shockley said the most common infractions include hunting out of season without a license, exceeding the bag limit and waste by only collecting a single body part...

[Game and Fish Asks Court to Vacate Terk Decision](#) May 28, 2013 New Mexico, Cibola County Beacon

... The Department of Game and Fish filed a motion Thursday seeking to have the U.S. District Court vacate an injunction from 1977 that prevents New Mexico from allocating ibex, oryx and bighorn sheep licenses based on residency... Other states discriminate based on residency, as New Mexico does now for antelope, elk and deer hunting licenses ...

[How a plan to kill every wild pig in New Mexico earned across-the support](#) July 30, 2013

New Mexico, Santa Fe Reporter

... For every farmer who's lost a crop to feral hogs, there's a landowner who puts corn in a deer feeder. Baiting deer with corn is illegal in New Mexico, but Texans put out more than 300 million pounds of corn every year..... animal rights groups supported restrictions on the hogs and didn't oppose the eradication plan, though, doesn't mean they're happy with the situation. The success of an effort to wipe out an invasive species should prompt some hard questions about the way we interact with animals, Jennings says...

[Hunting season begins this Sunday](#) August 30, 2013 New Mexico, KOB.com

... Hunting Rules and Information book at www.wildlife.state.nm.us ... More than 28,000 deer hunters and 32,000 elk hunters will be in the field from September through December...

[Information Sought In Alamogordo NM Deer Poaching Case](#) December 10, 2013 New Mexico, AmmoLand.com

... The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is offering a \$500 reward for information leading to the apprehension of an individual or individuals believed to have illegally killed four deer and then dumped the carcasses near Alamogordo. ... urged to call Operation Game Thief toll-free at 1-800-432-4263.

[New Mexico Deer Season 2013: Hunting Forecast](#) October 4, 2013, Outdoor Life

... Last year 9,300 mule deer and Coues deer were harvested in New Mexico ... About 80,000 mule deer and 12,000 Coues' call New Mexico home...

[New Mexico is the driest of the dry](#) August 6, 2013 Los Angeles Times

... Wildlife managers are hauling water to elk herds in the mountains and blaming the drought for the unusually high number of deer and antelope killed on New Mexico's highways, surmising that the animals are taking greater risks to find water... The last three years have been the driest and warmest since record-keeping began here in 1895...

[New Rio Grande National Monument sets stage for Browns Canyon Proposal](#) March 31, 2013 New Mexico, Denver Post

... U.S. Senator Mark Udall, D-Colo., introduced legislation Thursday that would protect 22,000 acres surrounding Browns Canyon of the Arkansas River between Salida and Buena Vista... will protect more than 60 miles of trout stream and critical habitat for game such as pronghorn, mule deer, migratory waterfowl, bighorn sheep, turkey and elk...

[NM Trophy Deer Poacher Ordered To Donate \\$1,000 To Operation Game Thief](#) July 1, 2013 New Mexico, AmmoLand.com

... “A lot of these cases might go unsolved if it wasn’t for the helpful information that the public ... ” Chavez also faces \$6,000 in civil penalties for killing a deer considered a trophy pursuant to Safari Club International standards and state law that allows civil penalties up to \$10,000 for poaching deer that are considered “trophies.” ...

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[Public land open for hunting season](#) October 15, 2013 New Mexico, Sangre de Cristo Chronicle

... One of northeast New Mexico's prime hunting areas is the White Peak region in Colfax and Mora counties ... Over 75 percent of land in Colfax county is private. Land owners are able to participate in programs in conjunction with the New Mexico Game and Fish that allows permits for the general public to hunt on private land...

[State officers search Santa Cruz home for evidence of deer poaching](#) October 25, 2013 New Mexico, Santa Fe New Mexican.com

... The search was prompted by a poaching report in mid-October ... One of the residents later found a deer carcass near his house with the head cut off. A Game and Fish conservation officer who investigated found three more mule deer carcasses with the heads cut off and the meat left to rot... People can report poaching anonymously to Operation Game Thief at 800-432-GAME or by filling out an online form at

<https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us>

2012

[2011-12 was a good year for deer hunters](#) June 30, 2012 North Carolina, StarNewsOnline.com

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission recently announced statistics ... a population stabilized at 1.35 million ... The 2011-12 deer harvest was 173,553, the third-highest number since record keeping began in 1976 ... Antlered bucks comprised 46.1 percent of the 2011-12 deer harvest; does 45.0 percent; and button bucks 8.9 percent. For 2010-11, antlered bucks comprised 45.9 percent of the harvest; does 45.4 percent; and button bucks 8.7 percent... a trend toward a higher harvest percentage of antlerless deer for the fifth consecutive season.

Camp Lejeune: [Deer hunting season ends with white-tail harvest count](#) January 12, 2012 North Carolina, Camp Lejeune Globe

... Hunters took down 394 bucks and 328 antlerless deer ... “In 2010, we had 698 deer harvested ... In 2009, we had more than 670 and in 2008, we harvested 733” [Wildlife manager Martin Korenek] ...

[Cherokee hopes bounty will help rein in pesky coyote population](#) November 7, 2012
North Carolina, Waynesville Smoky Mountain News

...the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian’s Fisheries and Wildlife Department will begin doling out \$25 bounties to enrolled tribal members for each coyote they shoot ... coyotes are seen as a non-native newcomer — and at odds with deer. Some biologists differ on whether coyotes belong in the ecosystem here. Coyotes migrated to Western North Carolina to fill the void left by wolves and mountain lions ...

[Concerns over deer control proposals by Wildlife Commission](#) October 16, 2012 North Carolina, Fuquay-Varina Independent

... Ramon Bell also has deep concerns with the methods some landowners are using to remove deer from their fields. He states, “The method used is simple. Shoot deer with a .22 caliber rifle in the paunch (gut). This does not kill the animal quickly. It runs off to a secluded place and dies a slow and inhumane death. The landowner doesn’t have to dispose of the carcass... the WRC ... should prohibit deer from being shot with any rim-fire cartridge or shotgun under the deer depredation laws...

[Deer harvest up in Wilkes in 2011 after dropping in 2010](#) April 17, 2012 North Carolina, Wilkes Journal Patriot

... Among the 2,939 deer taken during the 2011 gun season, 1,405 were does, 1,251 were bucks and 283 were antlered bucks ... The statewide deer harvest dropped slightly, from 175,157 in 2010 to 173,553. An average of 2.66 deer per square mile were bagged in Wilkes in 2011 and 2.20 in 2010. Statewide, it was 1.90 in 2011 and 1.91 in 2010.

[Deer management program creates opportunities for hunters, farmers](#) November 11, 2012, North Carolina, Jacksonville Daily News

... “We have calculated the density of deer per county and based off of that number we are able to determine a quota of deer to be hunted per farm,” said Guy Gardner. “This program creates an opportunity to improve the farmer’s crops and presents a hunting opportunity.” According to the Gardners, deer consume anywhere from \$30 to \$50 million in crop output in North Carolina annually, with an estimated 1.2 million deer populating the state...

[Duke Forest closes for deer season](#) September 15, 2012 North Carolina, Durham Herald Sun

According to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's white-tailed deer density map, Orange and Durham counties have upwards of 40 deer per square mile. [latest [Forest Service research](#) indicates 15 to 28 deer per square mile is good with some forest regeneration at higher densities] ... “Our researchers have been having problems at their experimental site, and the deer population has been affecting what they were trying to study.” ... said Sara DiBacco Childs, Duke Forest program director.

[Proposed wildlife law irks hunters, thrills farmers](#) September 19, 2012 North Carolina, BlueRidgeNow.com

... The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is proposing to relax its regulations surrounding "depredation," allowing landowners to kill wildlife found in the act of damaging their property by using artificial lights at night, without a permit. Landowners would not have to report the kill unless it was a bear ... Currently, landowners must show that a deer, bear or other game animal did at least \$50 worth of damage before they are granted permission by NCWRC to harvest it ...

[Rise of the coyote: The new top dog](#) May 16, 2012 North Carolina, Nature.com

“We need to stop looking at these animals as static entities,” says mammalogist Roland Kays of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh. “They’re evolving”... They found that these northeastern coyotes carried genes from Great Lakes wolves, showing that the two species had interbred as the coyotes passed through that region. “Coyotes mated with wolves in the 1800s, when wolf populations were at low density because of human persecution,” says Kays. In those circumstances, wolves had a hard time finding wolf mates, so they settled for coyotes.



2011

[County supports banning deer hunting with dogs](#) September 22, 2011 North Carolina, The Carrboro Citizen, By Rose Laudicina

... the board voted unanimously to continue to support the ban...Hunters clad in camouflage and neon-orange hats and shirts to protest the proposed ban... Some opposed to the ban said they didn't believe pursuing a ban on hunting deer with dogs was a wise use of the county's limited monetary resources....Other residents said they supported the ban because of the public-health and safety issues involved....In 2010, the board voted unanimously to seek a ban on hunting deer with dogs ... the issue got stuck in committee ...

[Deer season opens Monday in Asheville area, WNC](#) November 19, 2011 North Carolina, Asheville Citizen-Times

... In the 2010-11 hunting season, there were some 240,000 licensed deer hunters in the state, said Dain Palmer, human dimensions biologist for the wildlife commission... According to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife survey, there were 10.1 million deer hunters in the United States in 2006, the last year for which there is data....Brad Howard, a biologist with the wildlife commission, said while it is difficult to get a count on the actual number of deer, biologists can track the health of the herd by the harvest numbers.

[Deer, turkey maps help NCWRC spot trends](#) January 23, 2011 North Carolina StarNewsOnline.com

By Mike Marsh The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has completed its deer and turkey density maps. These maps are compiled every five years to ...

[Hunting bill dies in Raleigh](#) June 4, 2011 North Carolina Management Richmond County Daily Journalby Philip D. Brown

It took county commissioners about a year to bring all sides to the table and hammer out a hotly-contested compromise on regulating deer hunting with dogs in Richmond County. It took the leadership of the NC House of Representatives ...The bill would have allowed deer hunting with dogs in Richmond County, adding permits and requirements to protect against trespassing by packs of hunting dogs and those who control them.

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[Killing of 9 penned deer in NC draws outrage](#) October 10, 2011 North Carolina, Washington Examiner

More than 5000 people from the United States and at least 25 other countries have signed an online petition protesting the killing of nine penned deer by North Carolina officials who said they had to shoot the deer to test them for disease....attorney, Matthew Altamura, said the search warrant didn't authorize the deer to be killed and didn't mention chronic wasting disease..."It's a violation of due process that they were able to destroy the animals without having an order of the court,"

[Man's Tame Deer Shot by Officials](#) October 11, 2011 North Carolina, Care2.com

On a private farm in Randolph County nine tame deer were shot and killed by North Carolina wildlife agents. No warning was given. One of the deer living on Wayne Kinley's property was recovering from injury, and the other was an abandoned fawn. ... Change.org has [posted a petition to prevent further violence against deer](#) in the state by the North Carolina Wildlife Commission. About 5,000 people have signed it so far.

[Wildlife Officials' Deer Killings "Unconstitutional." Lawyer Says](#) October 6, 2011 North Carolina My Fox 8

A lawyer representing a couple whose nine deer were shot and killed by wildlife officials two weeks ago said the search warrants did not give officials the authority to kill the animals. The deer were shot to death Sept. 20 on an unlicensed rehabilitation farm of Wayne and Linda

Kinley near Asheboro. Wildlife officials said the deer were killed to be tested for Chronic Wasting Disease, which has not been found in North Carolina...."Not only was the killing clearly inhumane. It was unconstitutional," said Altamura, who has fought the state on other cases of possible misbehavior.

[Deer Shooting Petitions Ordered Taken Down, Store Clerk Says](#) September 28, 2011 North Carolina, My Fox 8

A clerk at a Randolph County grocery store said uniformed officials demanded petitions critical of the state's fatal shooting of nine deer last week to be taken down..."They didn't identify themselves at all. They just said, 'This is illegal. Get it off your counter,'" said Jo Henderson, who made the petitions that were put up in the store...."All across the state of North Carolina, people own pet deer and have them. I believe they should be able to get a permit. You cannot turn a tame deer into the wild," Henderson said.

[Petition. Don't Address Deer Killings](#)

October 13, 2011 North Carolina, My Fox 8

State wildlife commissioners were handed a petition Thursday by a group of people upset with the killing of nine deer in Randolph County. However, commissioners adjourned the public meeting without answering any questions on the case. ..."I know you've heard of the deer slaughtering. This is a public meeting. We should've been allowed to speak. Shame on all of you," one attendee said ... That petition now has more than 7,000 signatures from people all over the world....Change.org has [posted the petition to prevent further violence against deer](#)

[9 deer killed by North Carolina wildlife staffers test negative for chronic wasting disease](#) October 20, 2011, The Republic

Wildlife officials say tissue samples from nine deer killed by North Carolina wildlife officers on a farm in Randolph County have tested negative for chronic wasting disease. Seven fallow deer and two white-tailed deer were killed ...N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission Executive Director Gordon Myers has said Kindley didn't have a license to keep captive deer.

[North Carolina Community Rallies for Slain Deer, Tests Confirm No Diseases](#) October 25, 2011 Change.org

... seven of the nine killed deer were fallow deer, a species [not susceptible](#) to CWD....So why is it the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission's policy to storm a farm and slaughter tame deer, some of which were in rehabilitation? ... That's just what [more than 20,000 people](#) around the world want to know as they push to change the way game wardens operate within the state.... Jo Henderson, who had raised one of the fawns killed on the farm, is currently collecting signatures in town, while thousands more sign the [petition on Change.org](#), demanding an investigation into the killings and protections for tame deer.

[Charges Dropped Against Randolph Co. Man for Holding Deer in Captivity](#) November 17, 2011 North Carolina, My Fox 8

... District Attorney Garland Yates has dismissed the misdemeanor charge against Clifton Wayne Kindley for holding deer in captivity without a permit. Nine deer shot were shot and killed at Wayne Kindley's rehabilitation farm ... Yates said the law is clear stating holding deer in captivity without a permit is illegal... the question of the disposition of deer held in captivity without a permit needs to be clarified ... Last month, protesters lined the sidewalks outside the Randolph County Courthouse ...

[NC deer hunter, poacher, banned from hunting worldwide in plea deal](#) September 16, 2011 CBS News

A North Carolina man who admitted to illegally killing a deer in Kentucky has been banned from hunting anywhere in the world for two years as part of a plea deal with federal authorities. ...

[Tribe implements White-tailed Deer Project](#) November 17, 2011 North Carolina, The Cherokee One Feather,

... approximately 1.25 million white-tailed deer in North Carolina according to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. But, western North Carolina has the lowest populations ... The EBCI Fisheries and Wildlife Management Program has implemented the white-tailed deer research pilot project and has released 58 deer on tribal reserve lands.... "The purpose of the project is to prescribe near-term direction for researching, re-introducing and managing white-tailed deer on tribal lands." - Robert Blankenship, Wildlife Program Manager for Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

2010 and Earlier

[North Carolina deer harvest continues to grow](#) July 16, 2010 StarNewsOnline.com, By Mike Marsh

Evin Stanford has been saying that year-over-year increases in the deer harvest would be ending as the deer population stabilizes. But if he is to be believed, that stabilization has not yet occurred. The North Carolina deer biologist ... Hunters still took an astounding 175,157 deer last season, an increase of 3.5 percent over the 2009-10 harvest. The all-time record is from 2008-09, when hunters took 176,297 deer. Prior to that, North Carolina hunters had set four record harvests in a row.... Most deer hunting regulations remained the same with the exception of the muzzle loader season, which was extended one extra week forward into each region's archery season.

[Studies try to get handle on coyotes in NC](#) The Virginian-Pilot 8/1/2010

At least one report says coyotes could be responsible for declines in deer population in the southeastern United States.

That is not the case in North Carolina, said Chris Turner, a state wildlife biologist in northeastern North Carolina. Deer herds are generally healthy.

"Only time will tell," he said. "Coyotes are not strong deer predators. They eat lots of things."

[Subtle effects of a managed fire regime: A case study in the longleaf pine ecosystem](#)

MA Lashley, MC Chitwood, A Prince, MB Elfelt...North Carolina - Ecological Indicators, 2014

... Acorns and persimmons were disproportionately distributed near firebreaks within low intensity fire transition zones. Mast was maintained, though in an unnatural distribution, as a result of an elaborate firebreak system. ... To maximize structural heterogeneity and conserve key ecosystem functionality, fire prescriptions should include variations in frequency, season, application method, and fire weather conditions rather than focusing on an average historical fire regime...