

[Louisiana Deer Forecast for 2016](#) October 11, 2016

Game & Fish

... a restocking program that, according to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, began in 1949 and ended in 1969. Current estimates suggest that nearly 500,000 deer are found in Louisiana today, which is a significant improvement considering that an estimated 20,000 animals were present in the mid 1920s...

[The Great Deer Comeback](#) January 10, 2018 Louisiana, Country Roads Magazine

... Biologists estimate that Louisiana's deer population dropped from several hundred thousand in 1700 to an estimated 70,000 by the early 1900s. In some areas, the deer disappeared altogether... The stocking program lasted from 1949 to 1969, with 3,378 deer being released in 9 regions... less than 1,000 deer were harvested in the 1948-49 season, 16,500 were taken in 1960-61...

[Deer Population and Management History](#) LDWF

...Before Louisiana was colonized, the statewide deer population was estimated at 400,000. During the 19th century, early settlers and market hunting reduced the herd. Large-scale timber cuts in the late 1800s and early 1900s left deer concentrated in remaining cover and habitat where they were vulnerable to overharvest (St. Amant 1959). Hunting laws and bag limits were too liberal or not enforced, and deer numbers fell dramatically. The deer population was lowest between 1915 and 1925, with an all-time low estimated at 20,000 deer in 1925 (St. Amant and Perkins 1953). However, some deer survived in the deep swamps and margins, and as formerly deforested habitats grew into second growth forests, deer began to recover (St. Amant 1959).