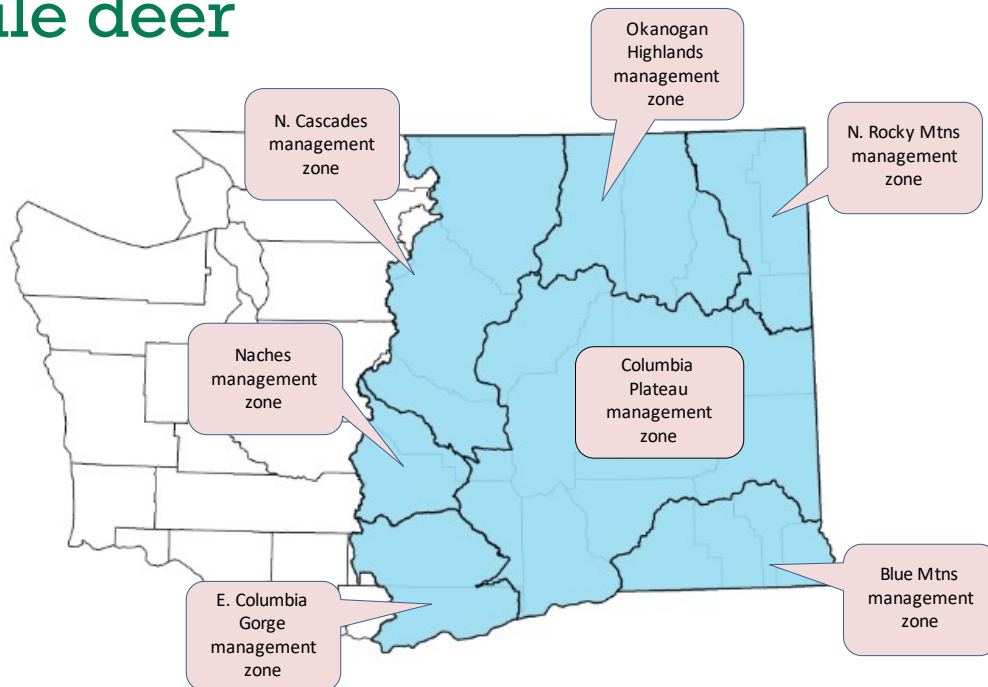


Deer Status and Trend Summary

Mule deer



Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mule deer in Washington are managed in seven distinct management zones. Most of the zones have stable populations although some are below historic levels. The main limiting factor for mule deer is habitat loss through development or conversion of habitat. Loss of winter range habitat is likely the biggest limiting factor, as those winter ranges often overlap with human habitation and agricultural land.

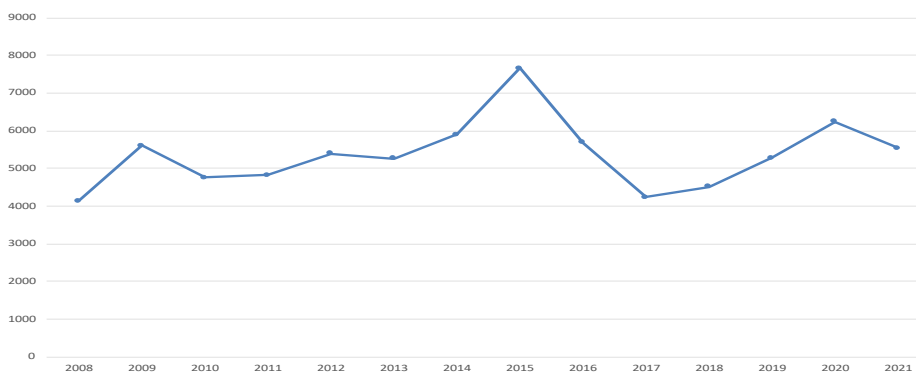
Mule Deer Zone	Trends						MGT concerns/Limiting factors
	Harvest	BD	FD	Pop Est.	Hunt Effort	Hunt Success	
Blue Mountains	Stable, recent decline*	Stable	Stable	NA	Stable	Stable	Habitat conversion, Extreme weather (drought, harsh winters), Declining CRP acres
Columbia Plateau	Stable, recent decline*	Stable	Stable	NA	Stable	Stable	Habitat conversion, Declining CRP acres, Solar power
East Columbia Gorge	Stable	Stable	Stable	NA	Stable	Stable	Habitat loss and conversion (vineyards, solar and wind)
East Slope Cascade (N. Cascades)	Stable	Stable	Declining	NA	Stable	Stable	Winter range loss (wildfire and development)
Naches	Stable, below historic levels	NA	NA	NA	Declining	Stable	Population well below historic numbers, Habitat loss and cougar predation could be contributing to slow recovery
Northern Rocky Mountains	Stable, below historic levels	NA	NA	NA	Declining	Stable	Suitable Habitat, Hemorrhagic disease
Okanogan Highlands	Stable	NA	NA	NA	Stable	Stable	Suitable Habitat, Hemorrhagic disease

*Hemorrhagic disease outbreak caused population declines, resulting in reduced harvest, effort, and success in some zones

BD = Buck:Doe ratio

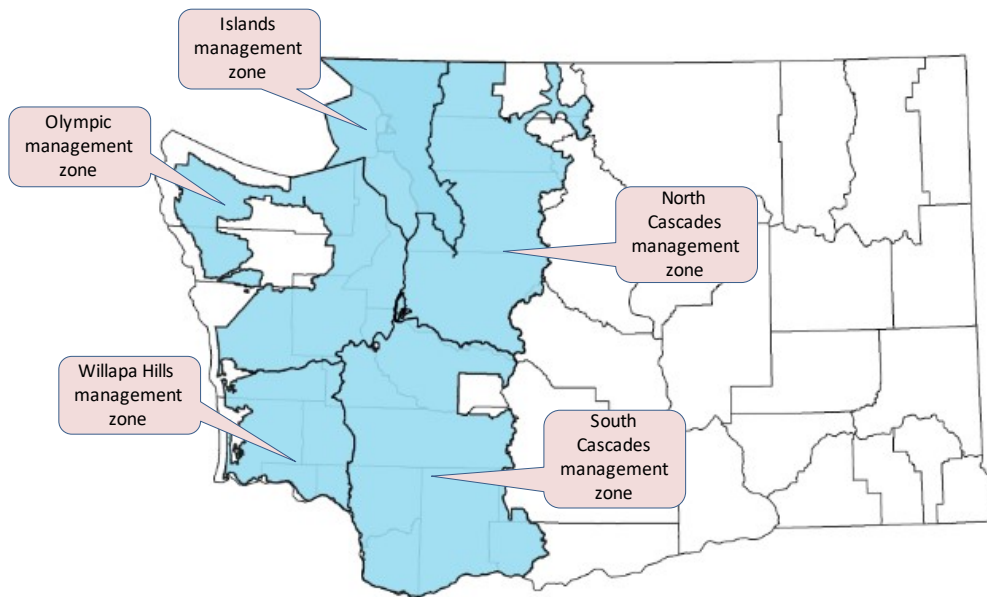
FD = Fawn:Doe ratio

Mostly MD Buck Harvest D4-D8



Districts 4 through 8 (D4-D8) encompass most of the mule deer habitat in the state. This graph shows all buck harvest from those districts which includes some white-tailed deer but is mostly mule deer.

Black-tailed deer



Department of Fish and Wildlife

Black-tailed deer in Washington are managed in five distinct zones. Black-tailed deer monitoring only occurs through harvest trends. Harvest trends are stable for 3 of the zones increasing on the island zone and declining in the North Cascade Mountains. We are currently working to develop a cost-effective method to monitor black-tailed deer as harvest trends in some areas do not represent the population due to limited hunting access on large tracts of commercial timber land. The main limiting factor for black-tailed deer is human development and closing of forest canopies on federally managed lands.

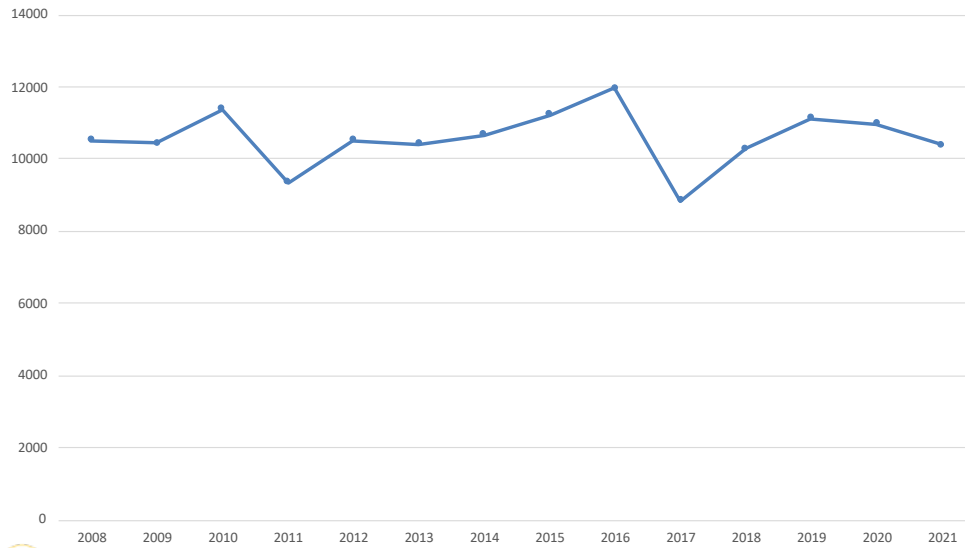
Black-tailed deer zone	Trend						MGT concerns/Limiting factors
	Harvest	BD	FD	Pop	Hunt Effort	Hunt Success	
Islands	Stable to increasing, with recent decline*	NA	NA	NA	Increasing, recent decline*	Stable	Adenovirus
North Cascade Mountains	Stable, recent decline	NA	NA	NA	Stable	Stable	Human Development, Decreased land for hunting,
Olympic Peninsula	Stable	NA	NA	NA	Stable	Stable	Human Development, Decreased land for hunting,
South Cascade Mountains	Stable	Na	NA	NA	Stable	Stable	Habitat on Federally Managed Lands (closed canopy), decreased land for Hunting, Hair Loss Syndrome
Willapa Hills	Stable	NA	NA	NA	Increasing	Stable	Decreased land for hunting, Hair Loss Syndrome,

*Adenovirus outbreak caused population declines, resulting in reduced harvest, effort, and success

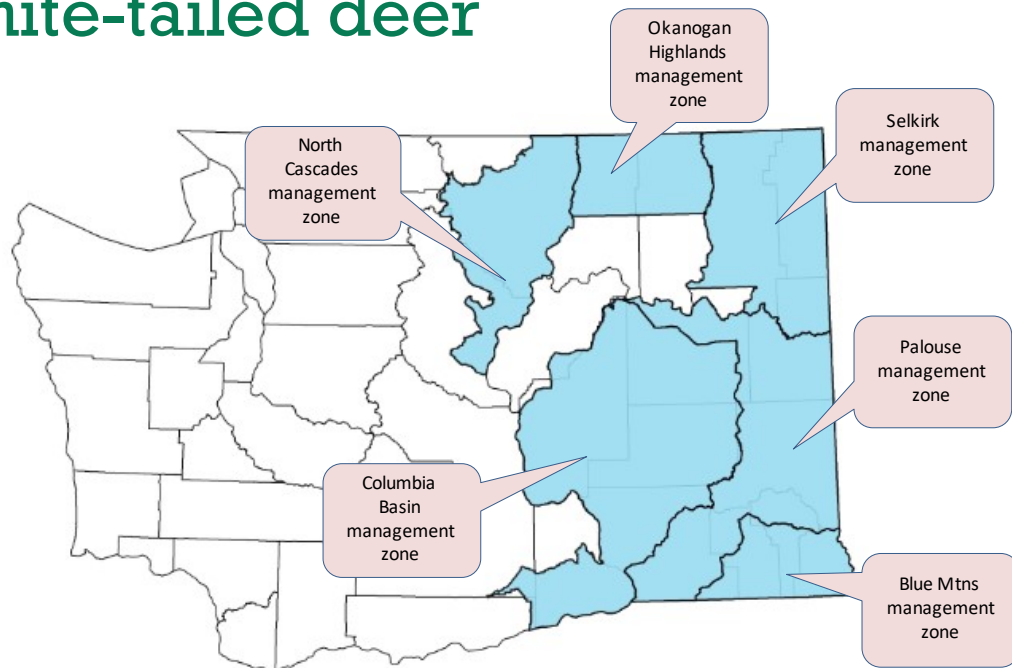
BD = Buck:doe ratio

FD = Fawn:doe ratio

BTD Buck Harvest Trends



White-tailed deer



Department of Fish and Wildlife

White-tailed deer in Washington are managed in six distinct zones. Most of the whitetail deer zones have a declining trend. Most of that decline is related to climactic and disease factors that affected the population in successive years, starting the Winter of 2016. Some of the limiting factors for white-tailed deer in Washington include changes in agricultural practices as white-tailed deer are closely tied to agricultural crops, habitat conversions, closing canopy, and hemorrhagic diseases.

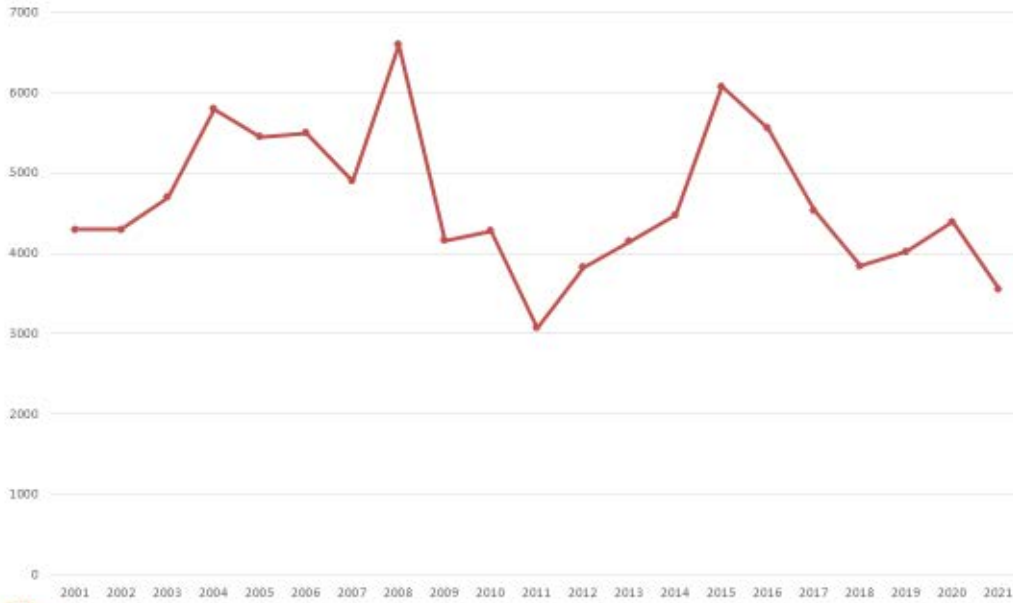
White-tailed Deer zone	Trend						MGT concerns/Limiting factors
	Harvest	BD	FD	Pop	Hunt Effort	Hunt Success	
Blue Mountains	Stable, recent decline*	Stable	Stable	NA	Stable, recent decline*	Stable, recent decline*	Hemorrhagic diseases, Habitat conversion
Columbia Basin	Declining	NA	NA	NA	Increasing	Decreasing	Hemorrhagic diseases, loss of riparian habitat
North Cascade Mountains	Stable	NA	NA	NA	increasing	Stable	Loss of habitat to development, Hemorrhagic diseases
Okanogan Highlands	Stable, below historic levels	NA	NA	NA	Stable	Decreasing	Deer tied to agricultural crops, Hemorrhagic diseases, Roadkill
Palouse	Declining*	Stable	Stable	NA	Stable, recent decline*	Stable, recent decline*	declining CRP acres, Habitat loss to development, Hemorrhagic diseases
Selkirk	Declining	Stable	NA	NA	Stable	Stable	Deer tied to agricultural crops, Hemorrhagic diseases, Roadkill

*Hemorrhagic disease outbreak caused population declines, resulting in reduced harvest, effort, and success in some zones

BD = buck:doe ratio

FD = fawn:doe ratio

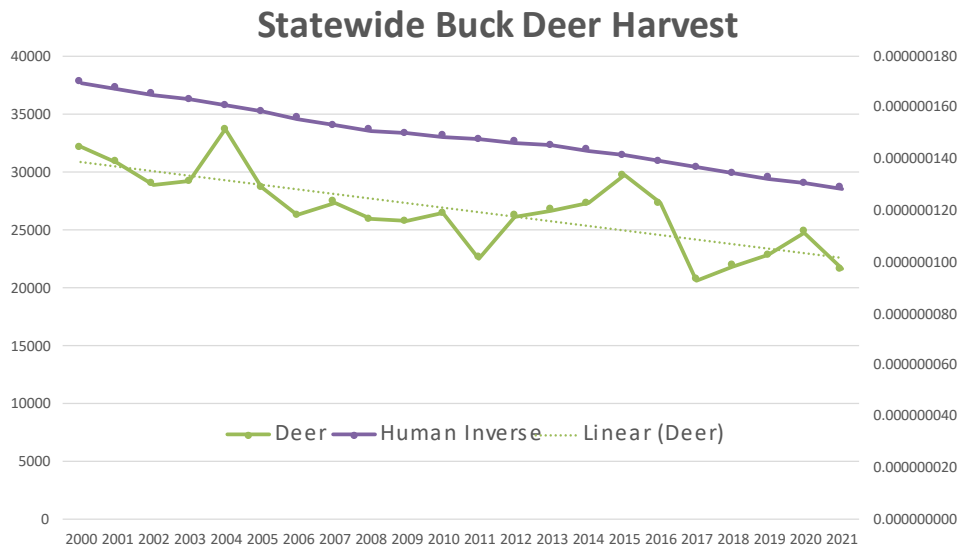
Buck Harvest District 1 2001-2021



Department of Fish and Wildlife

This Graph shows District 1 buck harvest. District 1 is in the Northeast part of the state and encompasses GMUs 101-121. This district has the highest proportion of the whitetail harvest in Washington.

Food For Thought



Department of Fish and Wildlife

This graph is only a correlation, and no inference can be drawn without more research. I divided 1 by the human population to invert the trend since the real trend is increasing. This helps demonstrate how statewide all buck deer harvest for all species has a similar downward trend to the inverse of population growth.