

Harvest Summary 2011

or . . .

Everything you really didn't want to
know about the Duluth Bowhunt,
and were afraid to ask.

Submitted to ABA Board

By Bork

2005 Results

- 9600 Acres open to hunting
- 210 Applicants
 - 189 Hunters Qualified and were Placed
 - 177 Actually Hunted
- 331 Deer Harvested (263 , 68)
- 1.87 0.21 Deer / Hunter
 - 0.13 / Bowhunter MN Mean
- 22.1 deer / mile² harvested
- Wounding Rate of 7.8%

2006 Results

- 20,100 Acres open to hunting
- 260 Applicants
 - 251 Placed
 - 195 Reported Harvest
- 564 Deer Harvested (**485** , **79**)
 - 2.25 0.22 deer / hunter (if all hunted)
 - 2.9 0.21 deer / successful hunter
- 7.2 % Wounding Rate
- 18.0 deer / mile² harvested

2007 Results

- 22,252 Acres Open to Hunting
- 315 Hunters Placed
- Estimated 310 Actually Hunted
- 567 Deer Harvested (476 , 91)
- 1.8 - 0.2 Deer / hunter
- 16.3 deer / mile² harvested

2008 Results

- No additional acreage (save for 3 Hot Spots)
- 289 Hunters placed (2 removed early)
- 533 Deer Harvested (457 , 75)
- 1.82 0.19 Deer / Hunter
 - Only 0.26 Bucks / hunter
- 17.0 deer / mile² harvested
 - 16.7 without Hot Spot stats

2009 Results

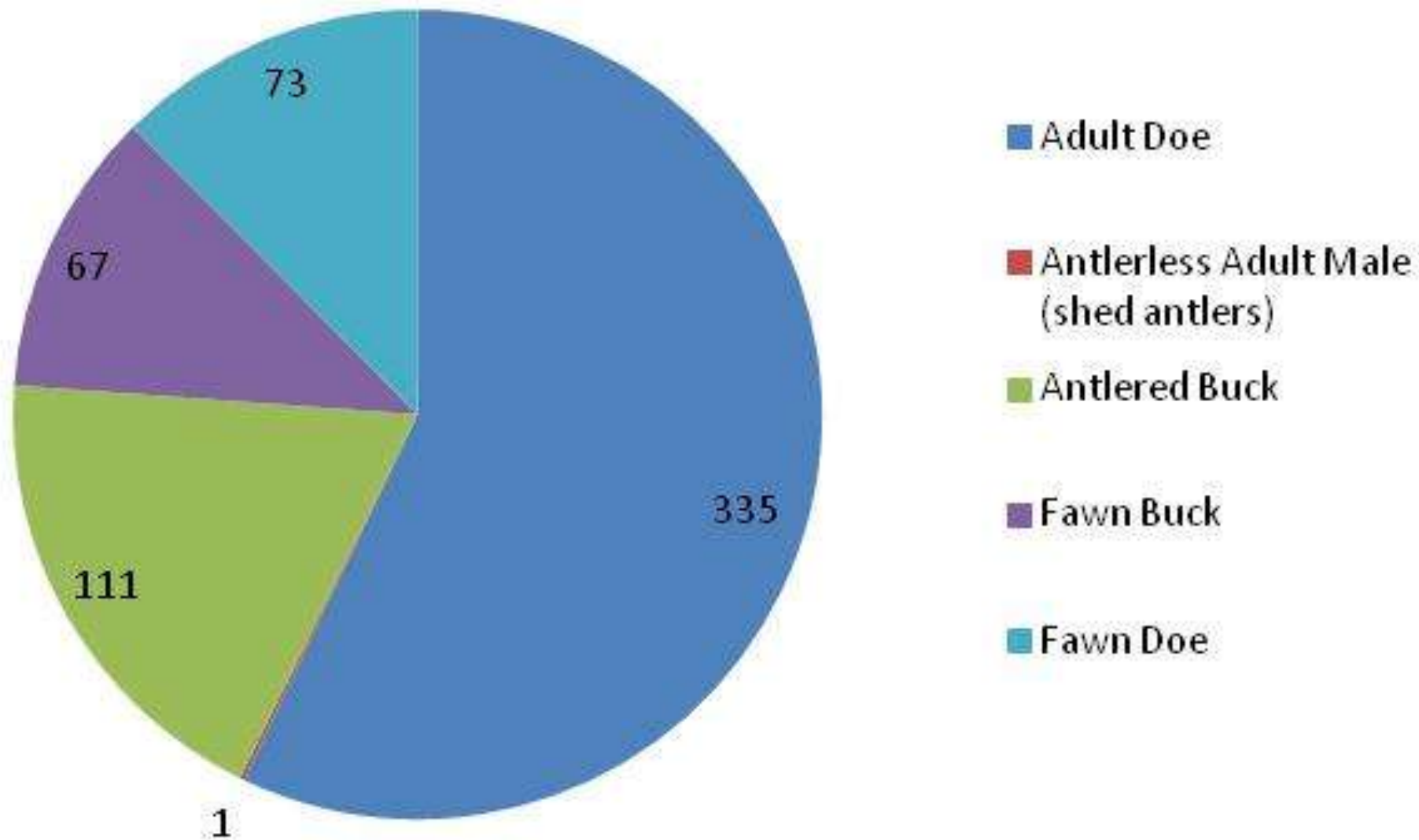
- Approx 300 acres added to DHA 1 (plus an increase in number of Hot Spots)
- 316 Hunters placed
- 586 Deer Harvested (492 ♂, 94 ♀)
- 1.85 ♂ 0.18 Deer / Hunter
 - Only 0.30 Bucks / hunter
- 16.4 deer / mile² harvested
 - 14.8 without Hot Spot stats

2010 Results

- No increase in Real Estate, except for a small increase in number of Hot Spots
- 339 Hunters placed
- 602 Deer Harvested (514 , 88)
 - 3 Antlerless were Adult that already shed antlers
- 1.78 0.16 Deer / Hunter
 - Only 0.26 0.05 Bucks / hunter
- **15.8 deer / mile² harvested**
 - 15.6 without Hot Spot stats

2011 Results

- No increase in Real Estate, except for a small increase in number of Hot Spots
- 377 Hunters placed
- 587 Deer Harvested (475 , 111)
 - 1 Antlerless was an Adult that already shed antlers
- 1.5 0.1 Deer / Hunter
 - Only 0.3 0.1 Bucks / hunter
- **15.5 deer / mile² harvested**
 - 15.4 without Hot Spot stats



2011 Duluth Bowhunt Harvest

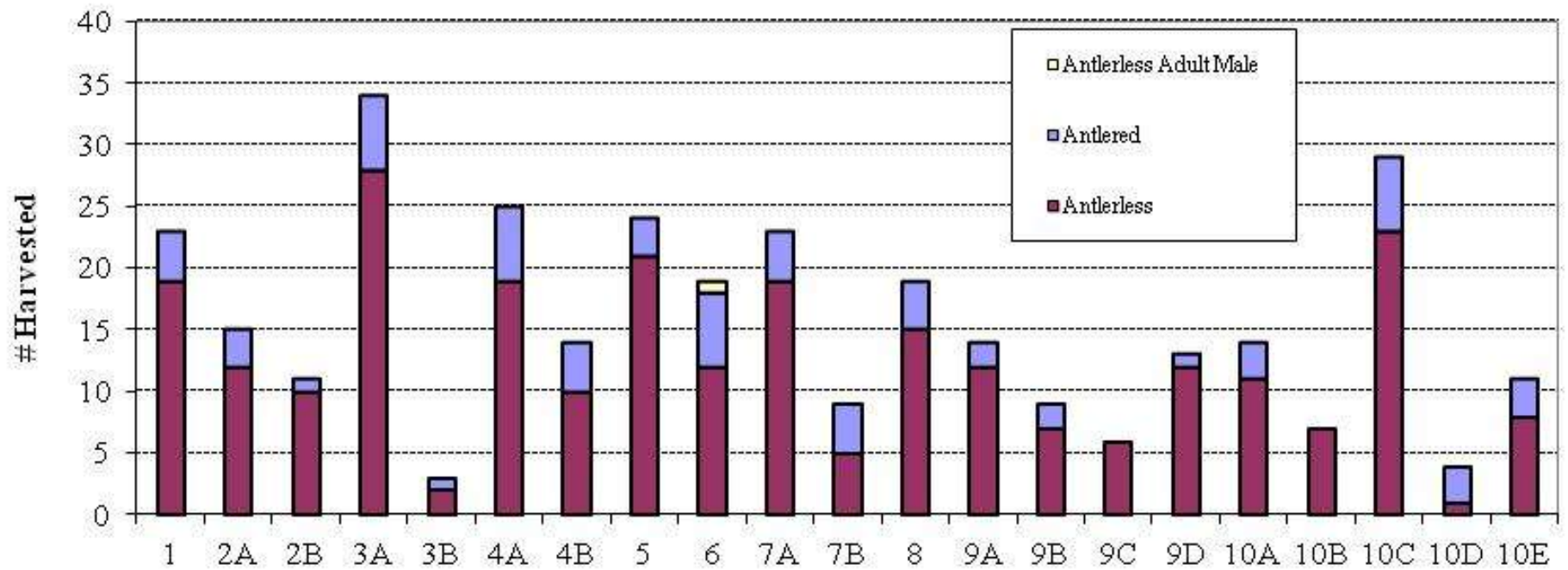
19% Bucks

81% Antlerless

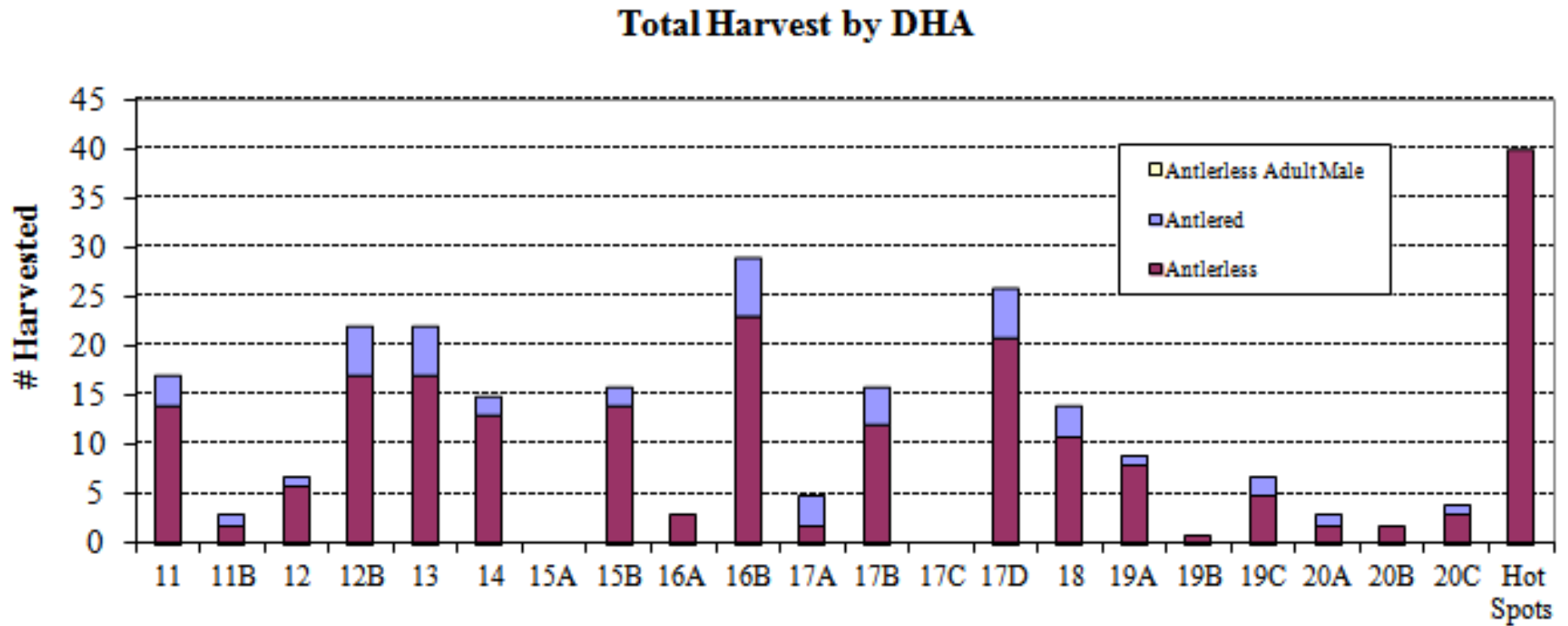
Breakdown of Antlerless

- 475 Antlerless deer harvested in 2011
 - 73 Doe fawns
 - 67 Buck fawns
 - 335 Adult does
 - 1 Antlerless Adult Male (already shed)

Total Harvest by DHA

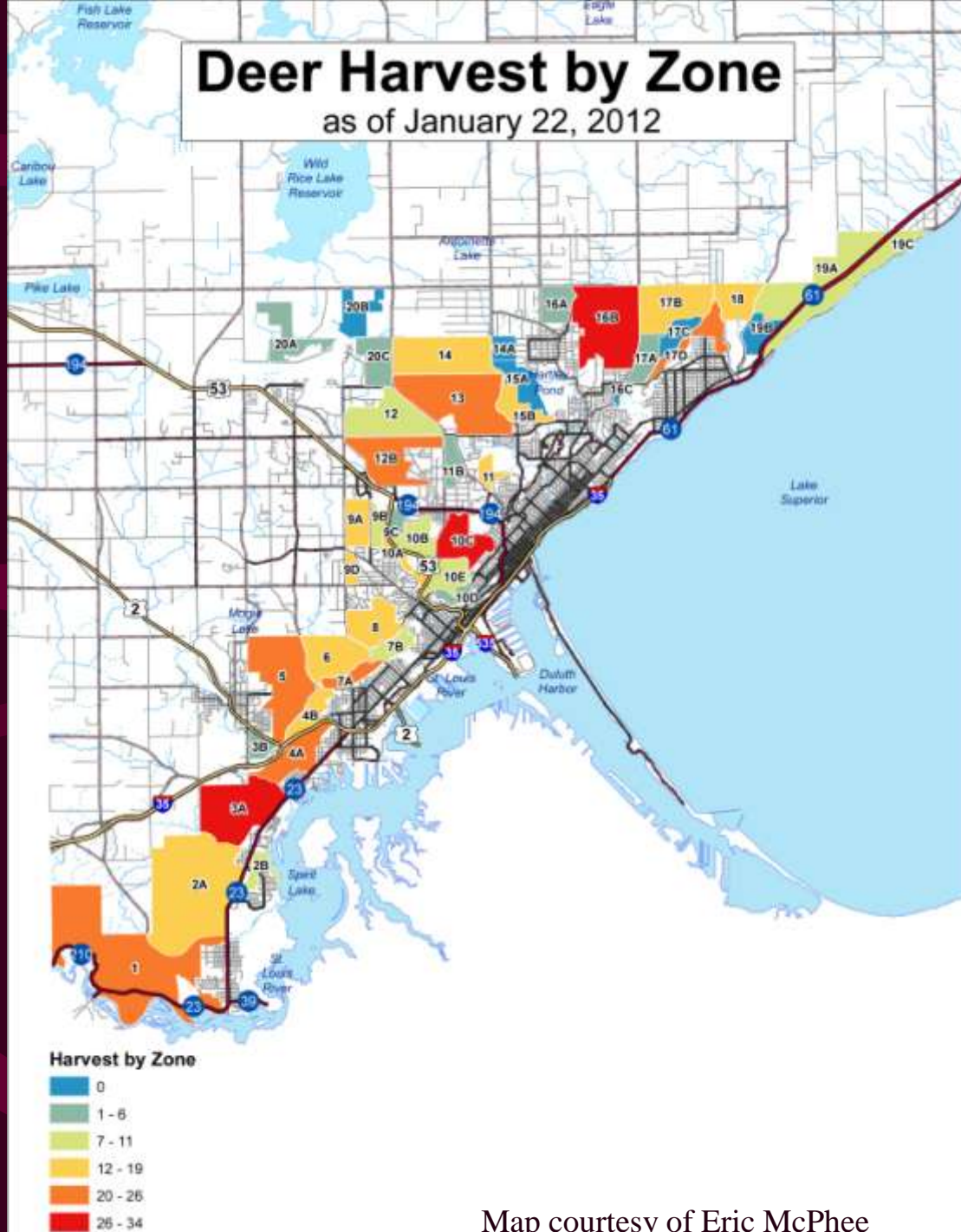


Total Harvest by DHA, part 2



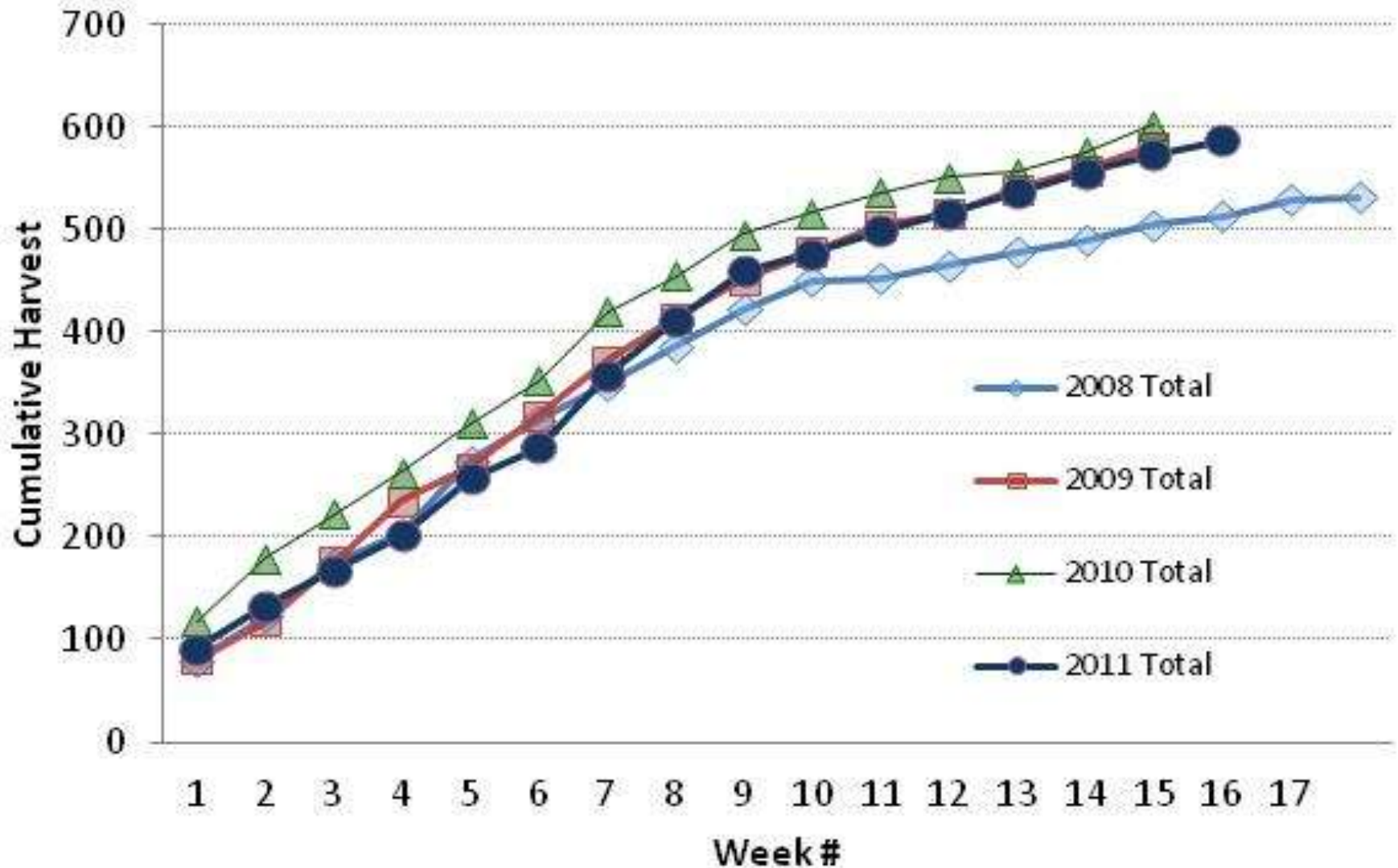
Deer Harvest by Zone

as of January 22, 2012

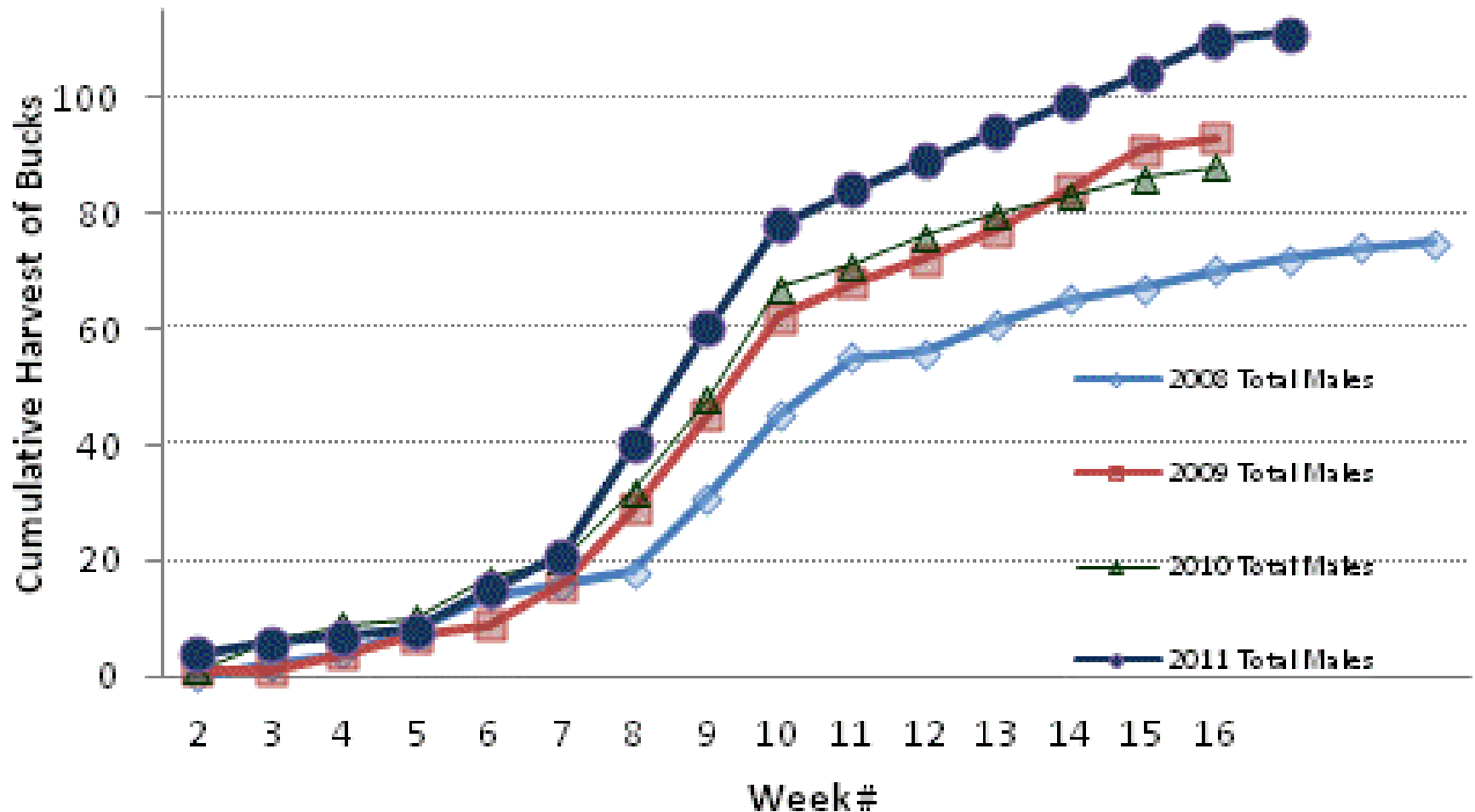


Map courtesy of Eric McPhee

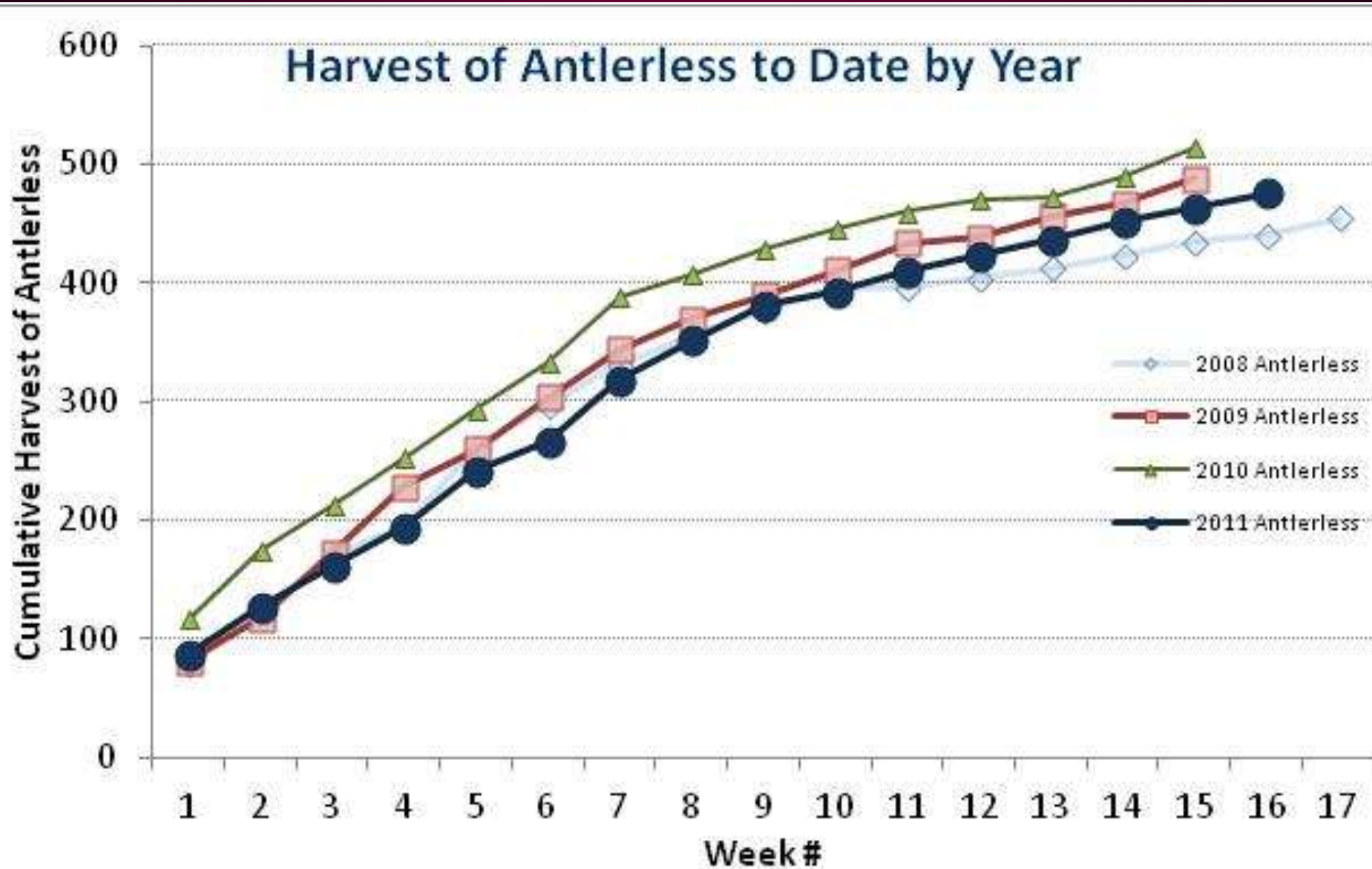
Total Harvest Year to Date by Year



Harvest of Bucks Year to Date by Year



Harvest of Antlerless Year to Date by Year



Generally Cool Stats

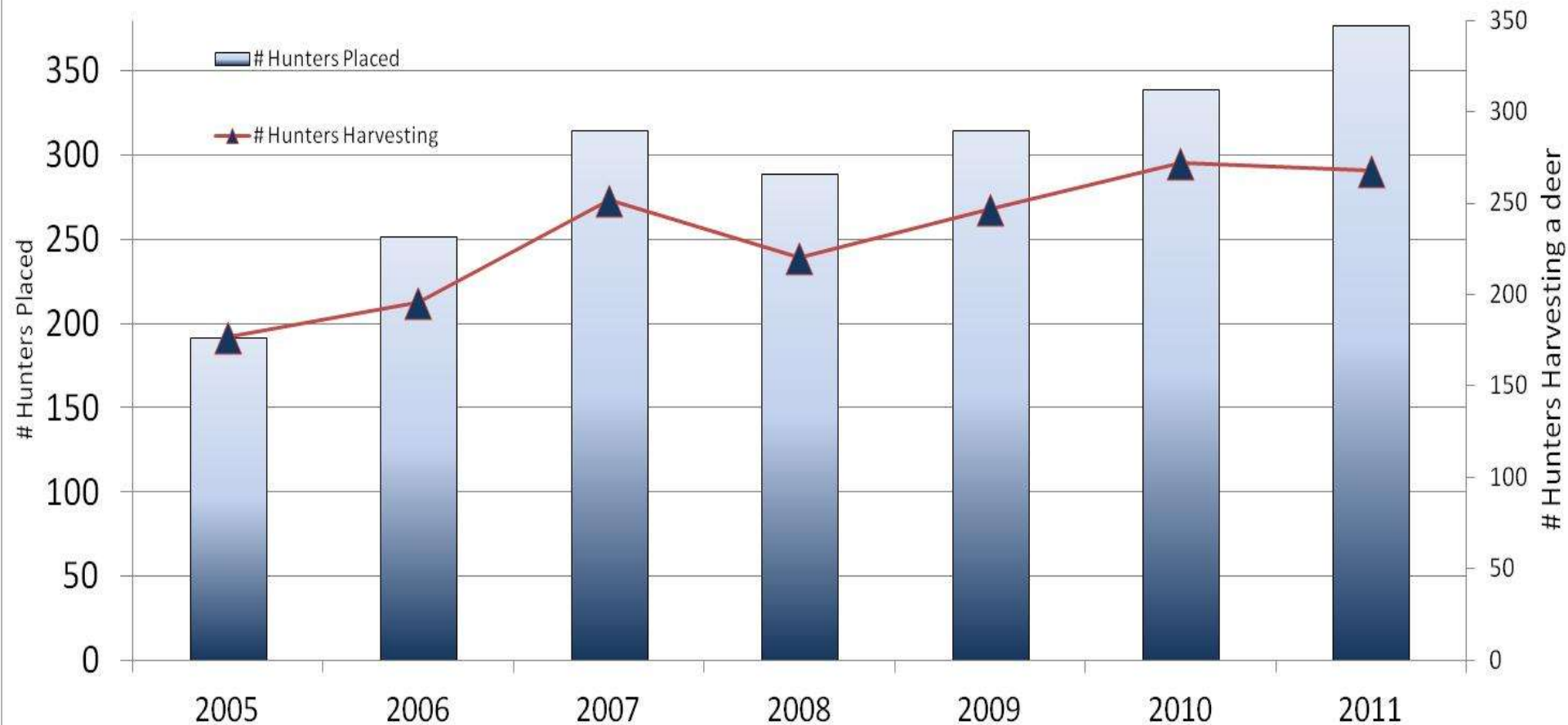
	2011	7-year Average
Total Harvest/Hunter	1.56	1.82
Buck Harvest / Hunter	0.30	0.29
Anterless Harvest / Hunter	1.26	1.52
Harvest / Successful Hunters	2.19	2.31
Buck Harvest / Successful Hunter	0.42	0.37
Anterless Harvest / Successful Hunter	1.77	1.94

General Stats, cont.

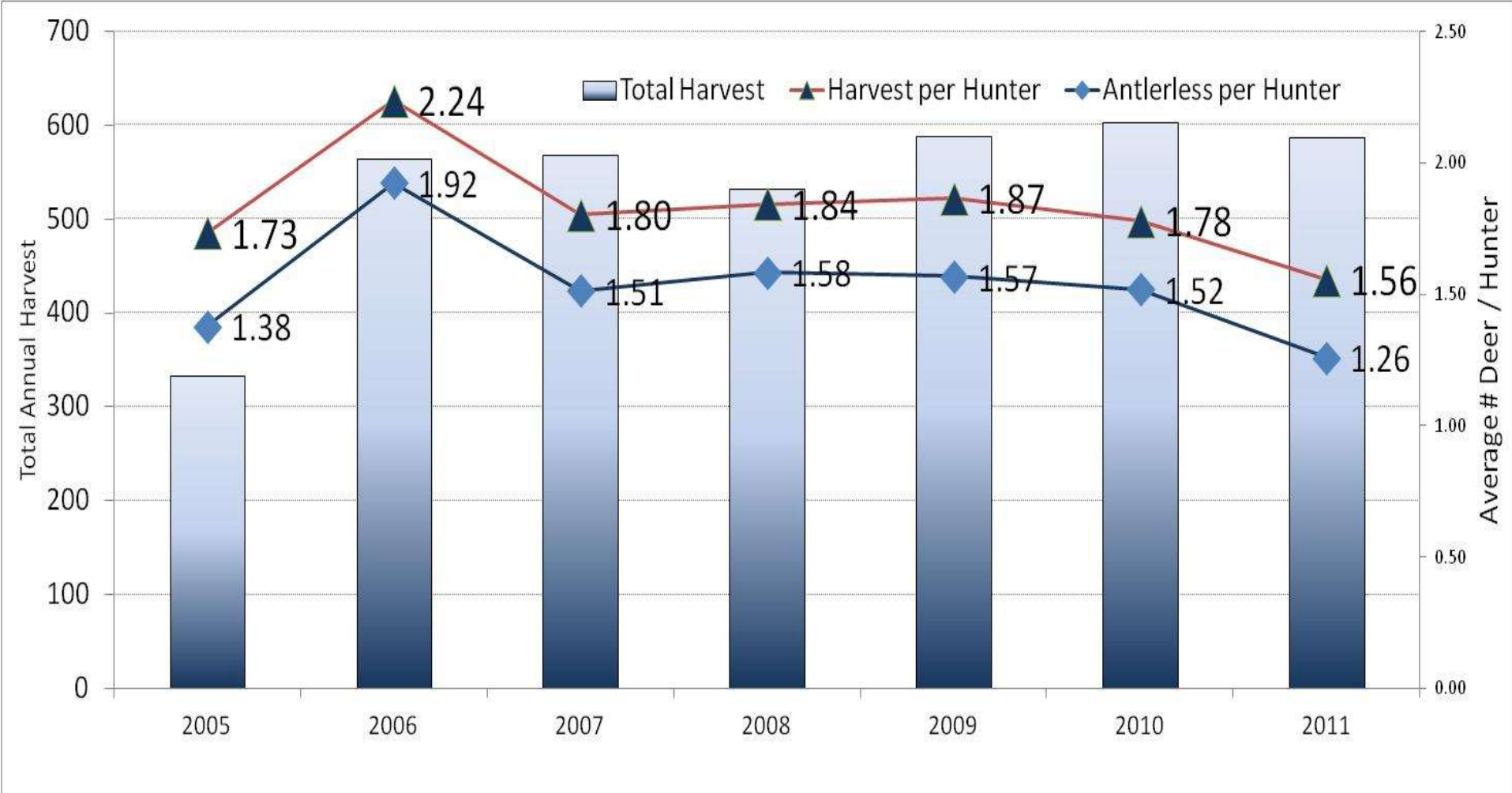
In the previous table, the Totals / Hunter include all registered hunters. This includes all of the hunters that failed to harvest any deer. Not knowing whether this was the result of not spending much time in the woods, or not even getting into the woods is unknown to me. Thus, I removed all of the zero-harvest hunters, and reported harvest / successful hunter. That is the difference between those two stats.

I think these summary stats speak volumes. Average MN bow hunter shoots one deer every 7 - 8 years (0.13 deer / year). Average Duluth bowhunter shoots 0.29 bucks / year, but shoots 1.52 antlerless deer / year.

Successful hunters shot 0.42 bucks / year over the last seven years in Duluth. Successful hunters shot 1.94 antlerless / year over the last seven years in Duluth, well above the MN average.

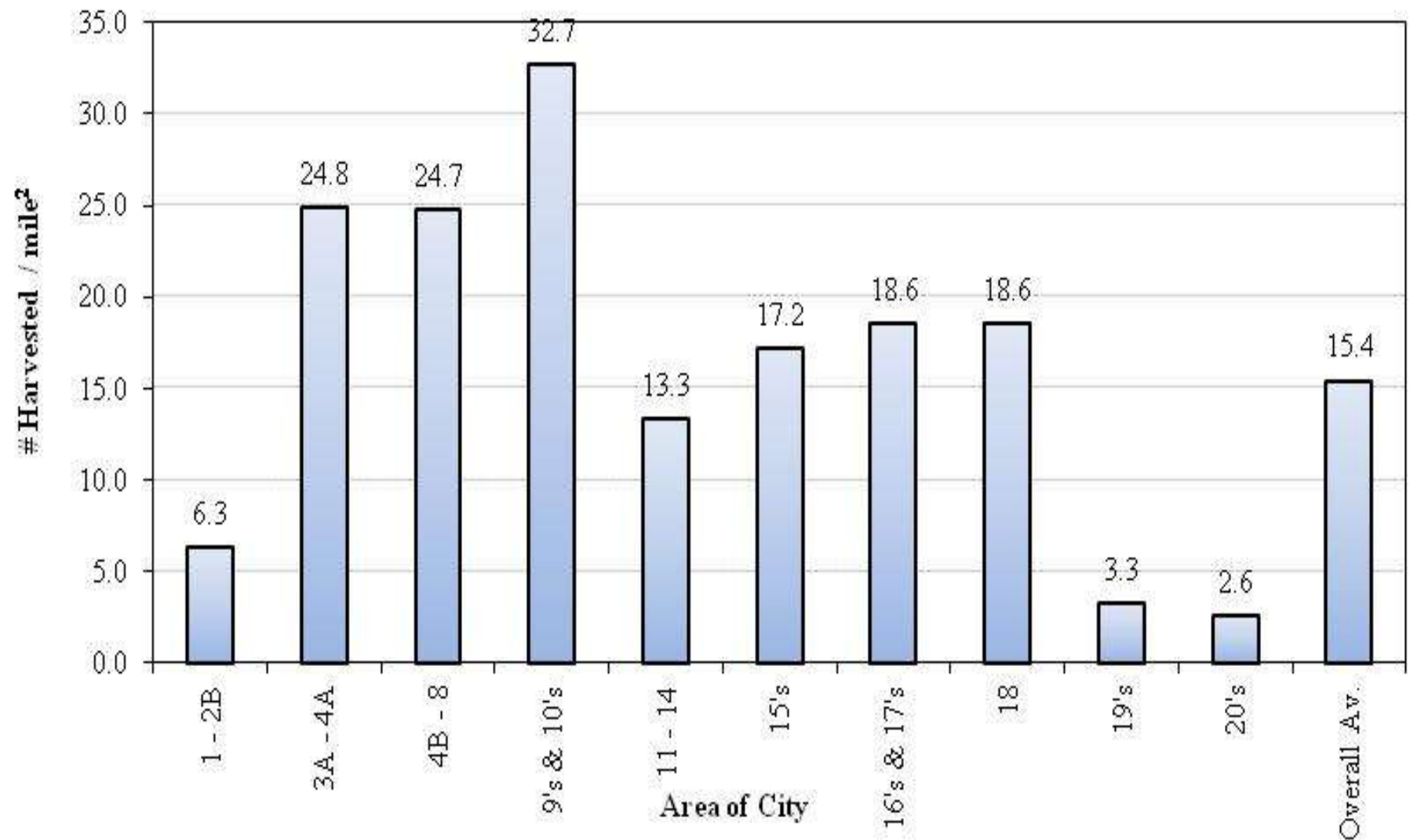


The trend over the previous three years (2008 – 2010) had been an increase in both participation, and in individual hunter success. In 2011, we observed an increase in participation but a decrease in success.



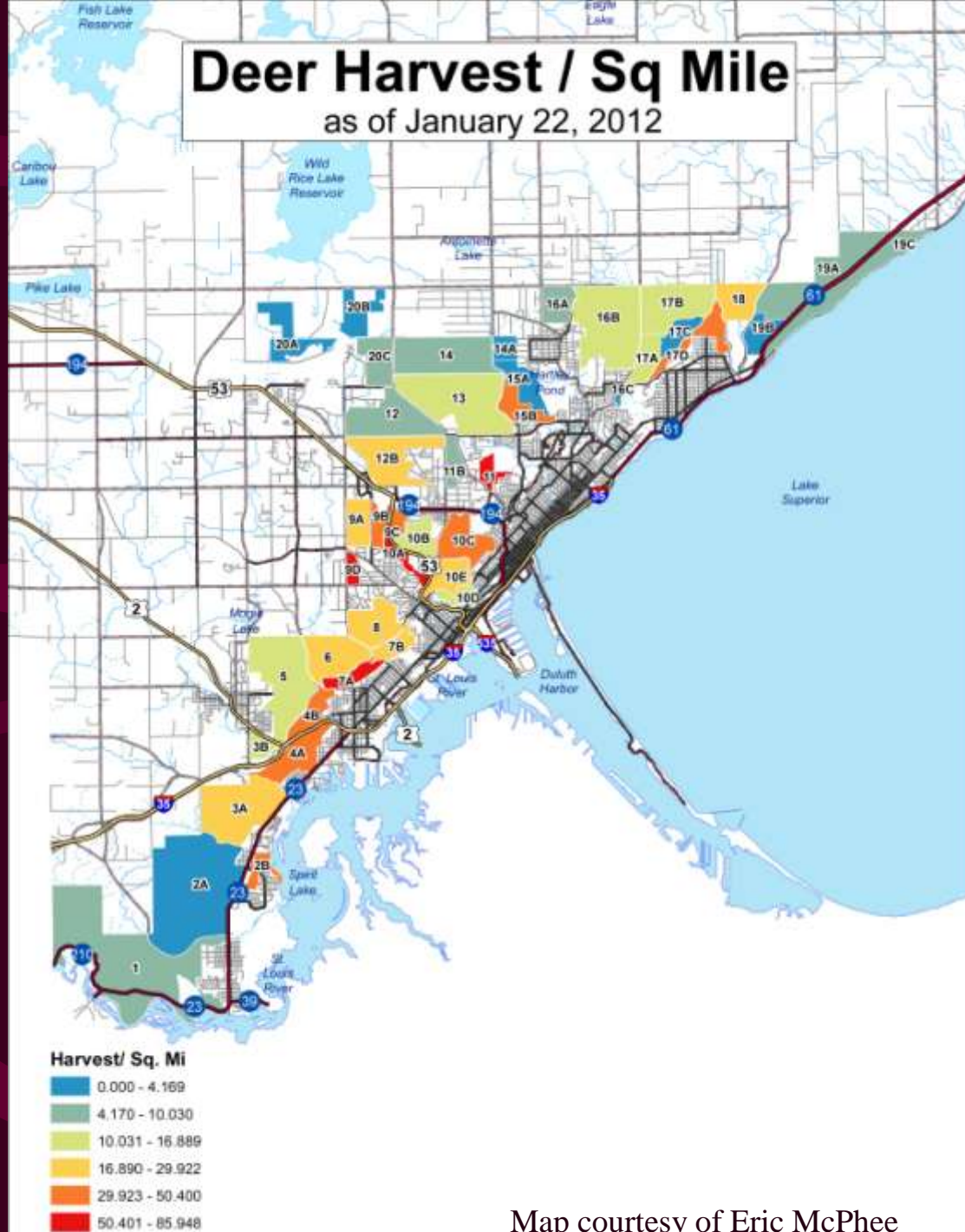
Total harvest was down slightly in 2011. With the increased number of hunters, the actual harvest per hunter is also down slightly, to the lowest observed since the Hunt began. Further, the antlerless harvest per hunter was also observed at the lowest on record at 1.26 per hunter.

2011 Harvest per square mile



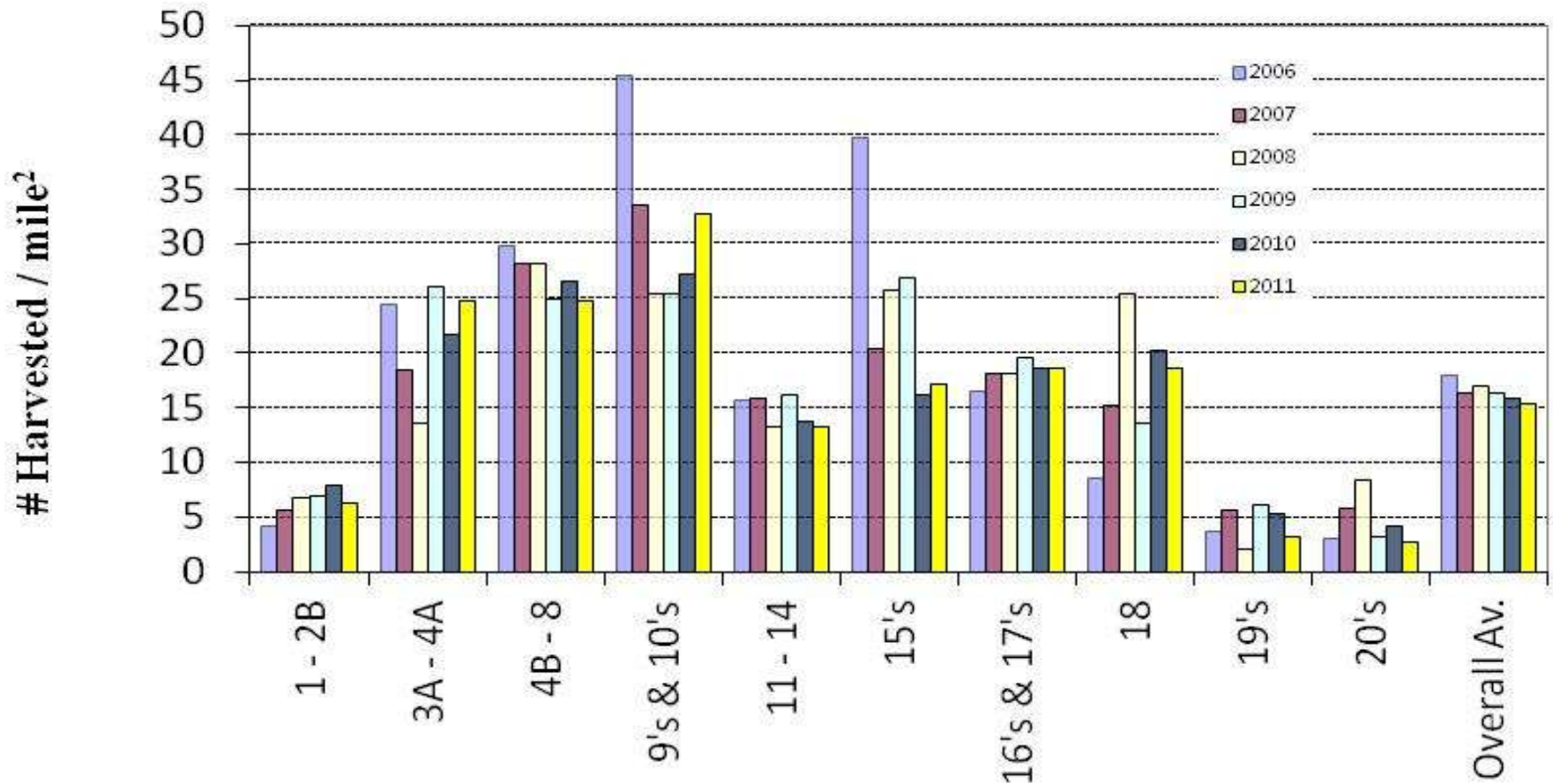
Deer Harvest / Sq Mile

as of January 22, 2012



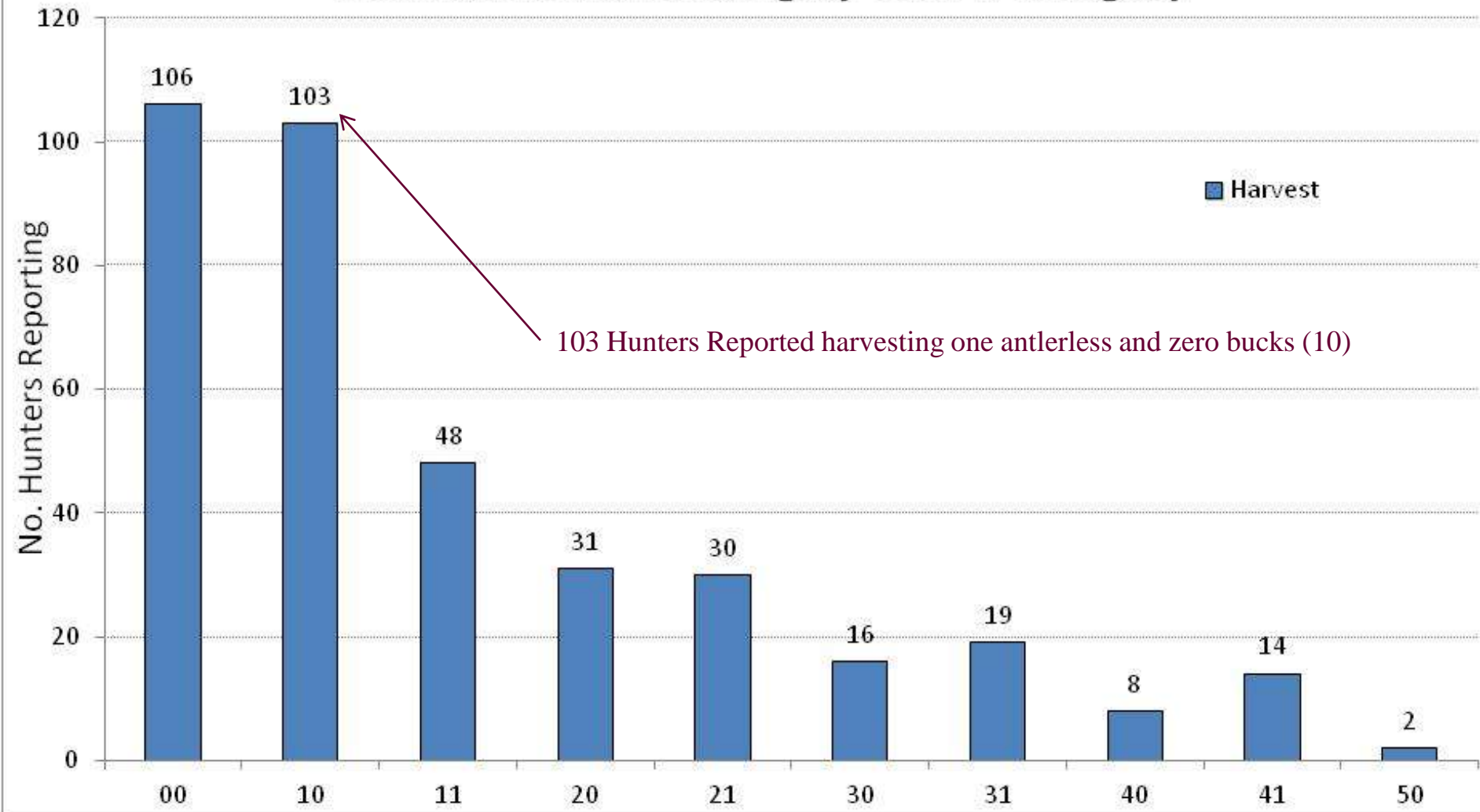
Map courtesy of Eric McPhee

Harvest / mile² Last Five Seasons



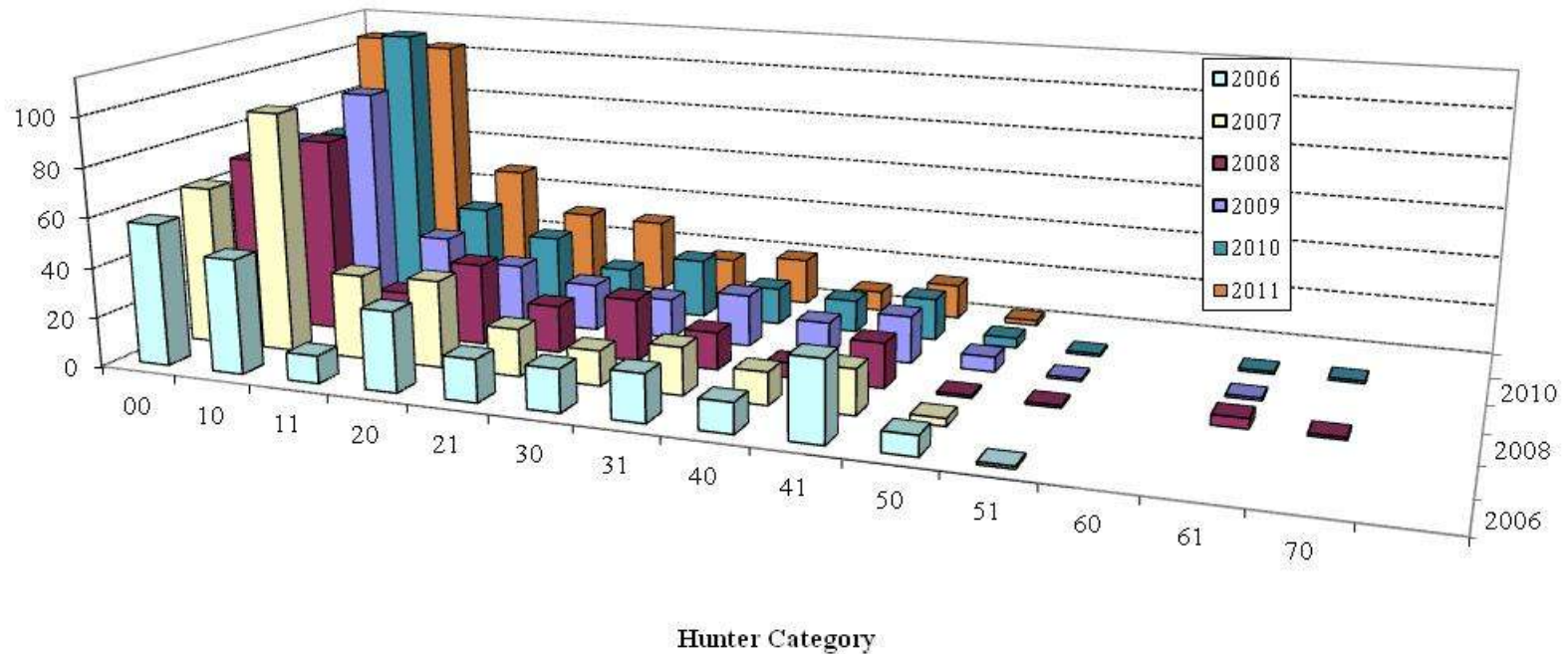
- Harvest / mile² since 2006, showing a gradual decline in the overall harvest.

No. Hunters Harvesting by Deer # Category

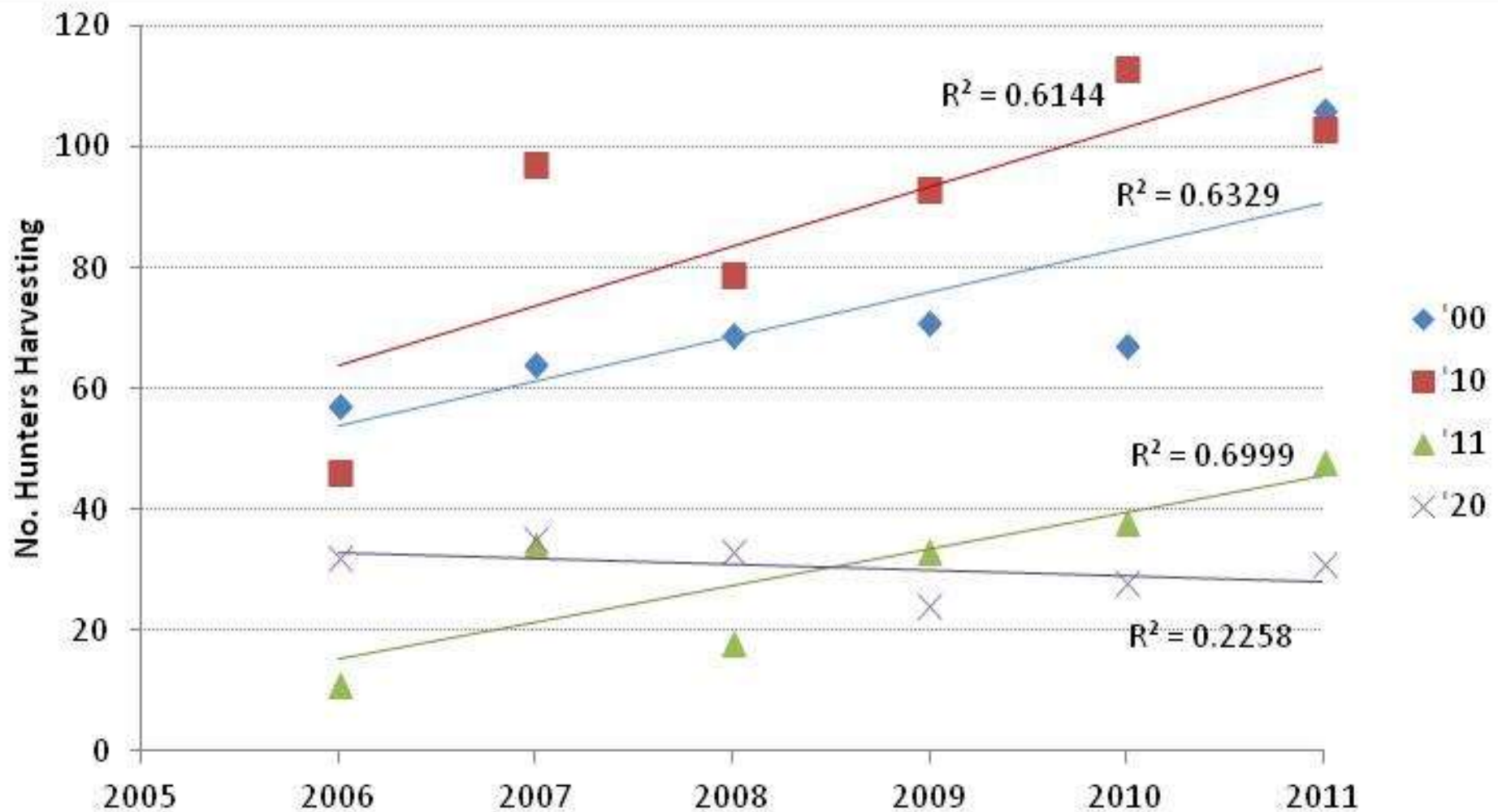


- Hunter Category is a two part designation
- 10 means the hunter shot one antlerless, no bucks
- 11 means the hunter shot one antlerless and one buck
- 31 means the hunter shot three antlerless and one buck

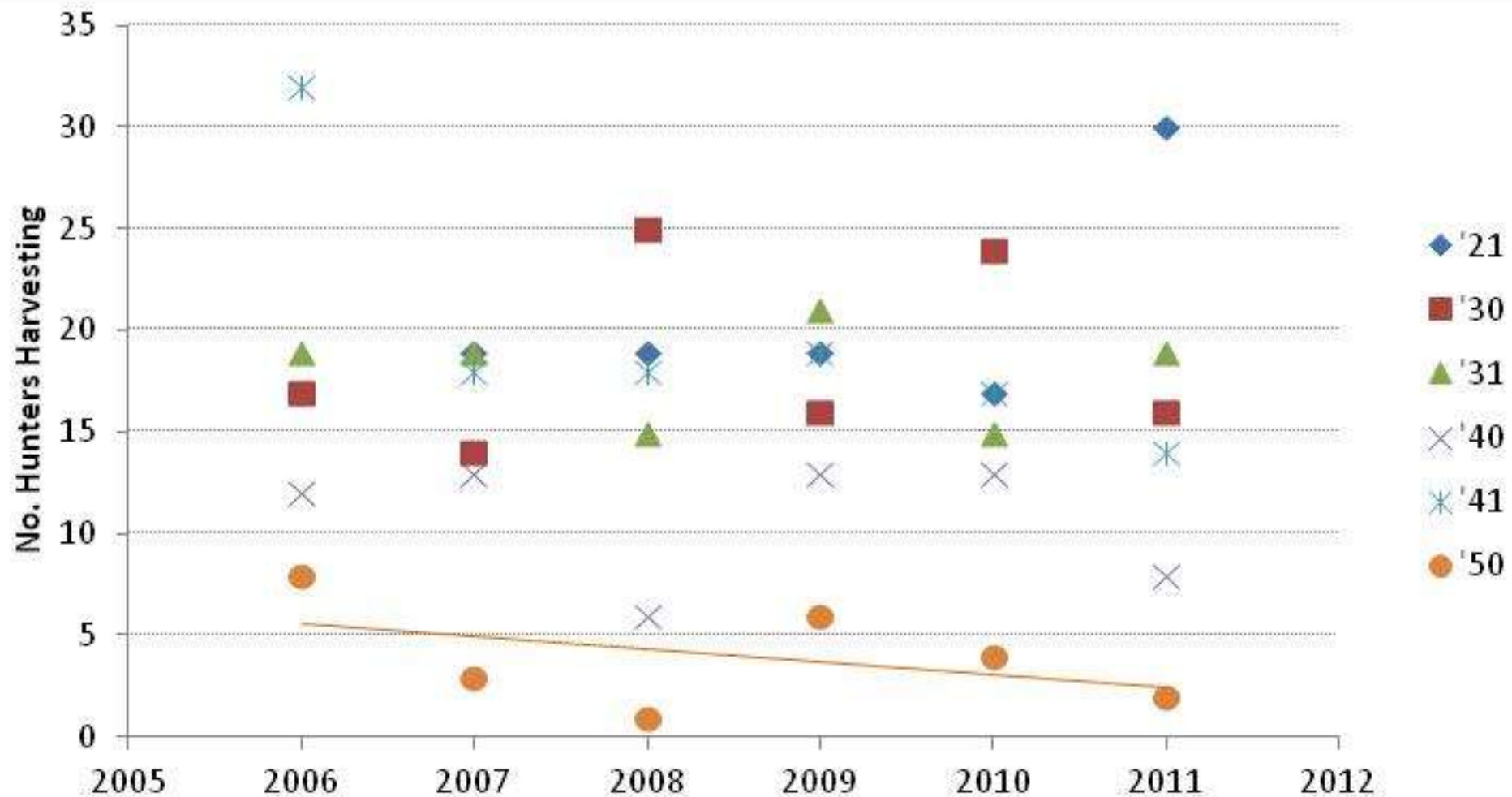
Hunter Harvest, Last Six Years



- This graph shows the harvest for hunters since 2006. Note that the largest number of hunters harvesting 5 deer (41 or 50) was highest in 2006, declining since.



This shows the number of hunters harvesting 0 deer (00), one antlerless (10), and one doe / one buck (11) has been increasing since 2006. Is this hunters being more successful, or is it getting harder to shoot 2+ antlerless?



There appears to be a slight decline in the number of hunters harvesting multiple antlerless individuals.

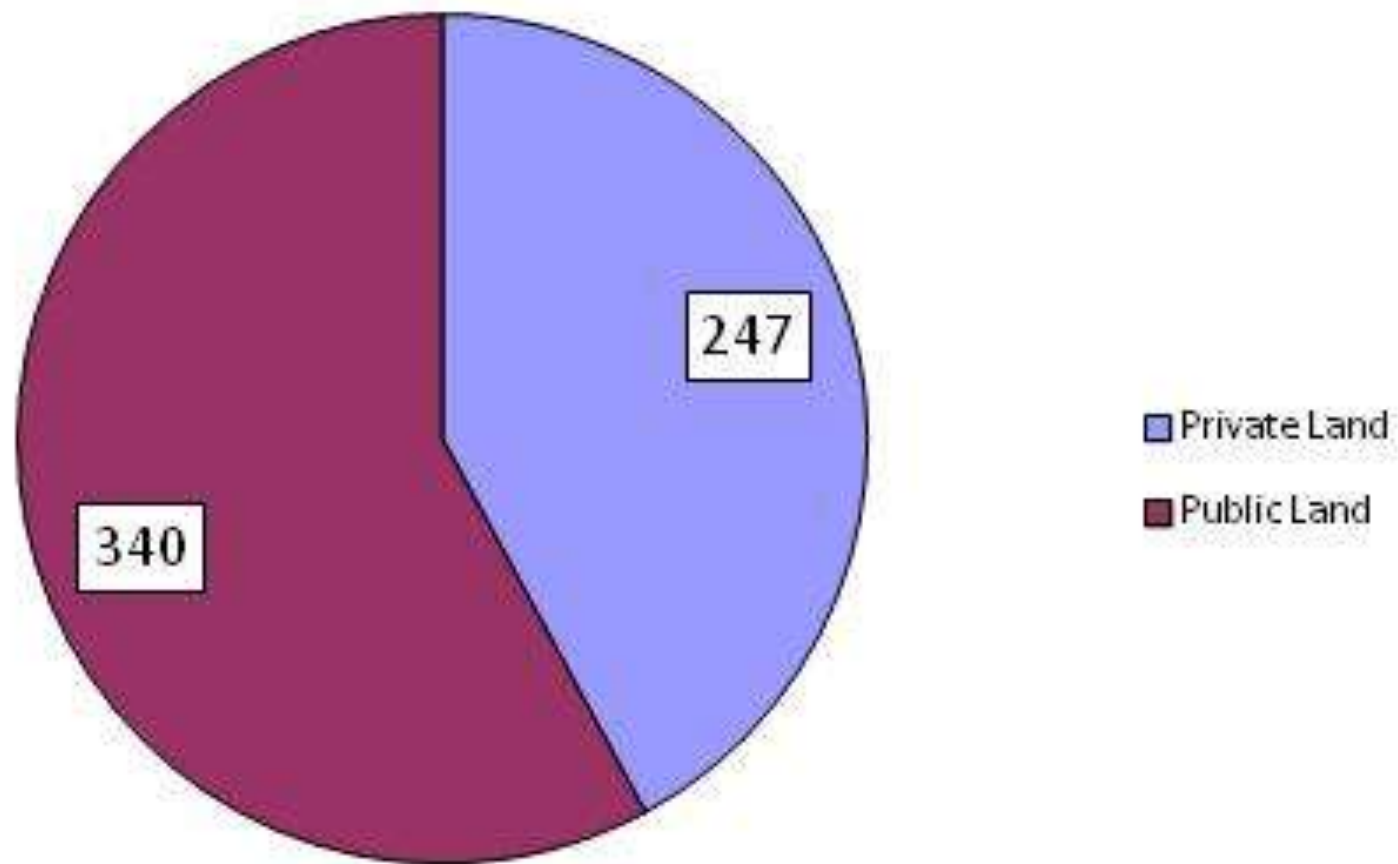
- This year's deer / mi² harvest rate was the lowest ever observed
- Only 44.5 % of hunters harvested 2 or more deer.
 - 46.6% in 2010
- Is it getting harder to harvest deer in Duluth?

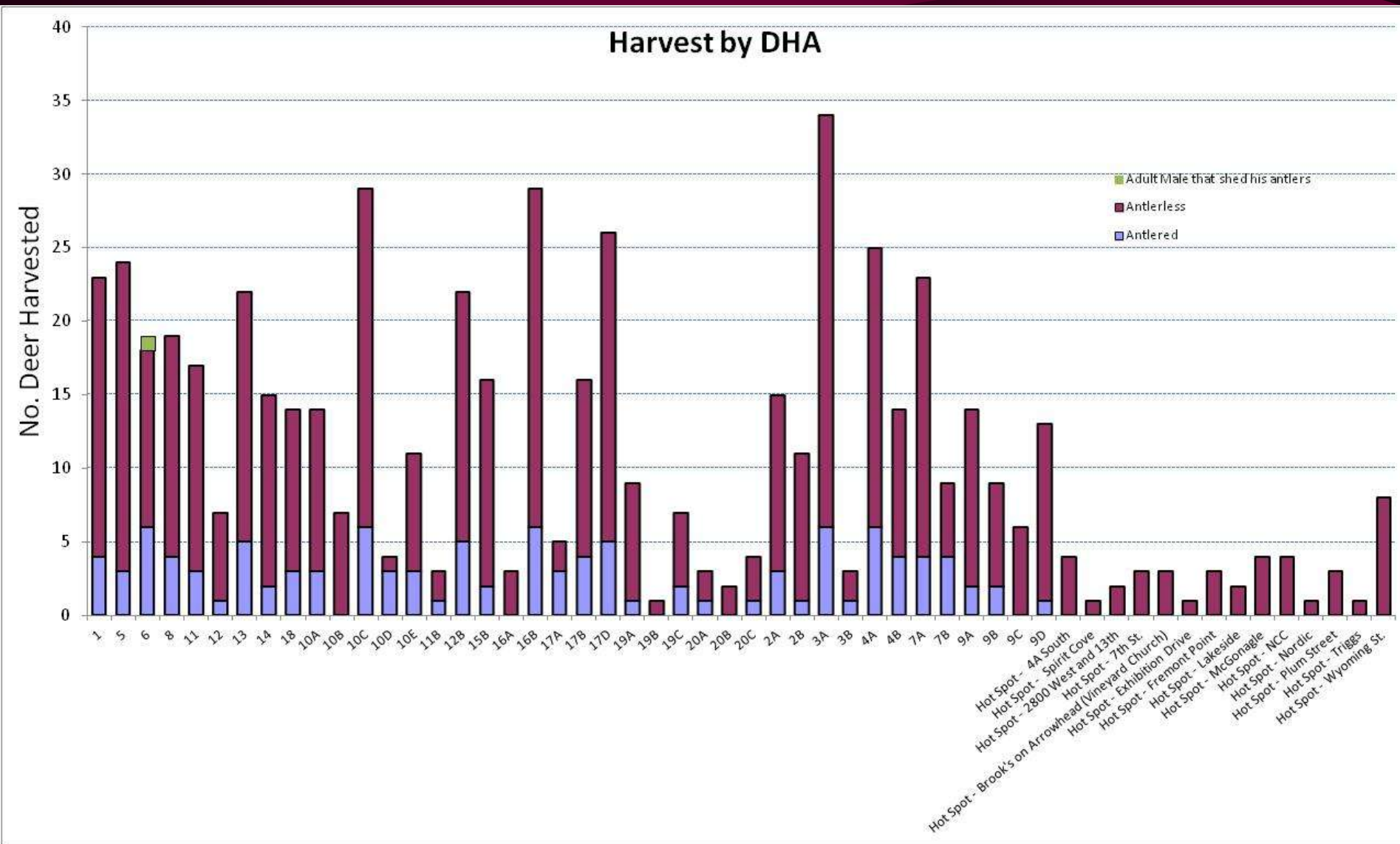
Public vs. Private Lands

- 57.9% of harvest from Public Lands
- 42.1% of harvest from Private Land
- Demonstrates importance of forging positive relationships with Duluth property owners!
- 278 Different properties registered in 2011
- 187 Hunters turned in LOPs
 - Board knows of some hunters that never filled in the on-line registration form

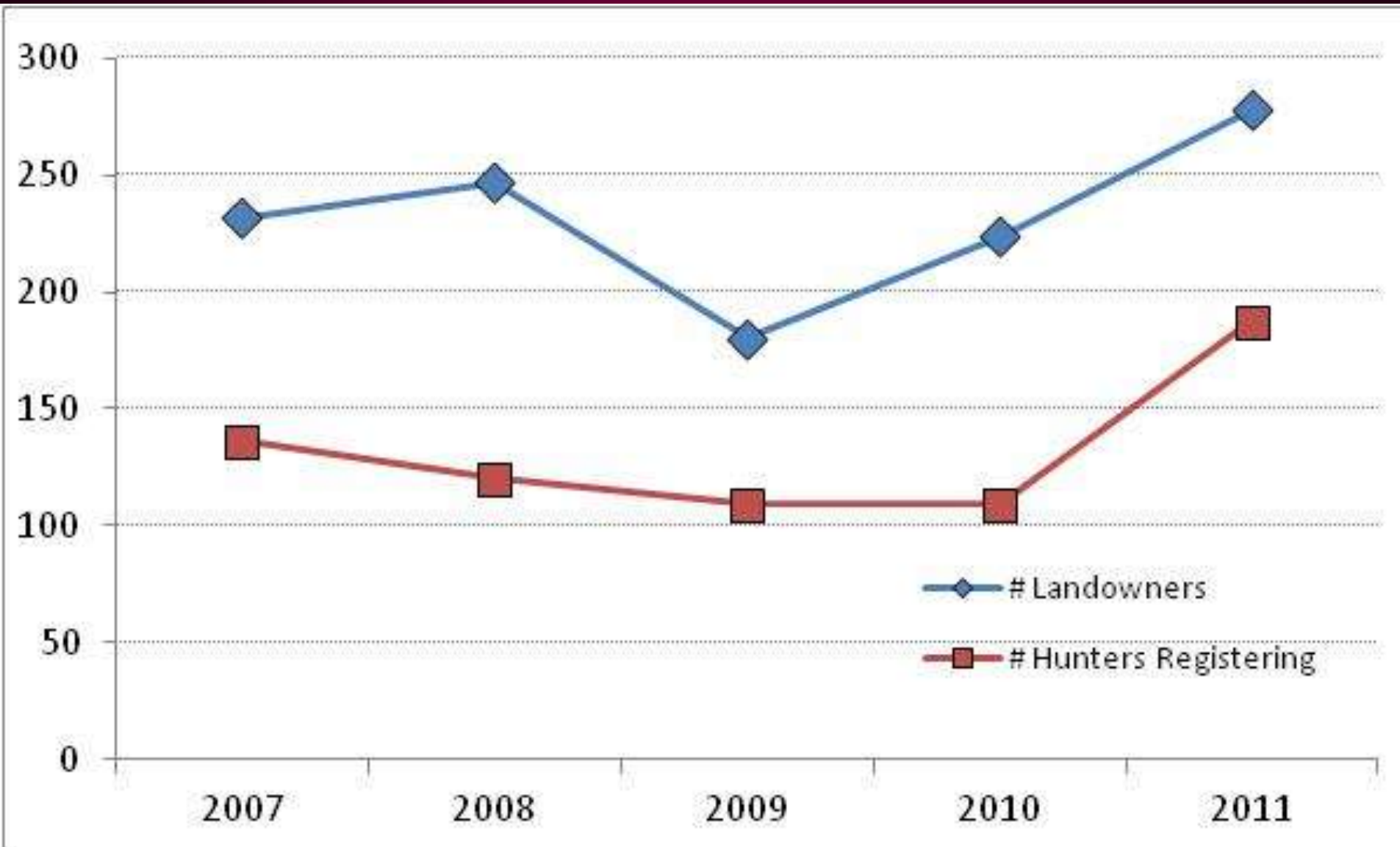
Public vs. Private Land Harvest

Total No. Deer





The number of deer harvested on public and private lands within each DHA in 2011.

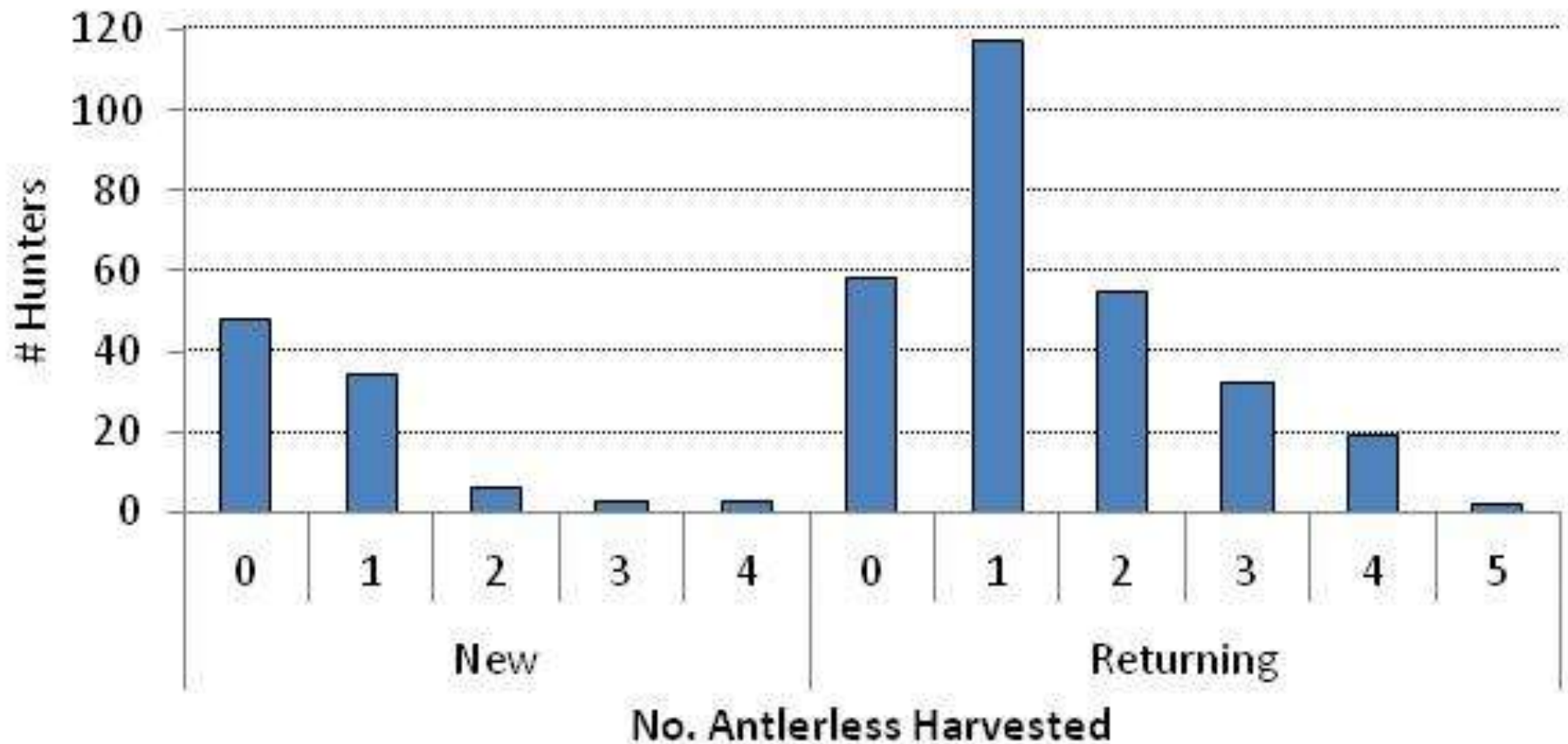


- The number of landowners allowing hunters has been increasing over the last two years. The number of hunters cooperating and registering their LOPs online was up in 2011.

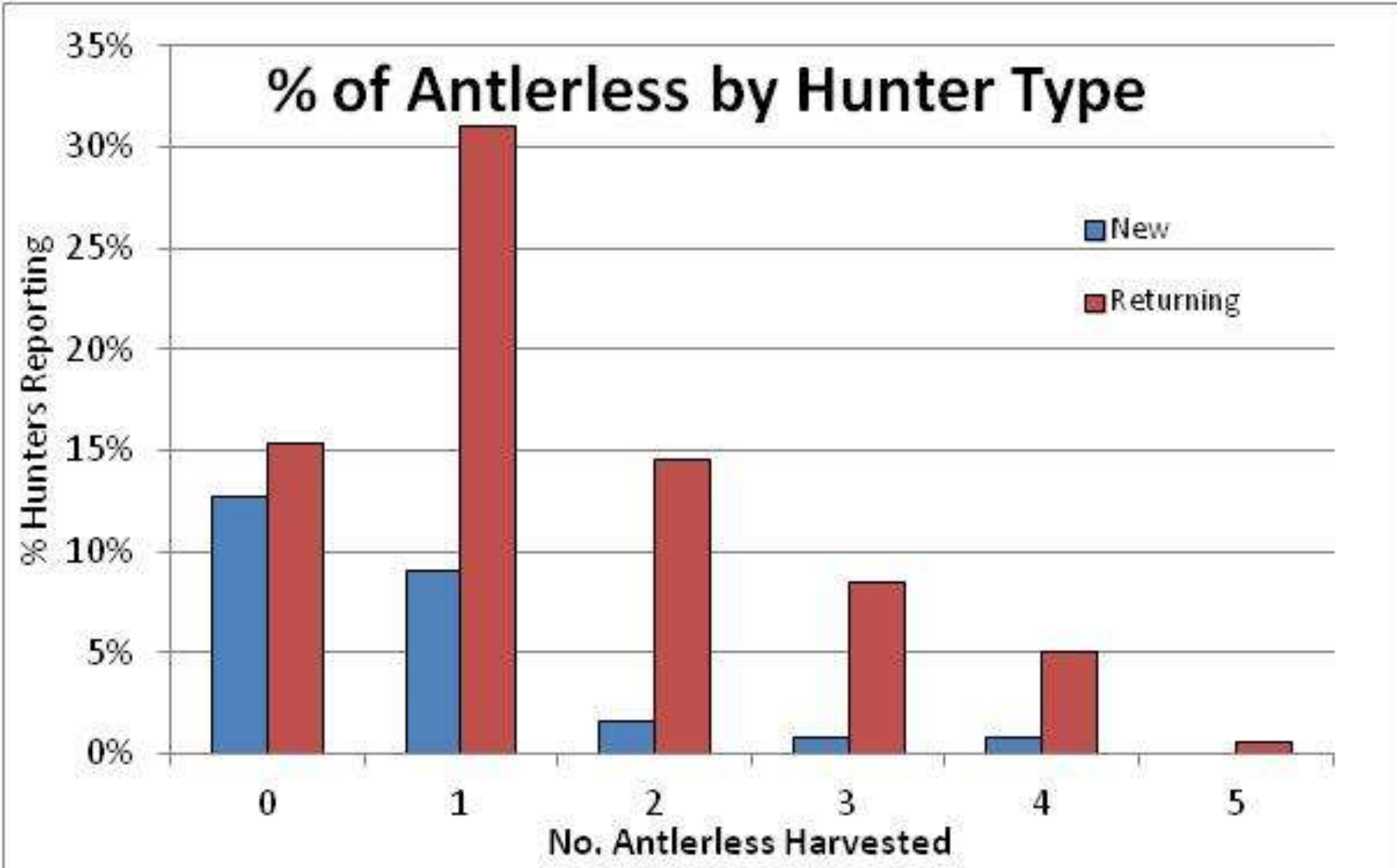
Returning vs. New Hunters

- 225 of 283 Returning Hunters Harvested:
 - 409 Antlerless
 - 98 Antlered
 - 79.5% of Returning Hunters registered a deer
- 46 of 94 New Hunters Harvested:
 - 67 Antlerless
 - 13 Antlered
 - 48.9% of New Hunters registered a deer

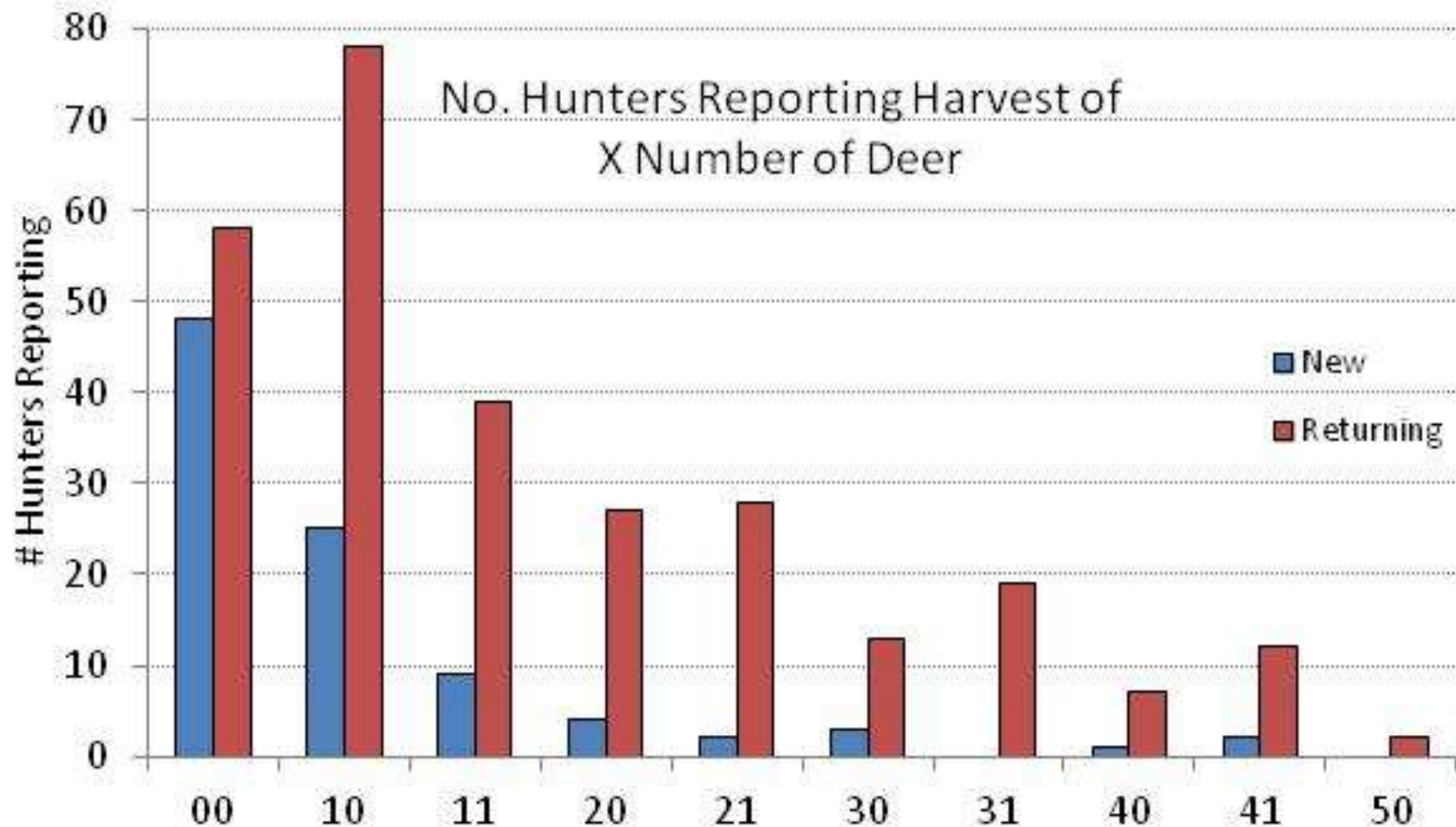
Antlerless Harvest



- Number of antlerless harvested by New and Returning Hunters.



- % of the antlerless harvest by New and Returning Hunters, by the number of antlerless registered, e.g. 15% of returning hunters registered 0 antlerless.



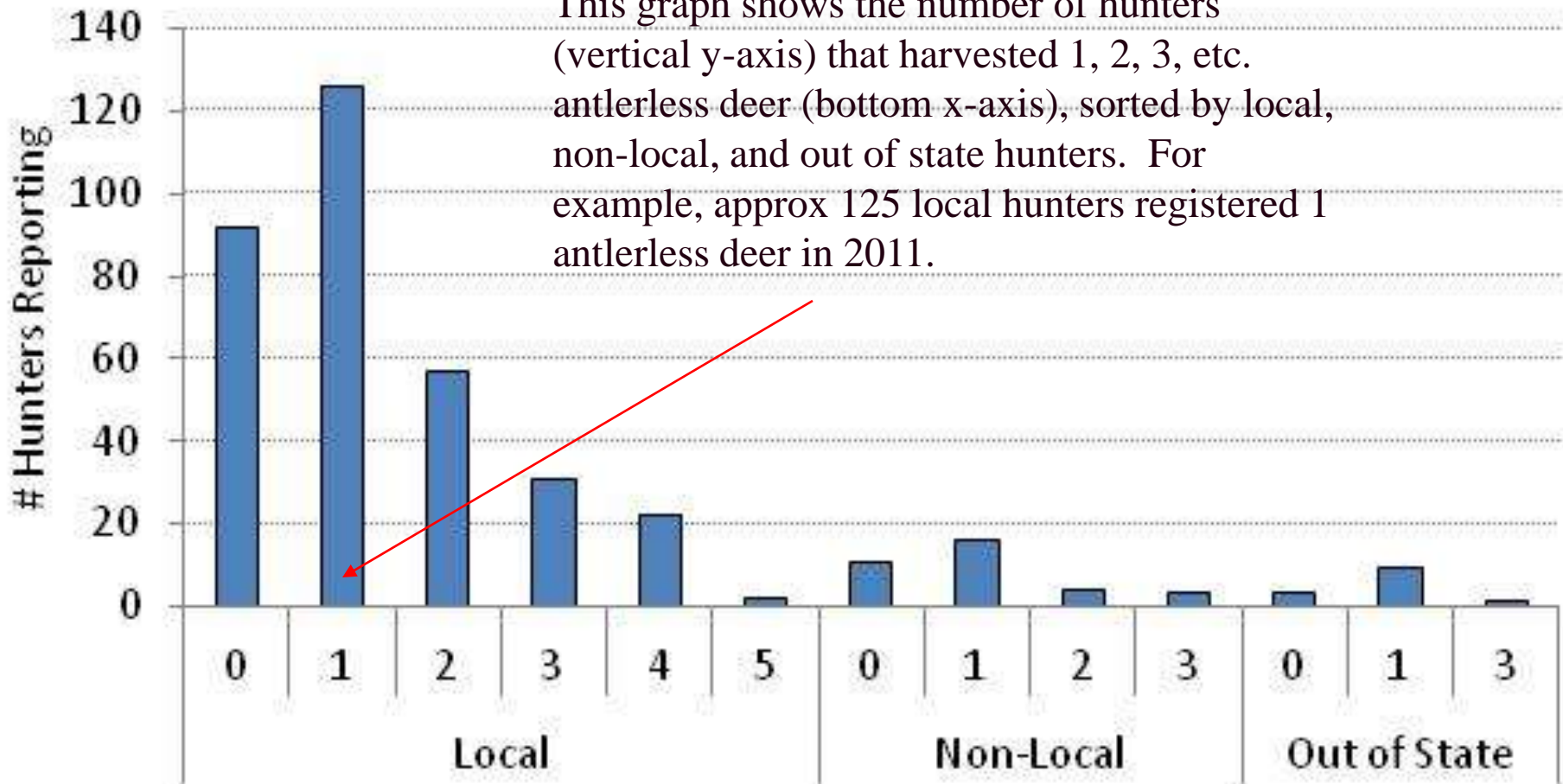
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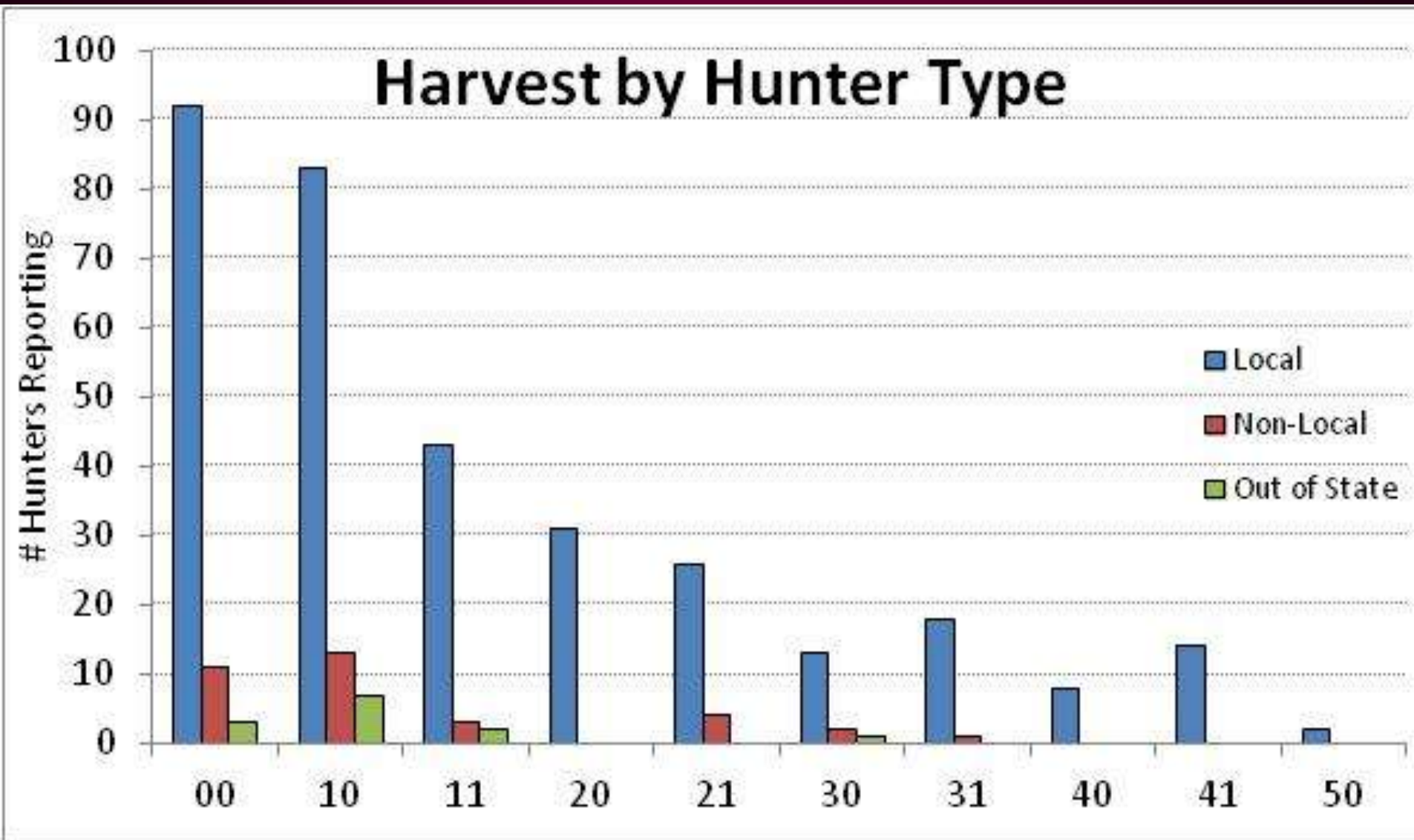
Local vs. Non-Local Hunters

	# Participating in 2011	# Antlerless
Locals	330	431
Non-Local MN	34	33
Out-of-Staters	13	12

Antlerless Harvest

This graph shows the number of hunters (vertical y-axis) that harvested 1, 2, 3, etc. antlerless deer (bottom x-axis), sorted by local, non-local, and out of state hunters. For example, approx 125 local hunters registered 1 antlerless deer in 2011.



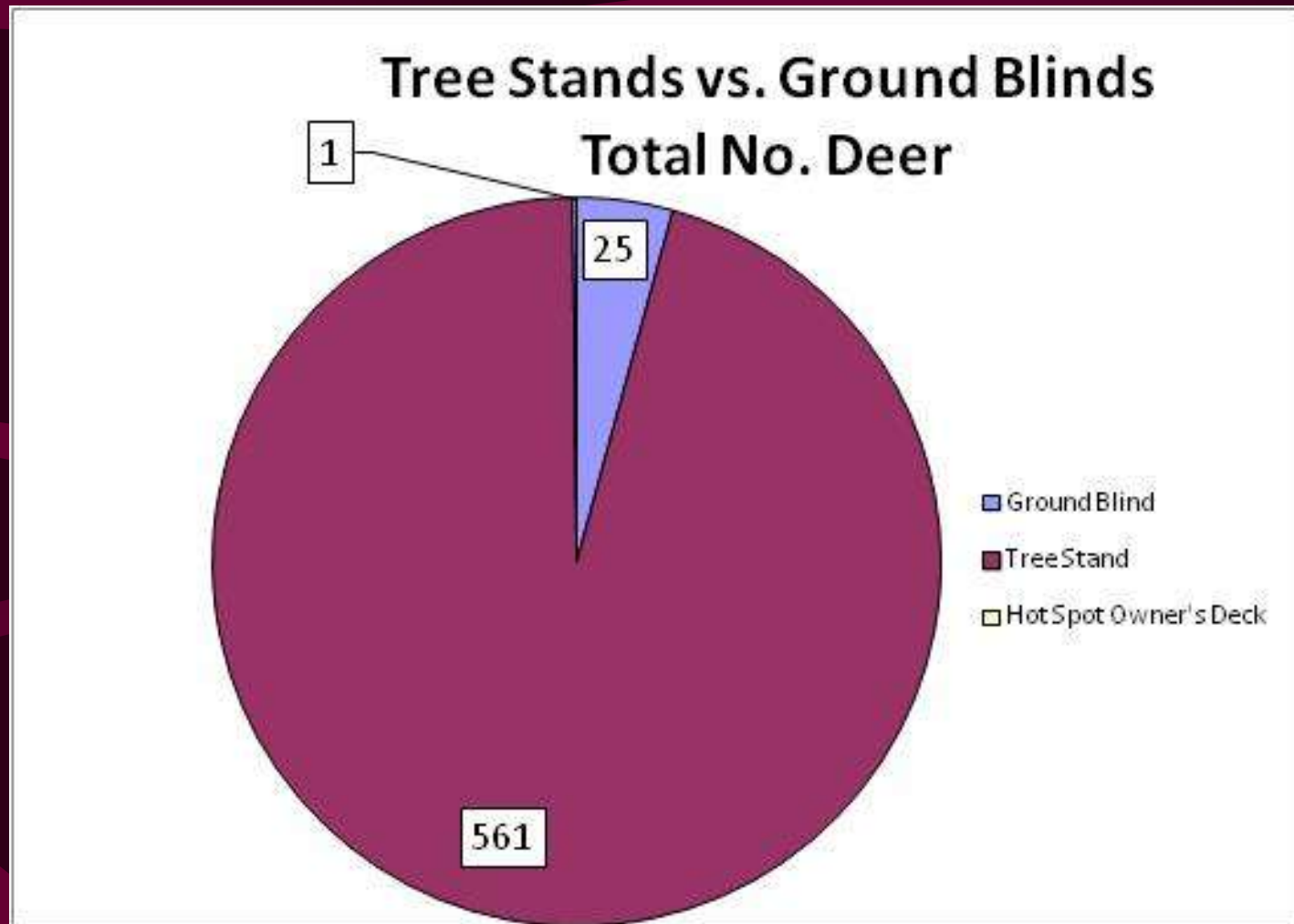


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- 10 means the hunter shot one antlerless, no bucks
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Local vs. Non-Local Hunters

- Non-locals accounted for 9.0% of the hunters (N=34), and 6.9% of the harvest
- Out-of-Staters accounted for 3.4% of the hunters (N=13) and 2.4% of the harvest
- Locals harvested 90.6% of does (N=431)
- Locals harvested 91.0% of bucks (N = 101)
- Non-locals harvested 6.9% of does (N=33)
- Non-locals harvested 7.2% of bucks (N=8)
- Out-of-Staters harvested 2.5% of does (N=12)
- Out-of-Staters harvested 1.8% of bucks (N=2)
- *Non-locals are hunters living further than Floodwood, e.g. Brainerd, Twin Cities*

Harvest from Tree Stands vs. Ground Blinds



Many asked for ground blinds, few used them

Zero incidents reported. Thank you for staying safe!!

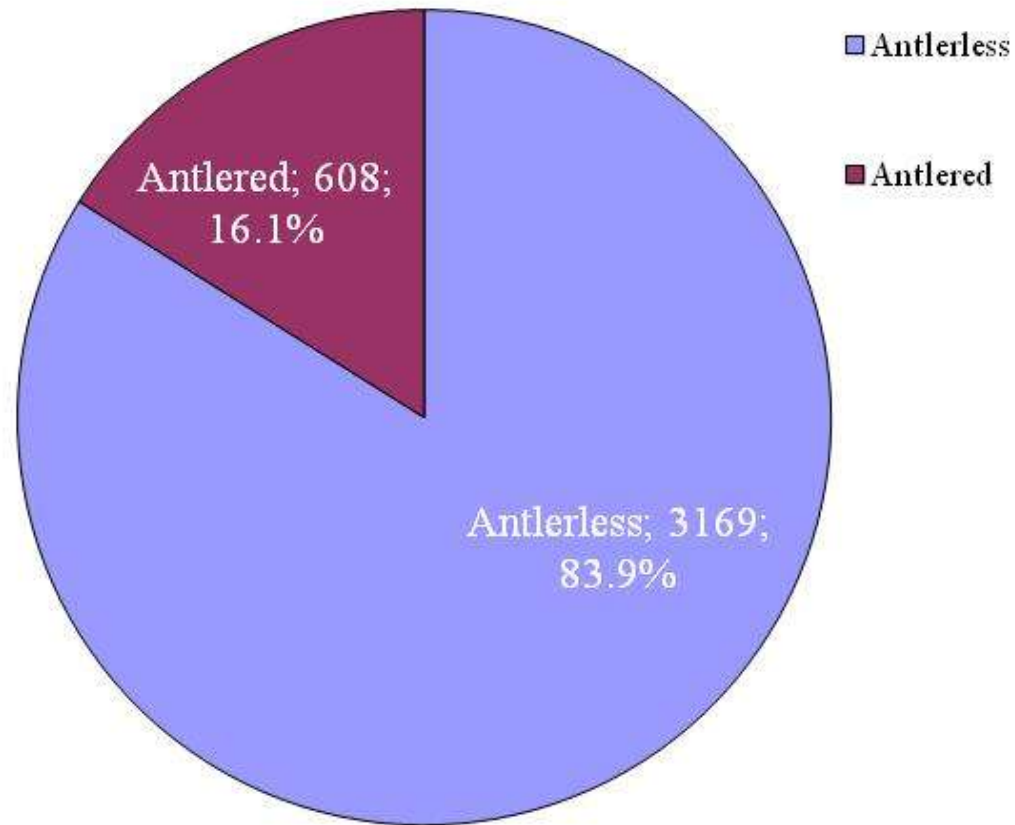
Venison Donation

- 340 harvested deer were reported as “Donated”
 - Includes Food Shelf, friends, family, etc.
 - 304 in 2009, 373 in 2010
- All or part of 57.9% of harvested deer were donated.

Lottery Results

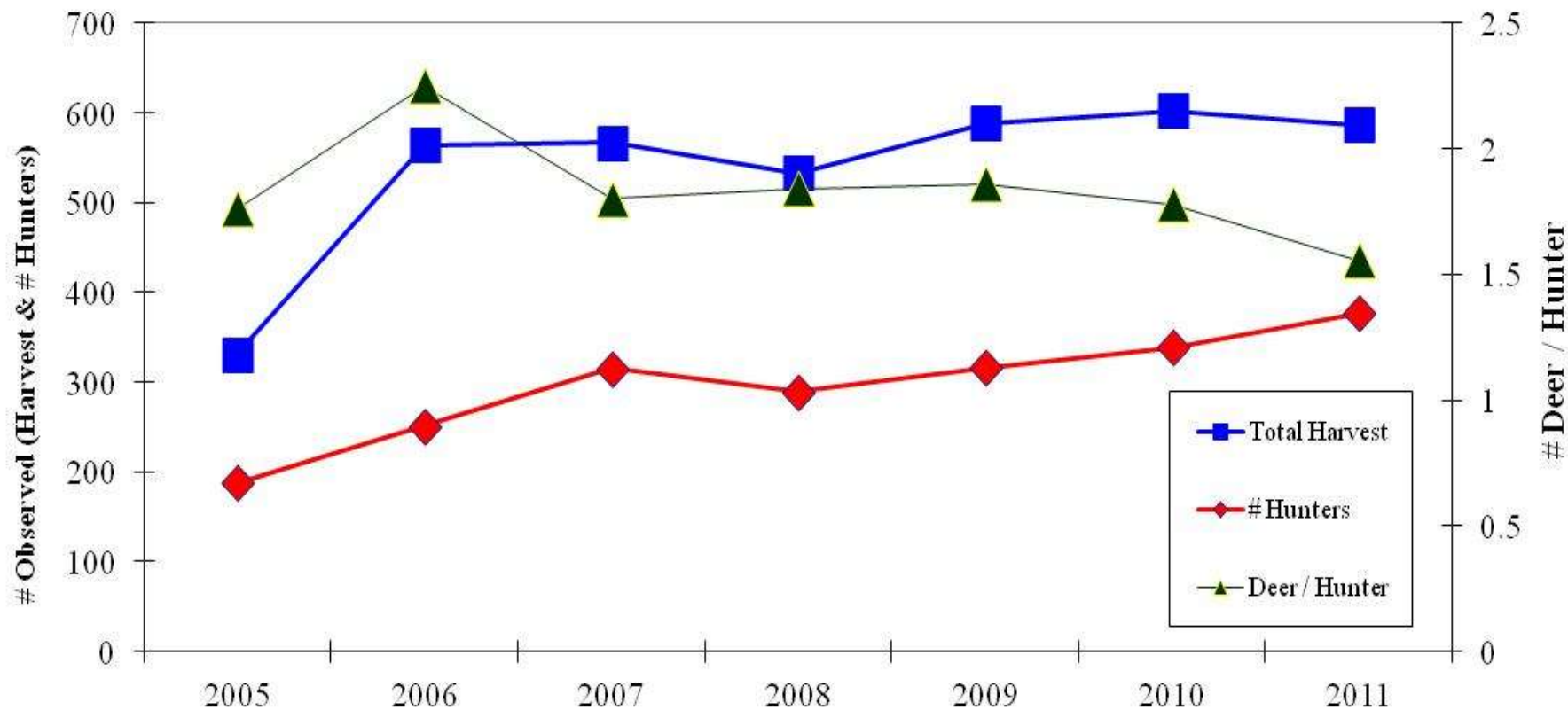
- **70.3%** of Returning Hunters received their 1st Choice DHA!
 - 180 hunters (out of 377 placed Hunters) got their first choice, and **DID NOT** have to attend the Lottery!
 - 85 Hunters received their First Choice at the Lottery
 - 8.2% received 2nd Choice DHA (N=31 Hunters)
 - 78.5% of Returning Hunters got to hunt where they wanted to!
- Hard to argue that the system isn't working well, in spite of what you might read or post online!

Harvest Summary 2005 - 2011



7 Year Total Harvest

3777 Deer in Seven Years!!!!



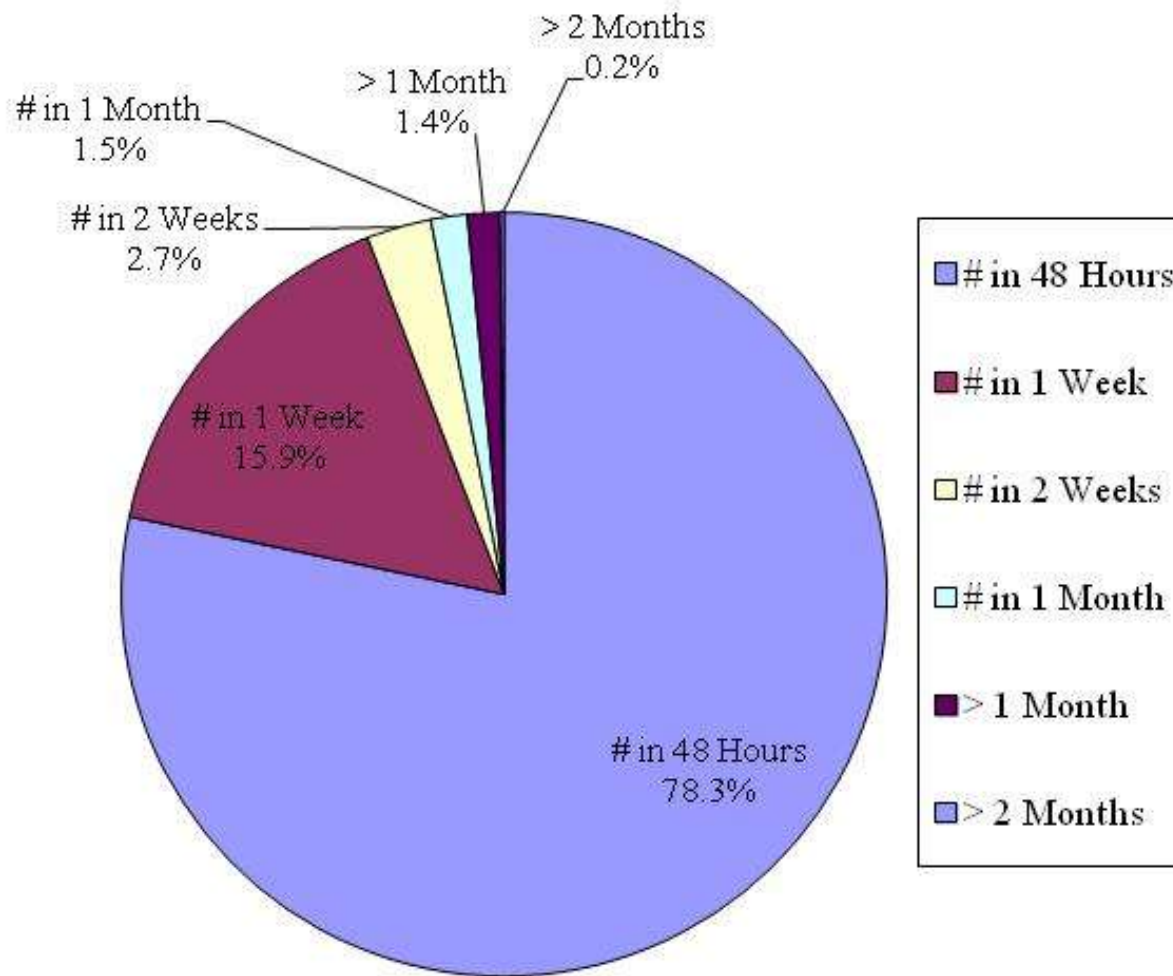
- Harvest essentially flat since 2006, maybe a tad up over last three years, but that may reflect the increase in hunter placement
- # deer / hunter fell to 1.5, lower in 2011
- # Hunters highest to date, but not resulting in an increase in total harvest

Compared to State Average

- Duluth Bowhunt saw an increase in hunter participation
- Harvest / Hunter declined slightly to 1.55 / Hunter
 - 1.78 Deer / Hunter in 2010
 - 1.86 Deer / Hunter in 2009
- Total Duluth harvest down **2.5%** from 2010 (587 vs. 602)
- Total Statewide deer harvest down 7.0% from 2010
- Statewide Archery harvest down 6.0% from 2010
- Permit 182 Harvest down 15.1%
 - 1804 in 2011 vs 2125 in 2010
 - 32.5% of Permit 182 harvest was in Duluth
- Not a bad showing by Duluth Bowhunters!

Mandatory Registration

- Rules Manual states that hunters have 48 hours to register their harvest.
- How'd we do?
- Much better than in years past! Thank You!



Time the Register

- 77.8% deer registered within 48 hours.
 - Up from 60.2% in 2008, 70.8% in 2009, and 76.2% in 2010.
 - So, Thank You!
- I can live with the 15.8% that did so within 1 week
- I'm pleased that we only had 6.0% registered late.
 - 11 deer registered > 30 days late
 - Only 1 deer registered > 90 days late!!!
 - This has improved greatly, and for that the ABA is very thankful.
 - Only 5 deer not registered until HCs called to remind!
 - Down from 35 in 2008, 16 in 2009, and 19 in 2010

A little about our Hunters

- The next few slides summarize a bit from the Year End Survey. These are based upon 275 responses from the 377 hunters. So if you're one of the 102 that just didn't give a rip about filling out the Survey, then please don't read on. . . . After all, you didn't care enough then, why should you care now. . .

	Survey Response Rate		
	# Survey Responses	275	
	# Hunters Placed	377	
	Response Rate	72.9%	
	Responsible for % harvest	84.84%	
	Final Total Harvest	587	
	Therefore, if hunter harvested deer, they were much more likely to fill in the Year End Survey		

Survey Response Rate

Response Rate by Hunter Type	
# Returning Hunters Surveyed	212
# New Hunters Surveyed	63
# Returning Hunters Placed	283
# New Hunters Placed	94
Response Rate of Returning Hunters	74.9%
Response Rate of New Hunters	67.0%

- Returning hunters were slightly more prone to go online and fill out the Year End Survey.

Who Resonded to Survey?							
						#	%
Survey Respondents Harvesting a deer						215	78.2%
Survey Respondents that did not Harvest a Deer						60	21.8%
Total Hunters that Harvested a Deer						271	71.9%
Total that Did Not Harvest a Deer						106	28.1%

- No real difference in the response rate between those that were successful and those that were not. Maybe if you harvested a deer, you might have been slightly more apt to go online and complete the survey.

Wounding Rates	
Total # Deer Reported:	498
Total # Wounded:	65
Total # shots:	563
Total # that did not die:	34
General Wounding Rate:	11.5%
Adjusted Wounding Rate:	5.5%

- Overall wounding was just over 11%, about the average in MN. Removing the deer that folks reported as being 100% sure survived, our wounding drops to 5.5%.

After being given a DHA, did you Hunt in Duluth in 2011?	
Yes I did!	266
No, I did not.	9
Total	275
% that did hunt	96.7%

Approx 97% of hunters placed at Lottery did actually hunt in 2011. This is up slightly from the last time the survey was done in 2009.

**If you Bowhunted, did you bowhunt
anywhere in MN other than Duluth in
2011?**

Yes I did.	195
No, I only hunted in Duluth.	78
Total	275

% Seeking other Hunting Spots	70.9%
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- Note that this includes several individuals that reported that they just never got out into the woods to participate in 2011.

**Do you plan on participating again in the
Duluth Hunt in 2011?**

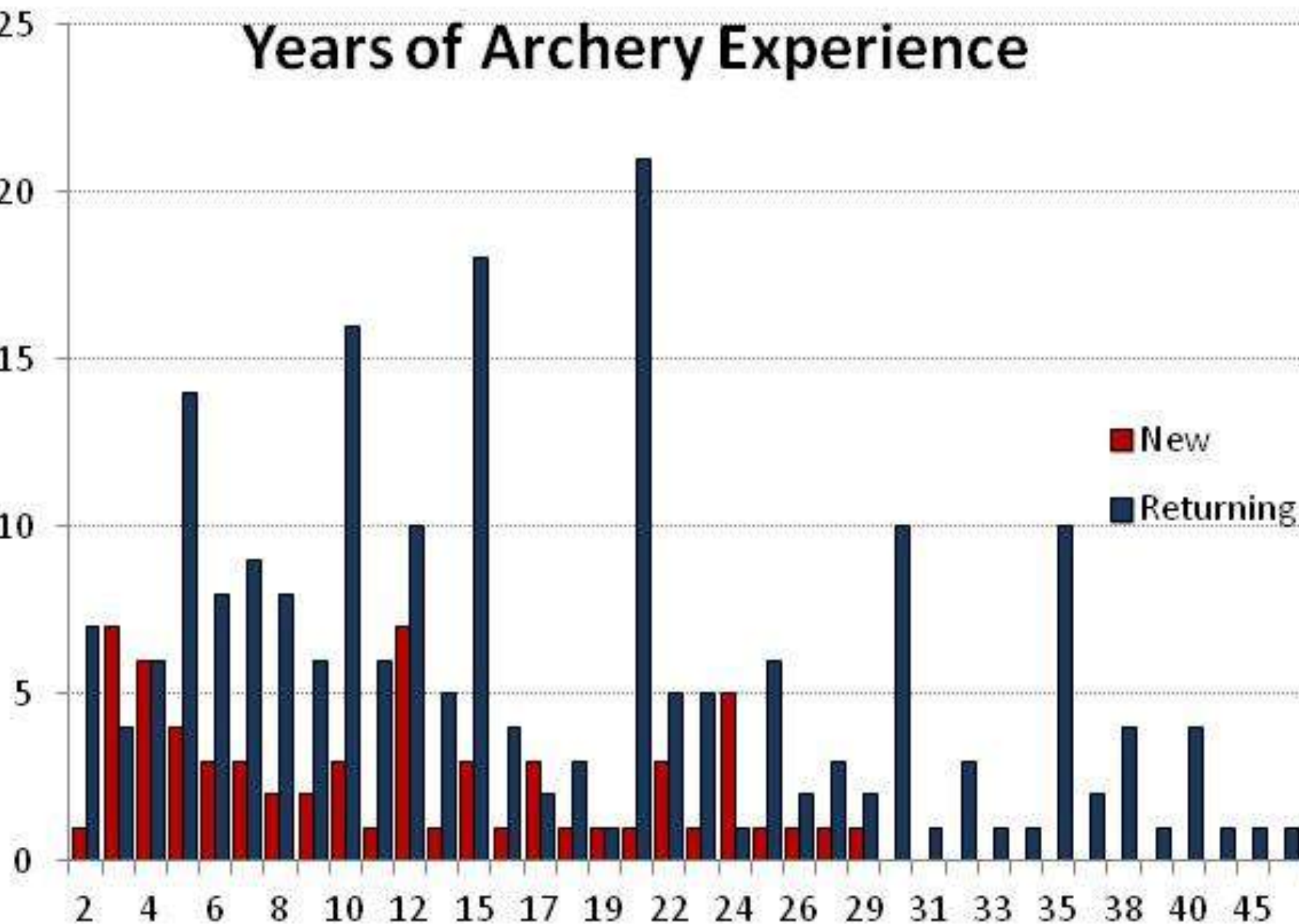
Yes	271
No	4
Total	275
% planning on hunting in 2010	98.55%

- This means that the ABA will not need to hold hands and encourage you to get all of your materials in by the 30 June 2012 deadline, as it looks like we'll have another full roster of hunters.

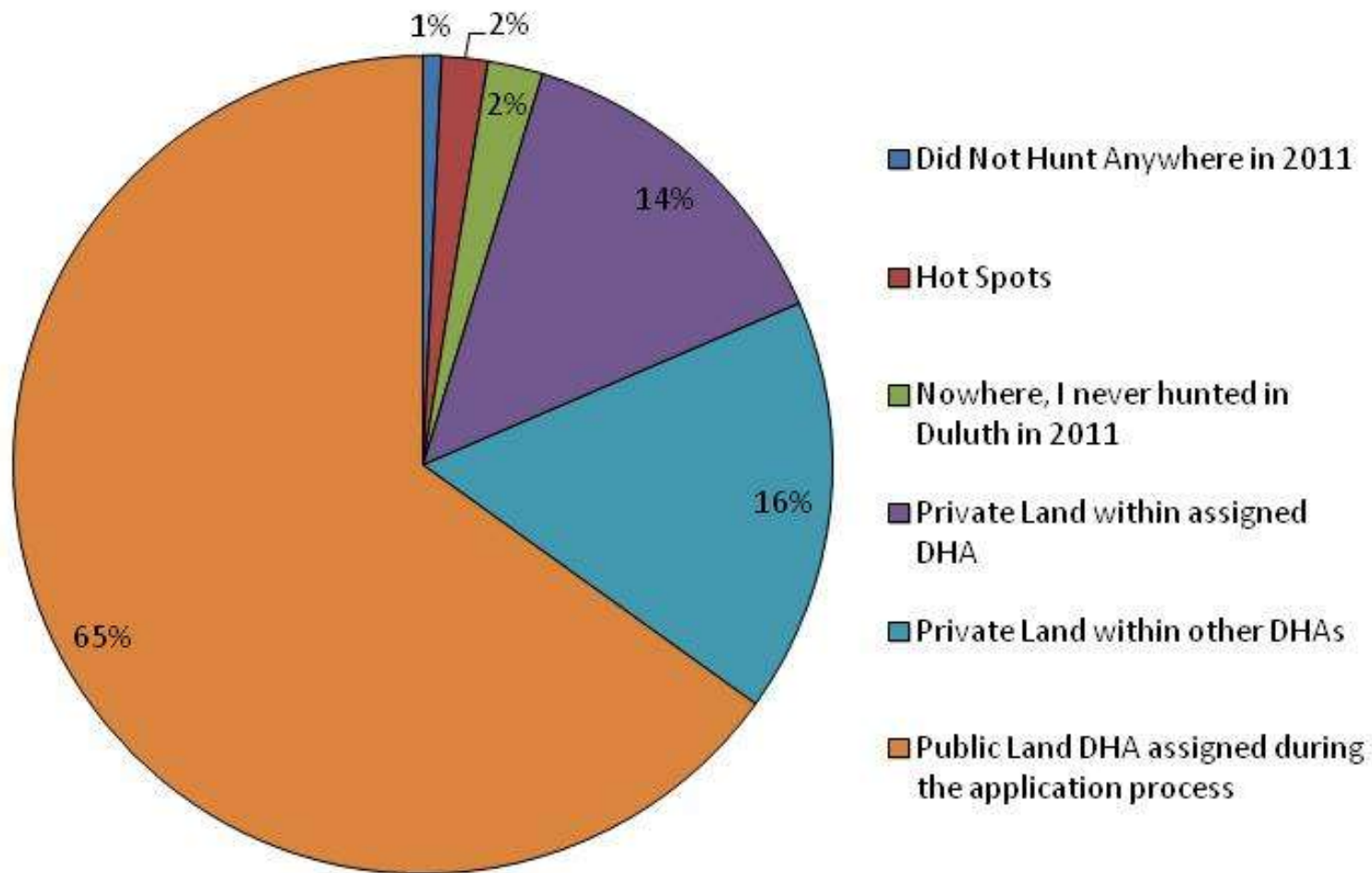
Years of Archery Experience

No. Respondents

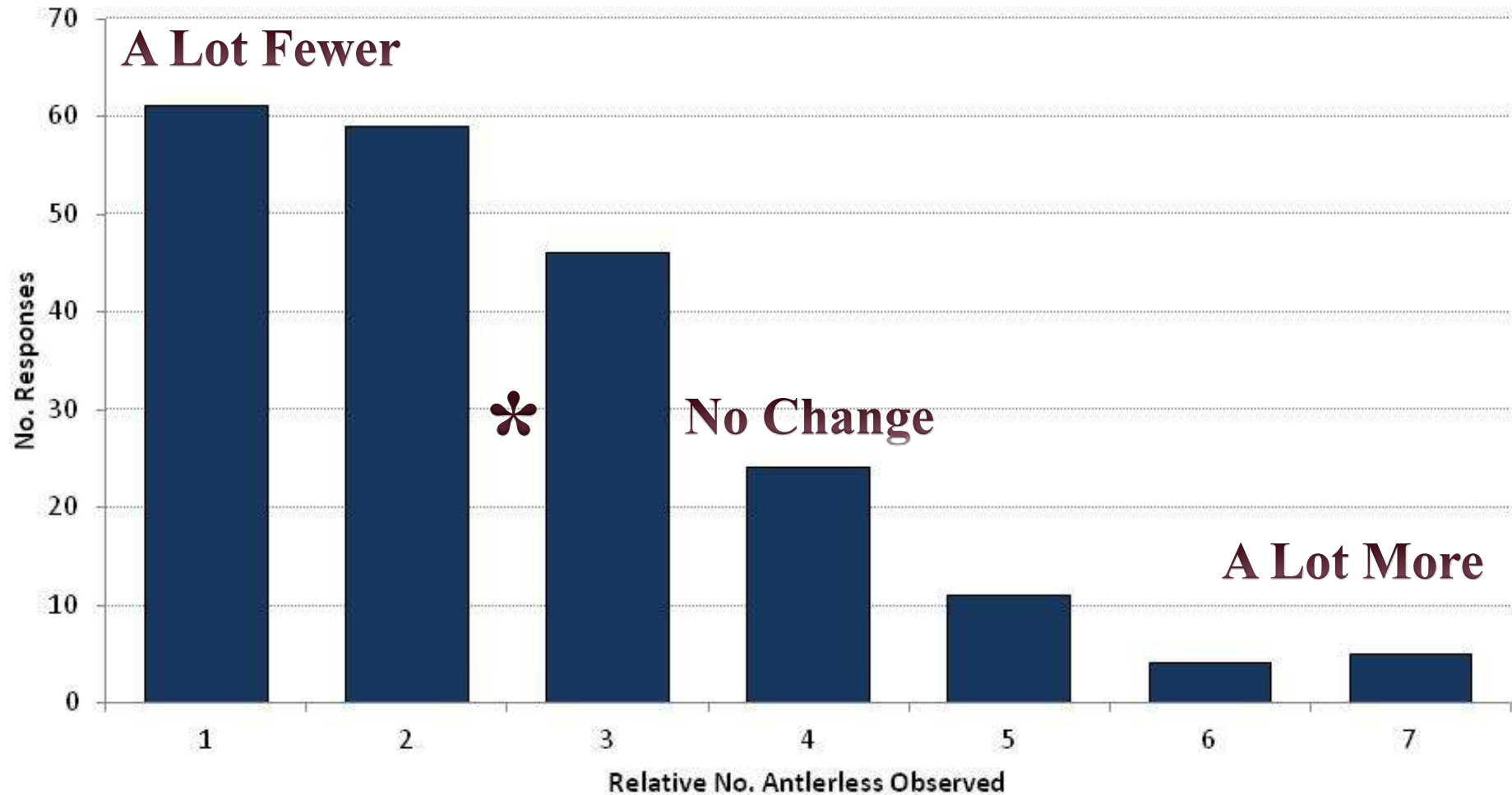
New
Returning



Where did Hunters spend the majority of their Stand Time?

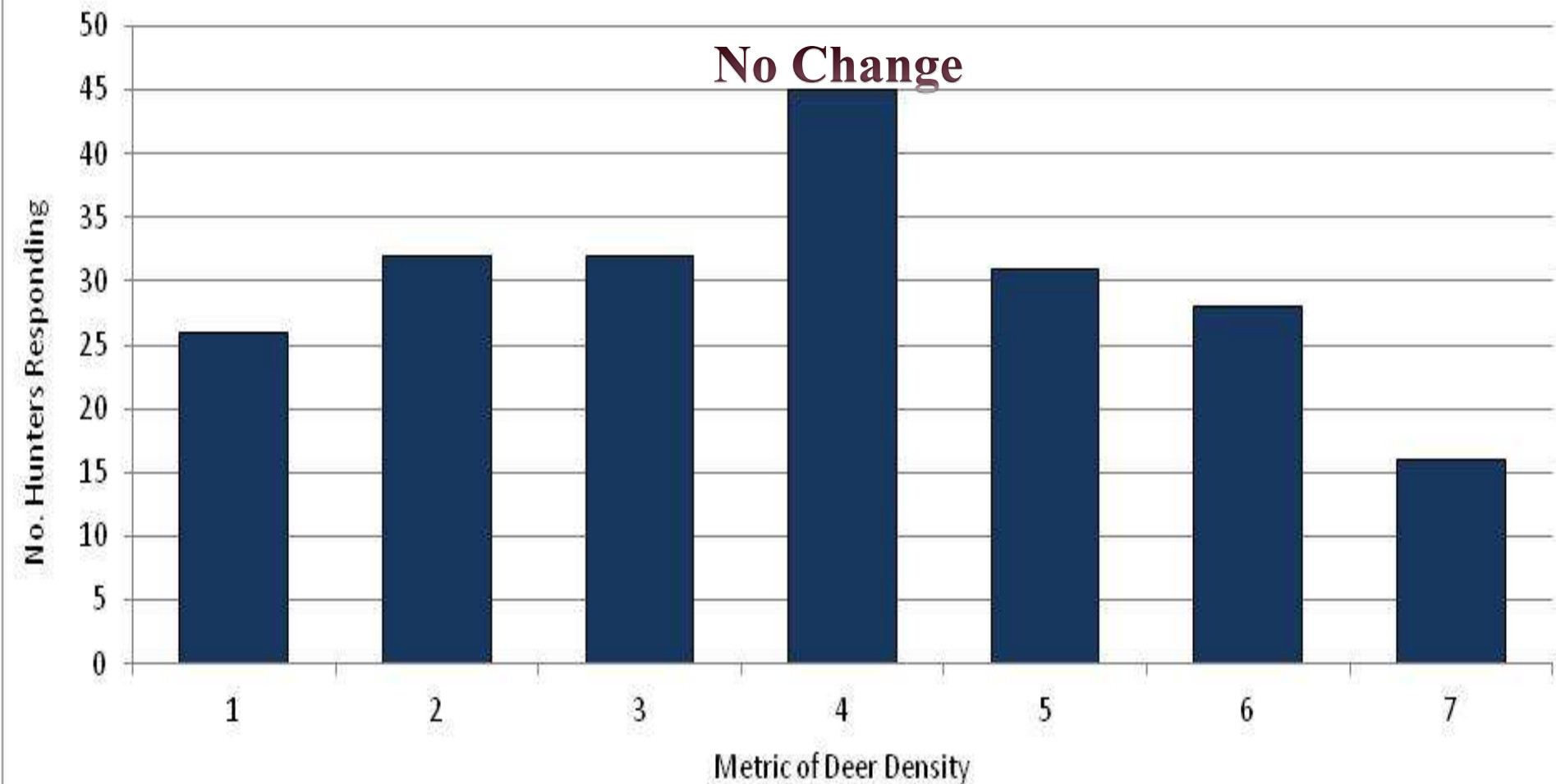


Antlerless Observed (Returning Hunters Only)

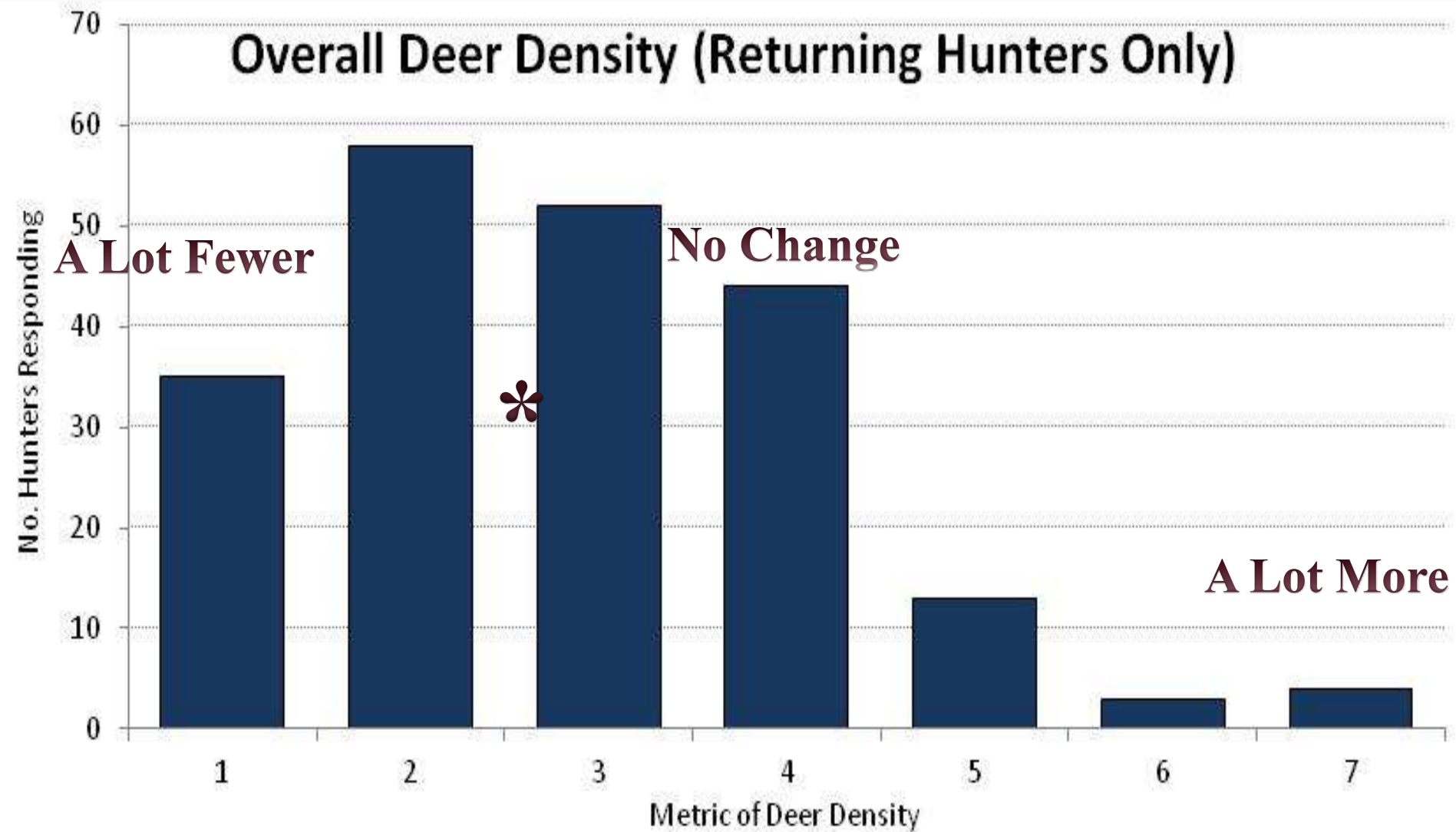


- Average for returning hunters was 2.5 ± 0.2 , indicating that returning hunters observed fewer antlerless deer than in years past.

Antlered Observed (Returning Hunters Only)

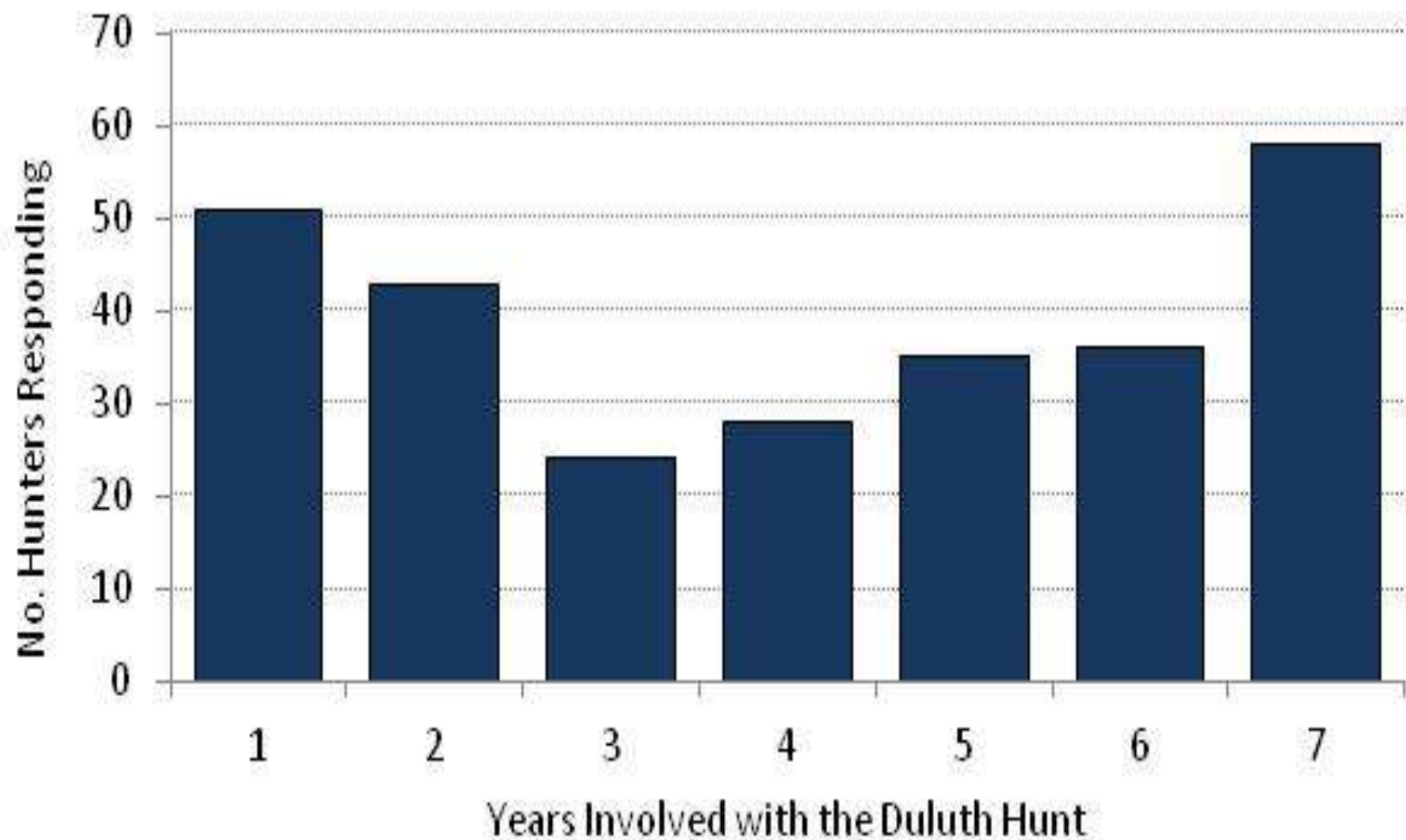


The average was 3.8 ± 0.2 , indicating that returning hunters saw about the same number of antlered individuals as in years past.

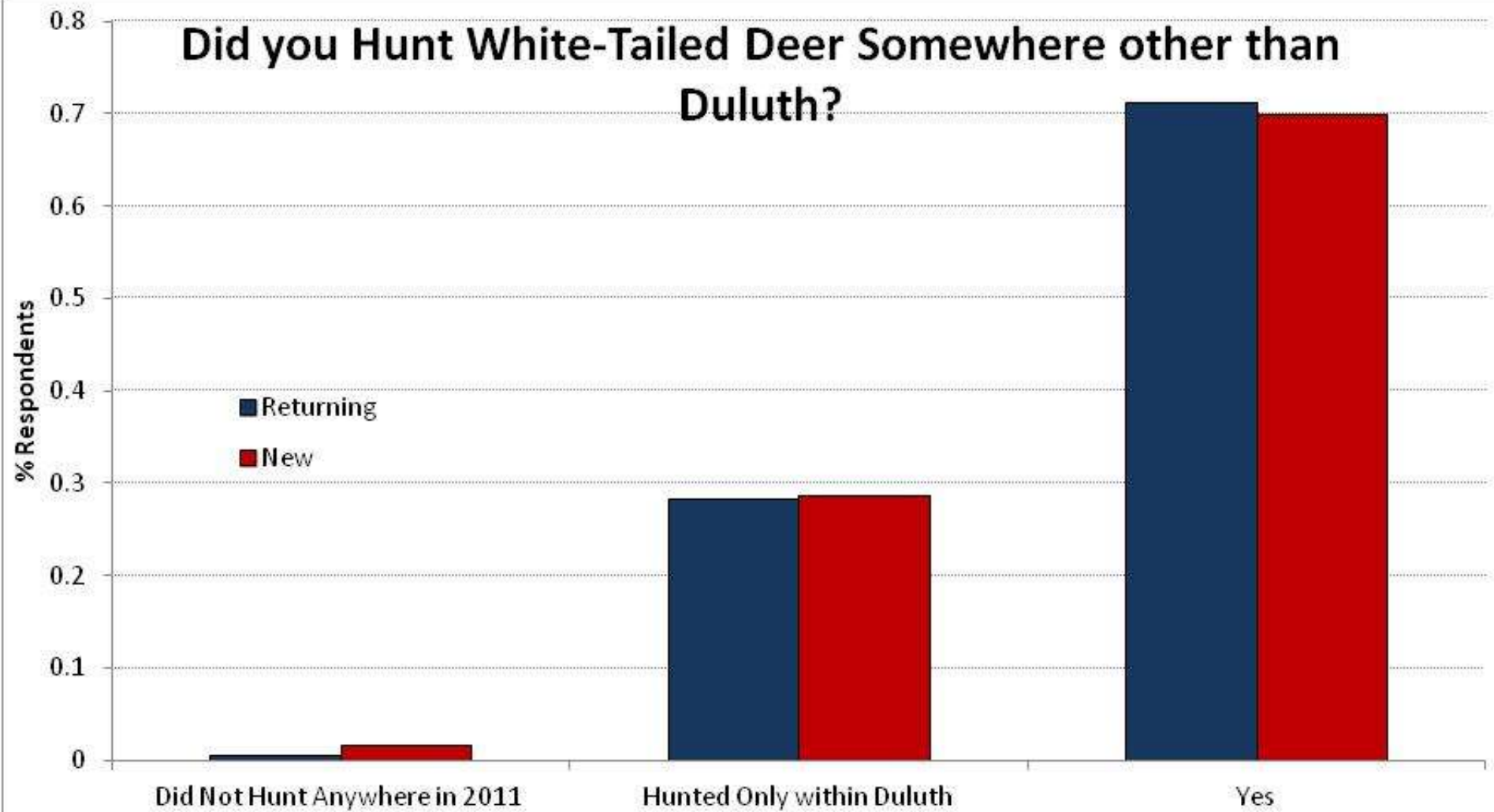


- Average was 2.8 ± 0.2 , indicating that returning hunters saw slightly less deer than in years past.

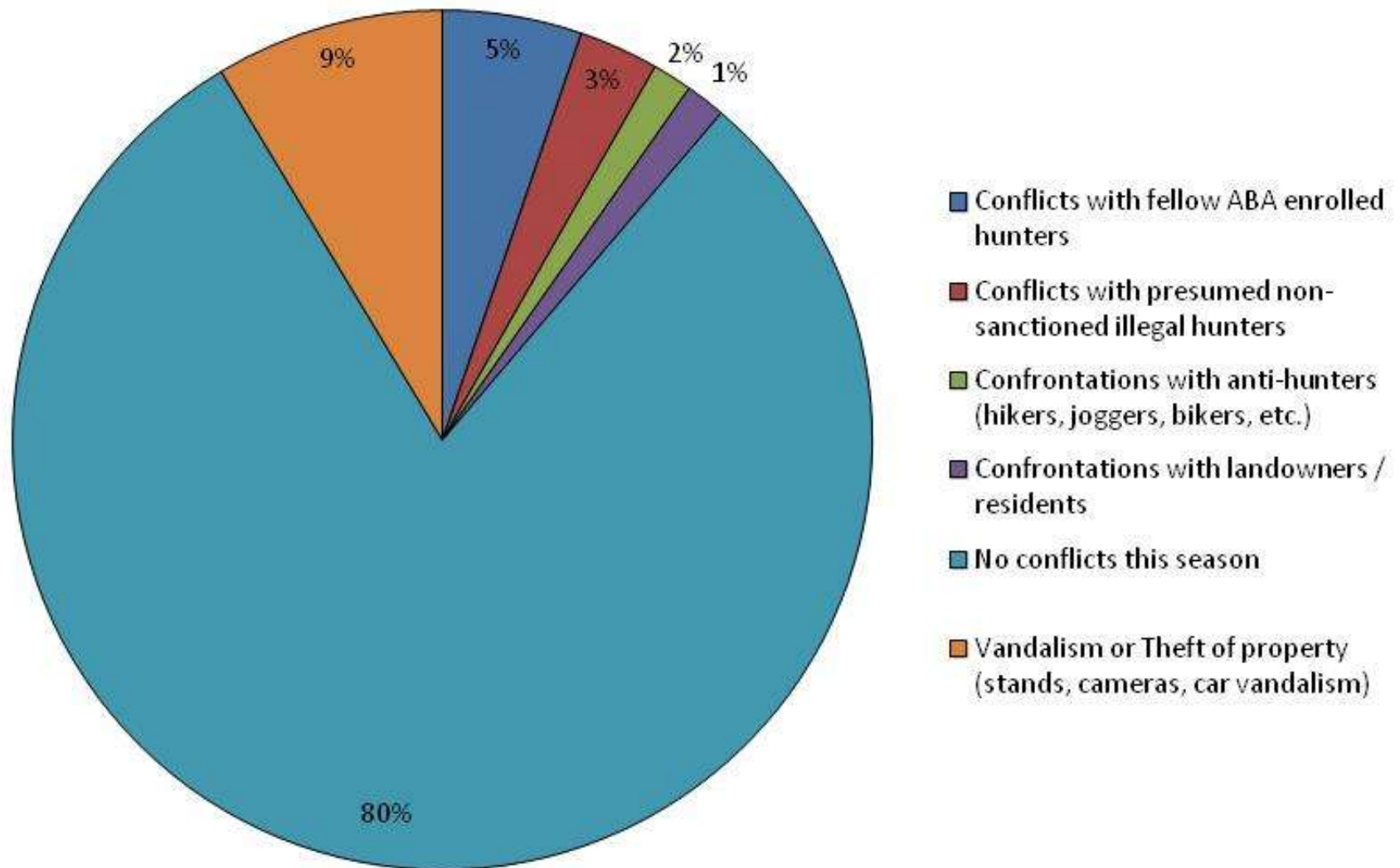
Years as an ABA Hunter



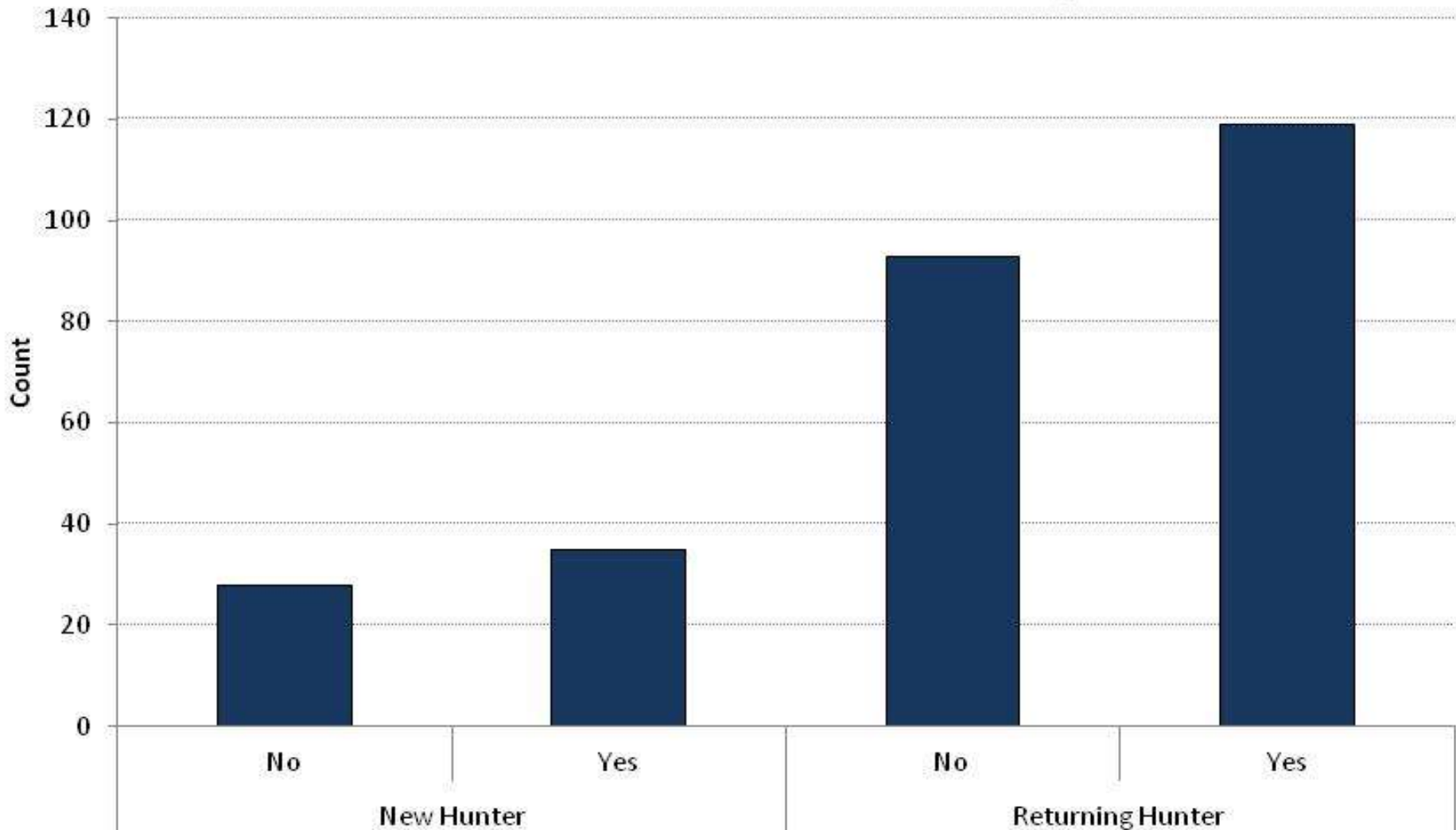
Did you Hunt White-Tailed Deer Somewhere other than Duluth?



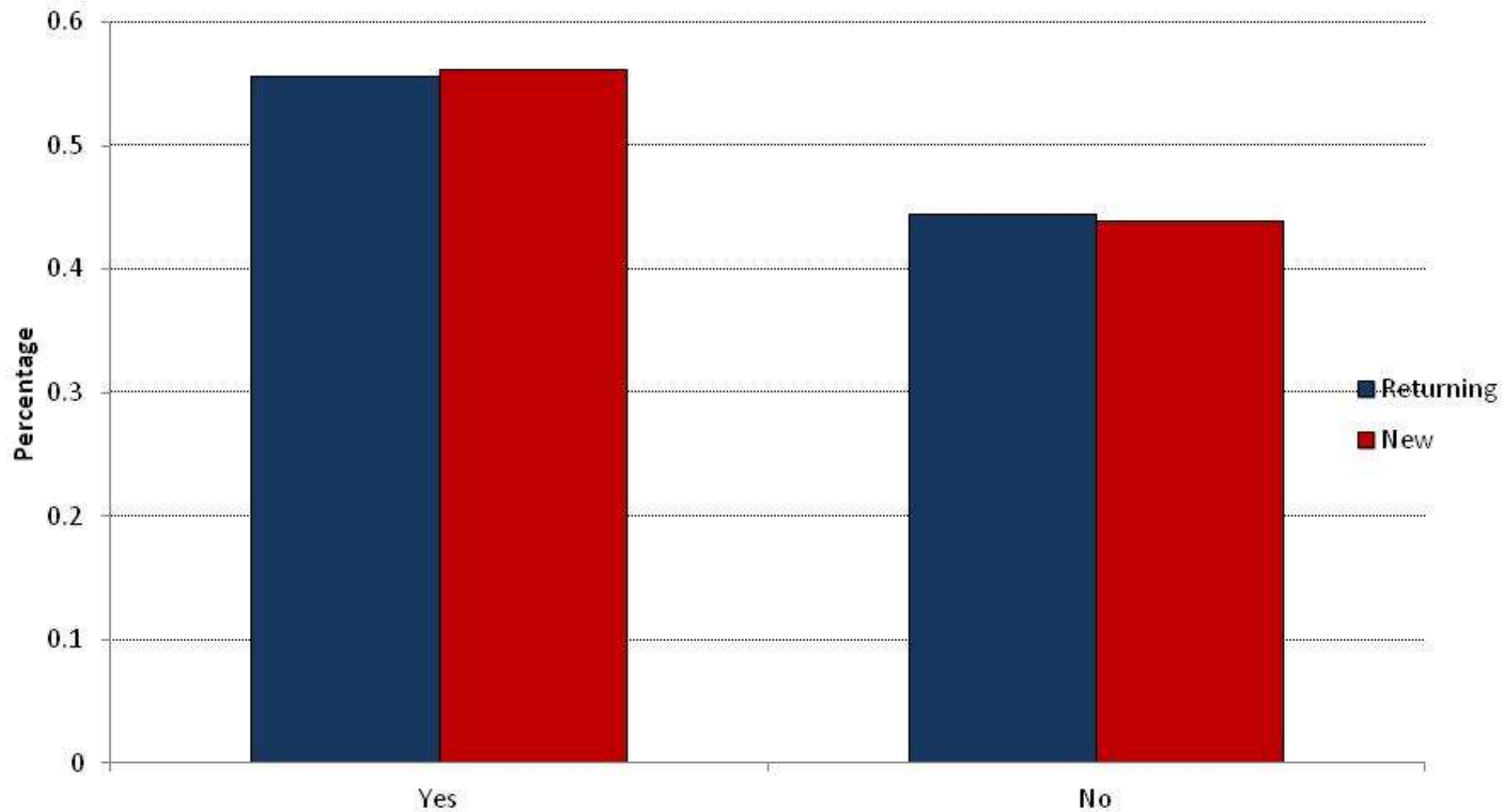
Most Significant Source of Conflict in 2011



Permit Area 182 Unlimited Antlerless Tags?

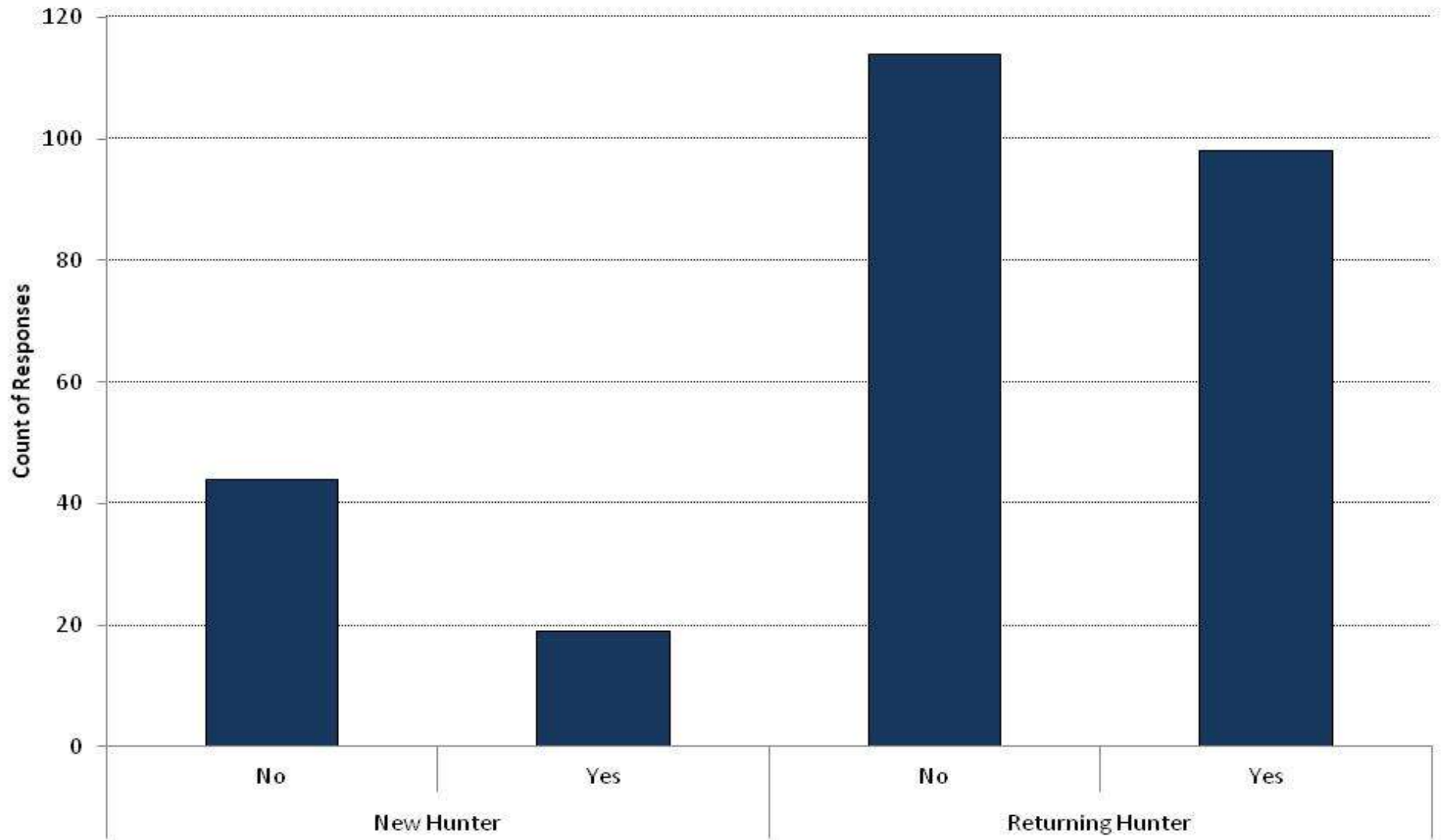


Overall, more hunters were in favor of the MNDNR creating a special Urban Deer Management Unit with unlimited tags available for purchase.



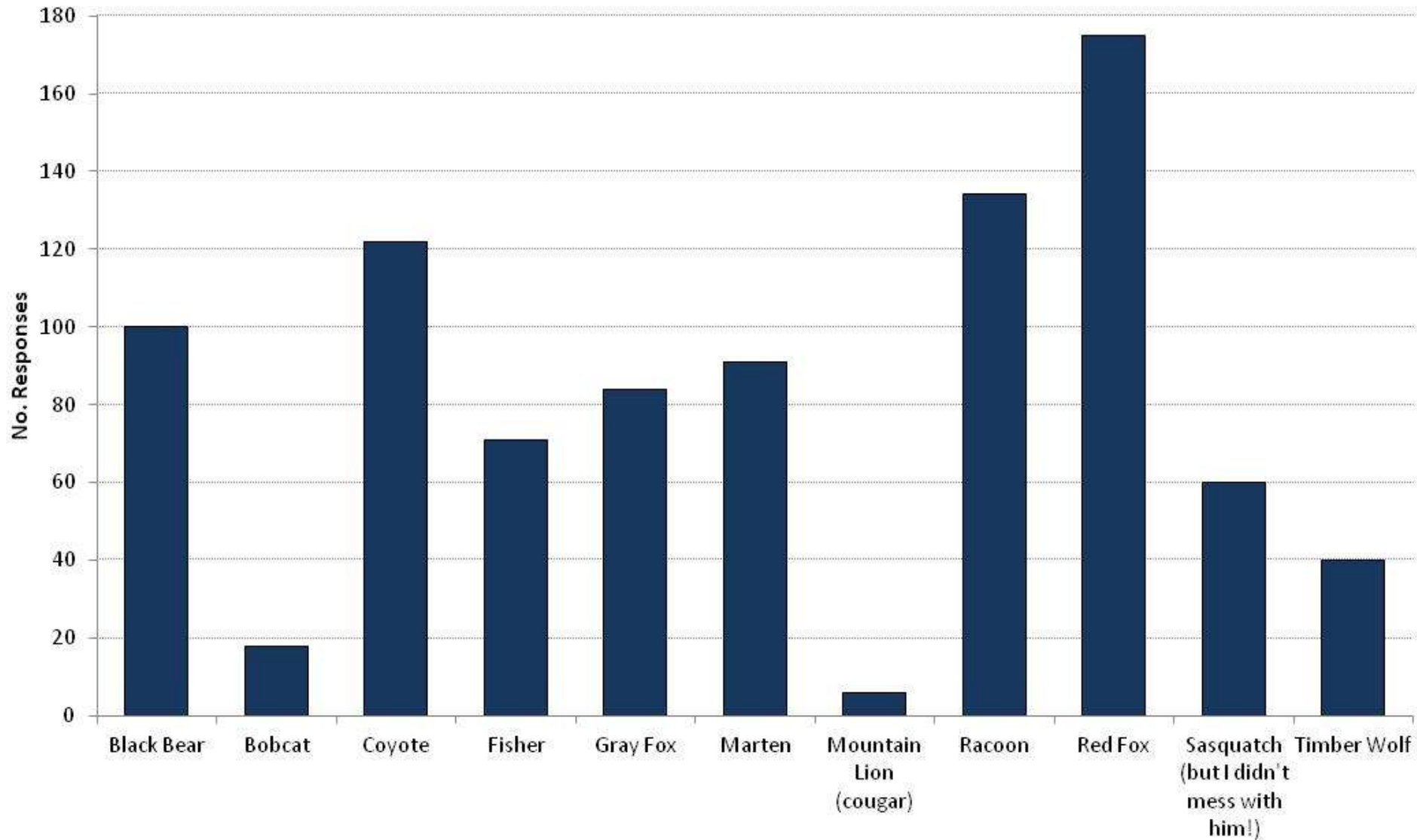
Indicates that the percentage of hunters favoring the creation of a special Urban Deer Management Unit is the same for New and Returning Hunters.

Could you have Harvested a Black Bear while on Stand?



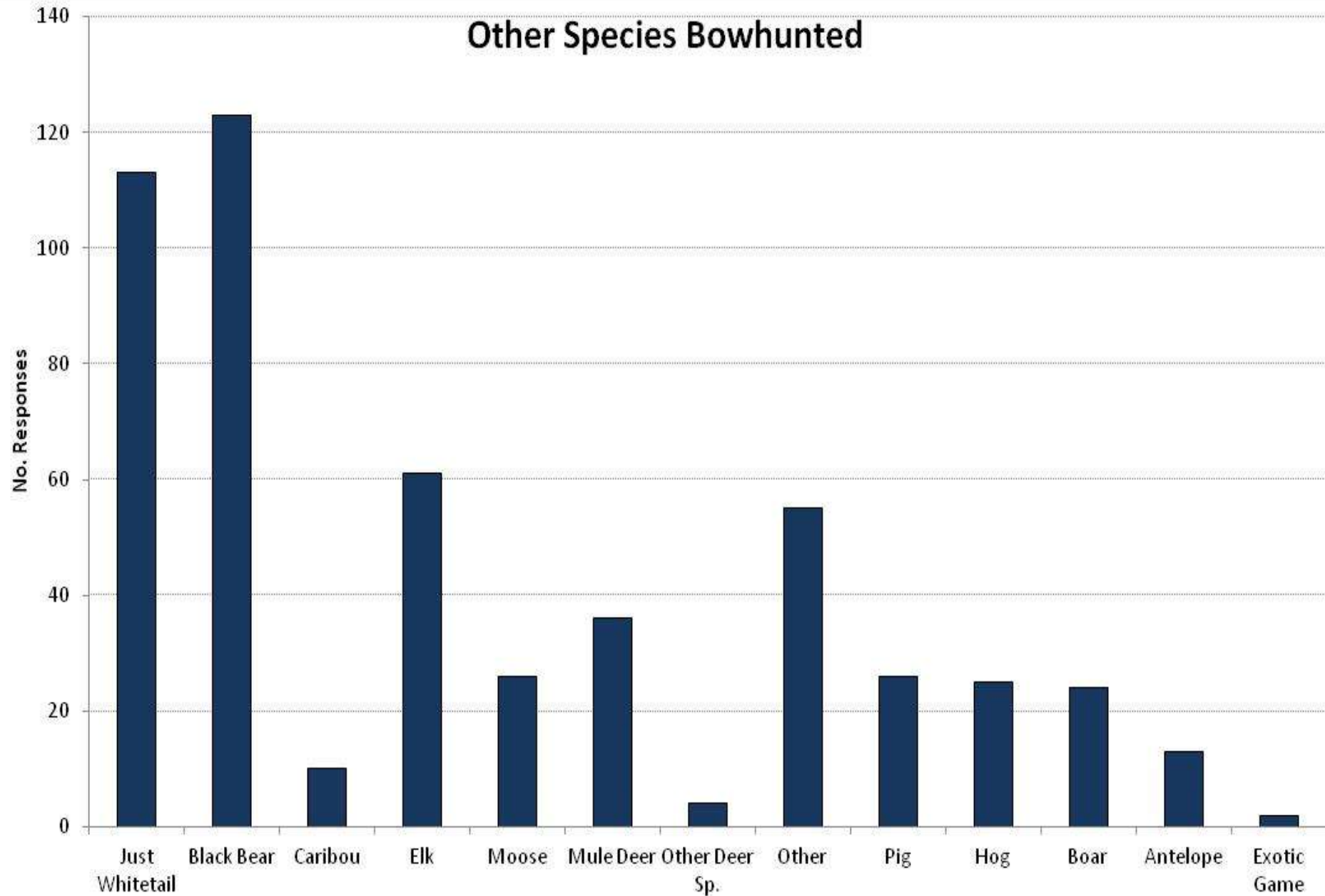
- Is this real, or is there a B.S. factor from hunters wanting this opportunity?

What other Wildlife did you Observe?



- Observations from a tree stand or trail cameras

Other Species Bowhunted



Comments from the Masses:

You all were given the opportunity to comment on whatever you wanted. The question was worded:

“Do you have any ideas or suggestions for improving the Hunt in 2012?”

Well, as can be expected, the responses were all over the place. Many were useful. Some not so much. The following pages show the general category of the responses, along with the number of hunters that made the suggestion. For some, the ABA Board has commented. Others don't warrant an official ABA position.

Enjoy!

Open up Hot Spots to more Hunters / More Hot Spots	13	
Liberalize Earn-a-Buck	13	
More Buck Tags Per Hunter	13	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.
Too Many Hunters	15	Discussions are pending.
Good Job, Thank you!	33	Thank you.

Allow Bucks in Hot Spots	4	
Fewer Antlerless Tags / Hunter	4	MNDNR decision, not an ABA nor City one.
Cheaper tags for Out-of-State Hunters	5	This is how the MN DNR makes money. Sorry, but this is a State Statute.
More Antlerless Tags Per Hunter	6	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.
No Proficiency for Returning Hunters	7	City Ordinance, not an ABA decision.
Free Tags	8	This is how the MN DNR makes money. Sorry, but this is a State Statute. If you want to play, you will have to pay.

Enforce ABA Rules Consistently	3	We Try. Please contact us directly to discuss where we have fallen short.
Anything goes in December (<i>shoot whatever you want, e.g. no earn-a-buck</i>)	3	
No Orientation for Returning Hunters	3	So, you all want to just stop over to Bork's or Lockett's, and have them individually hand out 350+ maps and Rules manuals at your convenience? Talk about a waste of time, but maybe their time is insignificant to your precious time.
Allow Baiting	3	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.
Lack of Communication (<i>both between Board and hunters and between HCs and hunters</i>)	3	Seriously? How many emails do you want from Bork?

Allow hunting from Ground (<i>no blind, just stalking</i>)	2	City Ordinance, not an ABA decision. Be safe, and stay in your tree.
Online Lottery, no Meeting at UMD	2	That's up to the hunters. Bork would LOVE to do this, but he doesn't want to be accused of running a "Good Ole' Boys Club". Which is why we do it in the presence of a crowd of witnesses.
City Designated a Special Permit Area	2	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.
Harvest Wolves	3	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.
Good Old Boys Club	3	Seriously? Will this label ever go away?

DHA Preference for Seniors	1	
Postpone Daylight Savings Time for more Hunting Time after Work	1	Seriously? This just HAS to be a joke, right? If not, well, the ABA has nothing further to say about this suggestion.
Too many Rifle Hunters	2	
DHA Preference for Residents	2	
Longer Season thru Winter	2	ABA can't do anything about a MN State Statute.

Two Antlerless to Earn a Buck	1	
Limit amount of Private Land per Hunter	1	
Too Many Rules	1	Consider hunting in MN outside of the City. Not as many hoops to jump through.
Landowners automatically get DHA that their property is located in	1	

Questions?

- If they're legitimate questions, ask Bork
- If you just want to vent or complain about the Hunt, please direct that to infoduluthhunt@gmail.com