

DEER HARVEST REPORT 2003 **THE BLACK ROCK FOREST**

THE SEASON

November 17 to December 9

Opening day was foggy and wet, temperatures in the mid 40⁰'s, 101 Hunters only managed to harvest 9 Bucks, due to the dense afternoon fog. Finally clearing and cooling the first weekend, hunting conditions improved. The only snow fell the last weekend of the season (18") closing vehicle access and dramatically limiting hunter usage. During the 23-day season 163 Hunters visited the forest 590 times, harvesting 30 Buck and 10 Does, totaling 40 Deer.

SEASON HUNTING PRESSURE AND SUCCESS RATE

Year	HUNTER		PERMITS		VISITS PER		DMU		DMP		SUCCESS RATE	
	HUNTERS	VISITS	(VEHICLES)	HUNTER	HUNTERS	VISITS	HUNTERS	VISITS	BUCKS	TOTAL		
1993-2002												
Average	185	580	412	3.1	49	133	*	*	14%	23%		
Range (Hi-Low)	208-153	695-384	510-275	3.3 - 2.5	127 - 52	*	*	*	20% - 7%	29% - 13%		
2003	163	590	428	3.0	67	188	49	133	18%	25%		

PERMITS AND LICENSES FILLED

<u>Type</u>	<u>Number Harvested</u>
Big Game	26
Deer Management Permit	10
Deer Management Assistance Program	4
	40

ZONE	ACRES	HUNTER VISITS	BUCKS	DOES
I	450	77	2	3
II	520	96	8	2
III	450	64	3	2
IV	460	92	3	0
V	400	103	3	1
VI	500	54	4	0
VII	150	25	1	0
VIII	330	73	4	2
MINERAL SPRINGS	120	6	2	0
TOTAL	3380	590	30	10

Deer Harvest Report 2003 continued...

THE DEER

The harvest produced 40 kills.

1) Rifle Season – 40 Deer 30 Bucks 10 Does

Bucks: (30)

Fawns: (3)

Three button bucks harvested, two at 50 lbs. and one at 66 lbs. dressed.

Yearlings (15)

The Yearling age class, as did last year, shows good promise of health and quality. One-third of Yearlings harvested were 6-point racks, with two weighing 110 and 118 lbs. dressed. The lower one-third of the yearling harvest were spikes and one buck had broken antlers. Averaging all yearling bucks demonstrated beam diameter, weight and antler points were above the previous 12-year average.

		<u>YEARLING MALES</u>														
TOTAL													(mm)	(lbs.)	% OF	
YEAR	YEARLINGS	<u>ANTLER POINT CLASS</u>										sub	ANTLER POINTS	BEAM DIAMETER	BODY WEIGHT	LEGAL BUCK TAKE
		SPK	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	legal			(dressed)		
1990 - 2002																
TOTAL	202	89	31	52	12	10	1	1	0	0	5					
AVERAGE	16	-----PER YEAR-----													58%	
		-----PER DEER-----										3.1	15.9	89		
RANGE (hi - low)	7 - 31	-----PER YEAR-----										3.7 - 2.3	16.7 - 14.7	94 - 84	83% - 29%	
2003	15	5	1	1	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	16.7	90	55%	

Adults (12)

Adult bucks continue to make up nearly half the legal buck take. Improvements of weights and antler beam diameter were evident from last year.

		2 1/2 YEAR OLDS															
													(mm)	(lbs.)	% OF		
YEAR	2 1/2 year	ANTLER POINT CLASS										sub	ANTLER POINTS	BEAM DIAMETER	BODY WEIGHT	LEGAL BUCK TAKE	
		SPK	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	legal				(dressed)		
1990 - 2002																	
TOTAL	94	4	4	15	14	30	9	18	0	0	0						
AVERAGE	7	-----PER YEAR-----															26%
		-----PER DEER-----															
RANGE (hi - low)	2 - 14	-----PER YEAR-----															
													5.8	21.2	108		
													6.3 - 4.2	23.1 - 18.4	122 - 95	41% - 8%	
2003	4	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0		5.5	22.8	105	15%	

		3 1/2 + 4 1/2 YEAR OLDS															
													(mm)	(lbs.)	% OF		
YEAR	3 1/2 + 4 1/2	ANTLER POINT CLASS										sub	ANTLER POINTS	BEAM DIAMETER	BODY WEIGHT	LEGAL BUCK TAKE	
		SPK	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	legal				(dressed)		
1990 - 2002																	
TOTAL	55	0	0	3	5	9	9	24	1	3	0						
AVERAGE	4	-----PER YEAR-----															14%
		-----PER DEER-----															
RANGE (hi - low)	2 - 14	-----PER YEAR-----															
													7.2	25.0	123		
													10.0 - 5.0	28.6 - 21.7	140 - 94	44% - 3%	
2003	8	0	0	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	0		6.6	28.0	127	30%	

Does (10)

This sample of the female age structure continues to demonstrate the absence of older does (3 1/2+yrs). The antlerless harvest was stopped on the 16th day of the season to encourage the survival of a very young and sparse doe population.

AGE CLASS	Fawn	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	7.5	8.5	10.5	Unknown	% 3.5+	Total
Number Harvested	1	3	4	1					1			20%	10
Avg. Dressed Weight	44	69	87	86					82				

Conclusion

Harvest information continues to demonstrate the surge of a young deer population approaching optimum breeding age (2 1/2 - 5 1/2 yr.). Of concern is the lack of Does 3 1/2 of age and older, this will slow the growth of the herd. The abundant moisture of 2003 benefited deer health in general by supporting plant and fungus growth. A cold damp spring may have produced some fawn mortality, but also appears to have disrupted oak pollination to the point of mast crop failure. The absence of acorns this winter will be evident to the degree of winter severity. A cold snowy winter may have an endearing effect on the younger cohorts. At this point in time, intense deer tracking censuring will be the best indicator of population trend in 2004.

Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP)

DMAP Permits continue to be popular and effective. These permits must be used for antlerless deer in BRF only. Twenty permits (from DEC) were issued to BRF with four permits being filled. The availability of these tags has proven to increase the total antlerless take.

It appears hunters are less diligent to obtain a DMU Permit knowing DMAP permits are available at the deer station.

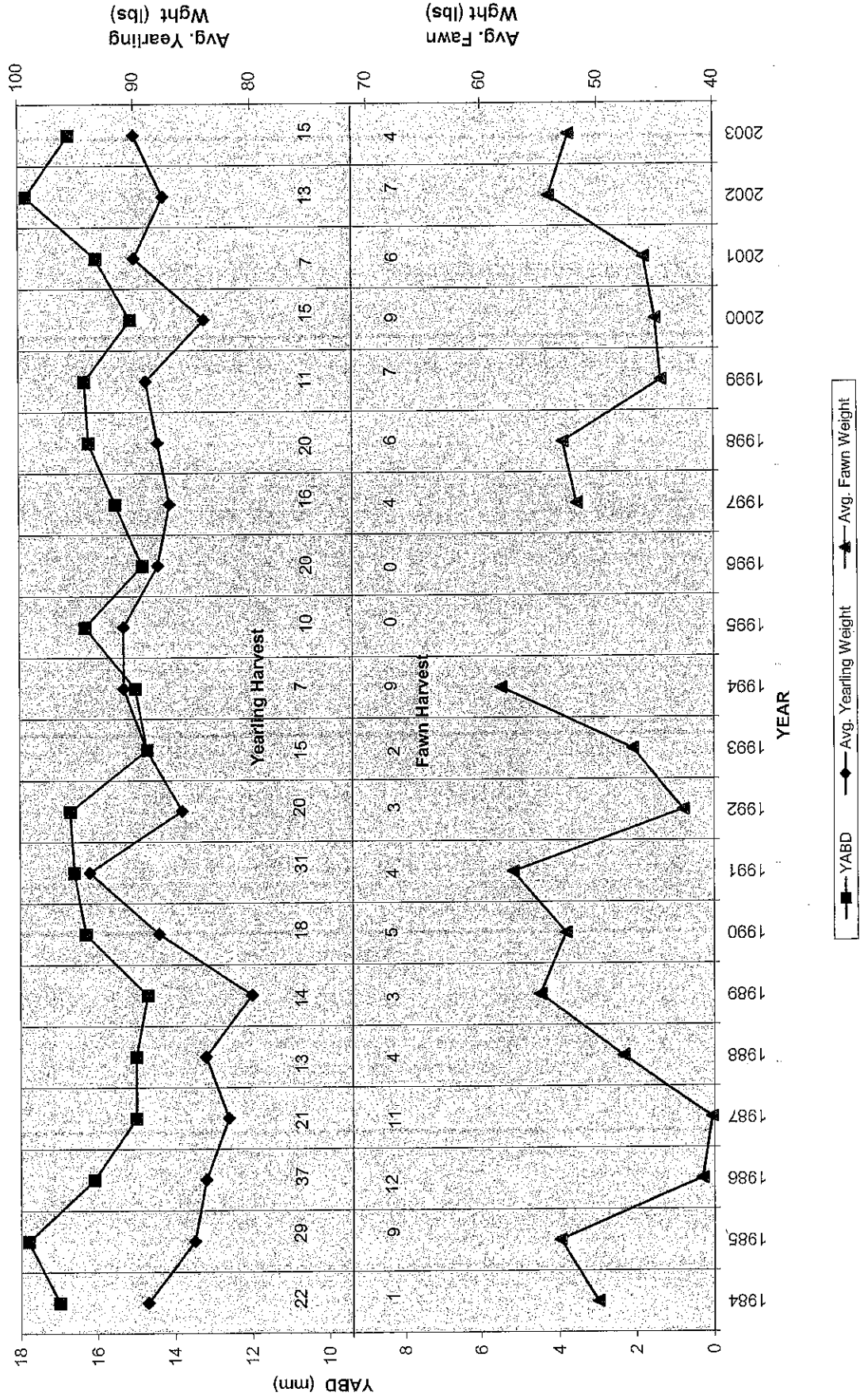
Bow and Muzzle Loading Season

Bow Hunting - Oct. 15 through Nov. 16
Dec. 10 through Dec. 14

Muzzle Loading - Dec. 10 through Dec. 16

These hunting seasons are by written permission (by Forest Manager) only.
10 Permits were granted. No deer were taken.

POPULATION TREND

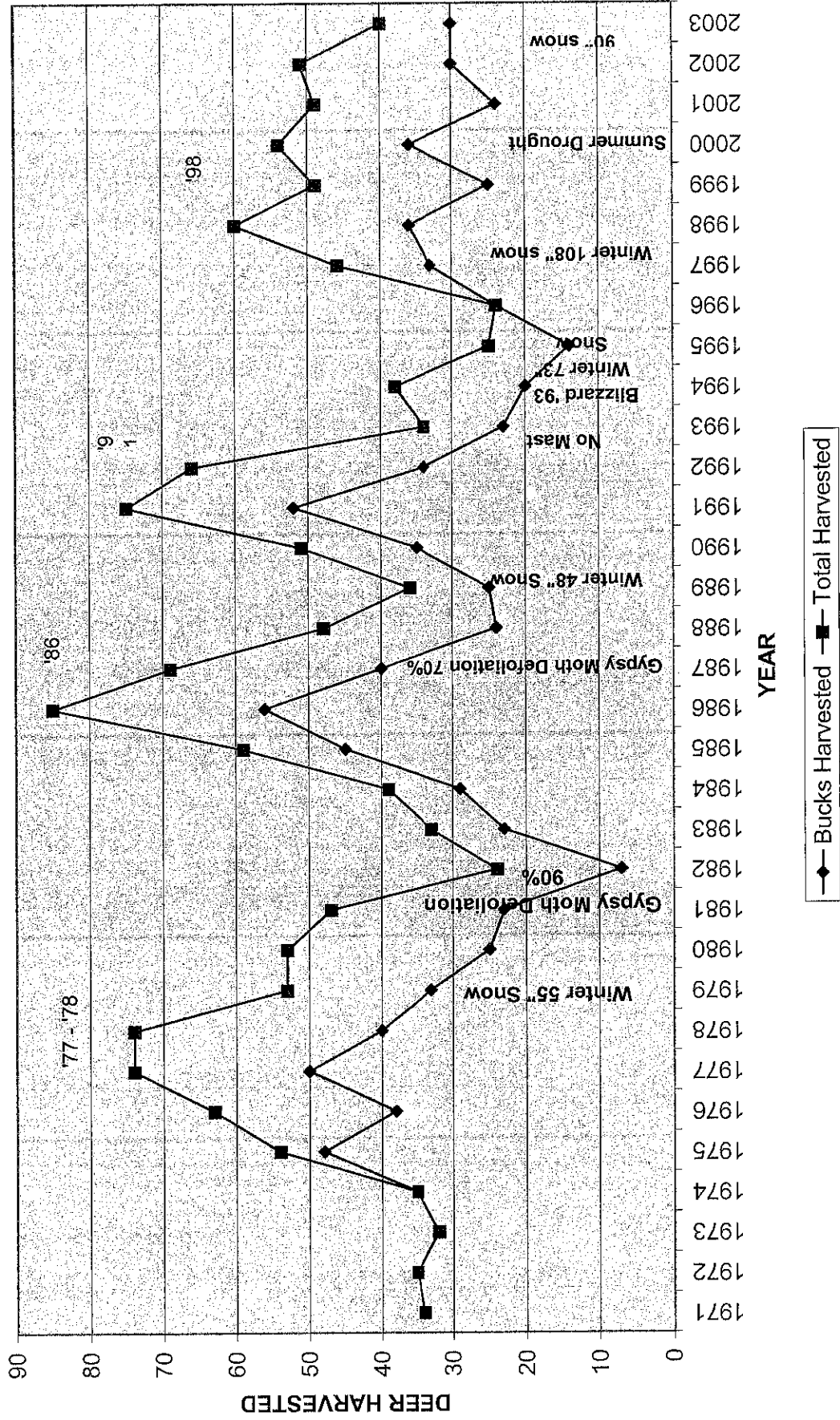


DEER HARVEST

1970 - 2003

DATE	BUCK	DOES	TOTAL HARVEST
1970	24	0	24
1971	34	0	34
1972	35	0	35
1973	32	0	32
1974	35	0	35
1975	48	6	54
1976	38	25	63
1977	50	24	74
1978	40	34	74
1979	33	20	53
1980	25	28	53
1981	23	24	47
1982	7	17	24
1983	23	10	33
1984	29	10	39
1985	45	14	59
1986	56	29	85
1987	40	29	69
1988	24	24	48
1989	25	11	36
1990	35	16	51
1991	52	23	75
1992	34	32	66
1993	23	11	34
1994	20	18	38
1995	14	11	25
1996	24	0	24
1997	33	13	46
1998	36	24	60
1999	25	24	49
2000	36	18	54
2001	28	21	49
2002	30	21	51
2003	30	10	40

BUCK HARVEST VS TOTAL HARVEST 1971 - 2003



1984-2003 HARVEST DATA: FAWNS

YEAR	TOTAL FAWN HARVESTED	TOTAL ANTLERLESS TAKE (INCLUDES BB)	FAWNS AS % OF ANTLERLESS HARVEST	MALE		FEMALE	
				TOTAL HARVESTED	AVG DRESSED* WEIGHT (LBS)	TOTAL HARVESTED	AVG DRESSED WEIGHT (LBS)
1984	1	10	10%	0		1	50
1985	9	20	45%	6	56	3	48
1986	12	37	32%	8	45	4	33
1987	11	36	29%	7	38	4	44
1988	4	25	16%	1	44	3	49
1989	3	14	21%	3	55	0	0
1990	5	19	26%	3	56	2	48
1991	4	26	15%	3	59	1	52
1992	3	33	9%	1	48	2	40
1993	2	12	16%	1	46	1	48
1994	9	22	40%	4	65	5	53
1995	0	11	0%	0			
1996	NO ANTLERLESS TAKE						
1997	4	16	25%	3	53	1	48
1998	6	25	24%	3	55	3	51
1999	7	28	25%	4	45	3	43
2000	9	24	37%	6	45	3	46
2001	6	25	24%	4	48	2	41
2002	7	26	27%	5	54.4	2	54
2003	4	13	31%	3	55.3	1	44
TOTALS	106	422		65		41	
AVERAGE			25%		51		46.6

* DRESSED WEIGHT - Weight of animal with all internal body organs removed.
(Live weight calculaton = dressed weight x 1.25)

1990 - 2003 WHITE-TAILED DEER HARVEST REPORT

YEARLING MALES

YEAR	TOTAL MALES	SPK	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SUB LEGAL	AVG. PTS.	AVG. BEAM DIA. (MM)	AVERAGE WT. (LBS)	FREQ. %
1990	17	5	5	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	3.5	16.3	88	56
1991	31	14	3	11	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.2	16.6	94	63
1992	20	6	3	7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	3.7	16.7	86	61
1993	15	9	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.6	14.7	89	68
1994	7	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0	15.0	91	44
1995	10	6	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.1	16.3	91	72
1996	20	11	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	14.8	88	83
1997	16	8	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.8	15.5	87	53
1998	20	9	2	5	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	3.5	16.2	88	60
1999	11	3	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.4	16.3	89	52
2000	15	4	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3.2	15.1	84	50
2001	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.3	16.0	90	29
2002	13	6	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3.1	17.7	88	52
2003	15	5	1	1	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	16.7	90	55

2 1/2 YEAR OLD MALES

YEAR	TOTAL MALES	SPK	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	SUB LEGAL	AVG. PTS.	AVG. BEAM DIA. (MM)	AVERAGE WT. (LBS)	FREQ. %
1990	13	0	1	2	1	4	1	4	0	0	0	6.1	21.6	105	40
1991	14	0	0	2	1	6	1	4	0	0	0	6.3	21.8	112	28
1992	7	0	0	1	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	5.6	20.9	110	21
1993	5	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4.2	18.4	103	23
1994	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	20.0	122	12
1995	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5.5	22.0	118	14
1996	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	21.5	119	8
1997	11	2	0	1	0	3	2	3	0	0	0	5.8	21.4	109	37
1998	8	0	0	1	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	6.3	23.1	115	24
1999	6	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	6.0	22.5	111	29
2000	11	0	0	3	1	6	0	1	0	0	0	5.5	20.7	106	37
2001	10	1	0	2	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	5.7	20.0	95	41
2002	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5.7	21.7	103	12
2003	4	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5.5	22.8	105	15

1990 - 2003 WHITE-TAILED DEER HARVEST REPORT

3 1/2 - 4 1/2 Year Old Males

Year	Total Males	Spike	3	4	5	Antler Point Class	6	7	8	9	10	Sub Legal	Average Points	Avg. Beam Dia. (mm)	Average Wt. (lbs.)	Freq. %
1990	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.0	22.0	94	3
1991	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	7.8	24.3	117	8
1992	6	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	7.0	26.3	140	18
1993	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	7.5	23.5	126	9
1994	7	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	6.4	23.1	124	44
1995	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8.5	28.0	137	14
1996	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	10.0	26.0	138	4
1997	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	7.3	27.7	123	10
1998	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	7.4	28.6	137	15
1999	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	7.3	26.3	122	19
2000	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	6.7	21.7	113	13
2001	7	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	7.0	23.4	109	30
2002	9	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	3	0	1	0	7.0	26.4	117	36
2003	8	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	6.6	28.0	127	30

FEMALE AGE CLASS IN YEARS

Year	Fawn	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	7.5	8.5-9.5	10.5+	Unknown	TOTAL	% 3 1/2 yrs. +
1990	2	1	4	6	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	16	56
1991	1	7	6	3	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	23	39
1992	2	6	5	3	2	5	3	2	3	1	0	32	59
1993	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	11	45
1994	5	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	18	50
1995	0	2	3	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	54
1996			NO DOES TAKEN									0	
1997	1	1	4	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	13	45
1998	3	5	5	4	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	24	46
1999	3	4	8	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	21	43
2000	3	2	2	6	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	18	61
2001	2	1	7	5	2	1	0	2	0	0	1	21	50
2002	2	4	7	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	38
2003	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	20

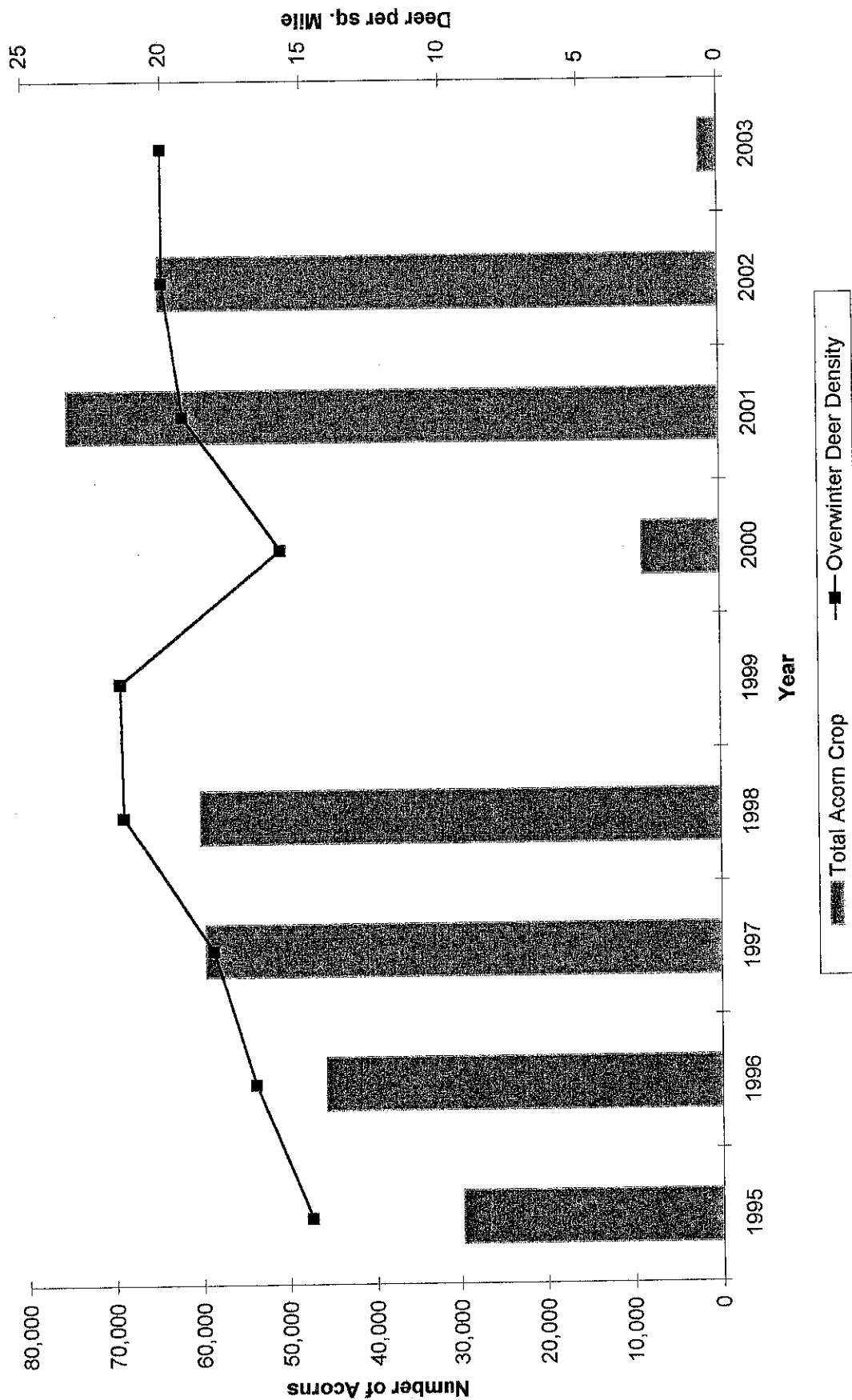
BIG BUCKS OF BLACK ROCK FOREST

					BEAM
YEAR	HUNTERS NAME	POINTS	AGE/YRS	WEIGHT(lbs)	DIAMETER (mm)
1988	BOB SMITH SR.	7	2 1/2	138	25
1989	JEFF PAVIA	8	2 1/2	147	26
1990	DAVE RICE	8	2 1/2	138	27
1991	STEVE OTLOWSKI	10	3 1/2	124	27
	JOHN O'ROURKE	8	3 1/2	138	25
	JOE SWANSON	7	3 1/2	140	21
	JEFF PAVIA	8	2 1/2	120	28
	BOB BATES	6	2 1/2	122	26
	DAVE BARKI	8	2 1/2	114	26
1992	FURMAN CONKLIN	5	4 1/2	162	31
	RALPH DEPEW	7	3 1/2	154	28
	DOUG SPAULDING	8	3 1/2	150	23
	BOB SHERMAN JR	8	3 1/2	120	27
	LOU GIZZARELLI	6	3 1/2	132	25
	TONY TALLARICO	8	3 1/2	122	24
	JEFF PAVIA	8	2 1/2	116	25
1993	HENRY MESEROLE	8	3 1/2	134	25
	AL CRUDELE	7	3 1/2	118	22
1994	AL CRUDELE (BOW)	8	3 1/2	130	26
	AL CRUDELE	6	3 1/2	142	27
	PAT PURCELL	8	3 1/2	130	23
	JOHN VITEK	8	3 1/2	110	23
1995	JAMES FURGUSON	9	3 1/2	152	28
	RALPH BREDEN	8	3 1/2	122	28
	SAM VRIESEMAN	8	2 1/2	124	22
1996	RON JURAIN	10	3 1/2	138	26
	ANTHONY TALLARICO	8	4 1/2	138	26
1997	GLENN SHEARER	6	3 1/2	140	31
	AL GHIOTTI	8	3 1/2	112	30
	EUGENE GHIOTTI	6	2 1/2	132	27
	DAVID ROULANGER	8	2 1/2	114	24
	SEAMUS LEAVEY	8	2 1/2	102	25
	JOE SWANSON	8	2 1/2	100	25
	FARREL HOPKINS	8	3 1/2	116	22
	HENRY MESEROLE	7	2 1/2	122	23
	DOUG SPAULDING JR.	7	2 1/2	112	23
	AL WOODRUFF	6	2 1/2	110	22
1998	JOHN STAPLES	8	4 1/2	146	30
	EUGENE GHIOTTI	8	3 1/2	135	33
	BILL FRANK	8	3 1/2	136	26
	JEFF WALKER	7	3 1/2	136	28
	EUGENE CONKLIN	8	2 1/2	122	24
	CHRIS KIRWAN	8	2 1/2	110	23
	BOB SHERMAN	7	2 1/2	118	26
	TERRY McELROY	6	3 1/2	132	26
	DOUG SPAULDING	8	1Y 7M	102	22

BIG BUCKS OF BLACK ROCK FOREST

YEAR	HUNTERS NAME	POINTS	AGE/YRS	WEIGHT(lbs)	DIAMETER (mm)
1999	BOB GOSDA	8	3 1/2	138	28
	SCOTT KERLEY	8	3 1/2	114	26
	DENNIS WALKER	8	2 1/2	102	25
	PHILIP ARCHDEACON	6	3 1/2	122	25
	AL CRUDELE	6	2 1/2	110	23
2000	GENE CONKLIN	8	3 1/2	136	27
	FRANK EARLY	6	2 1/2	116	22
	BOB BARKI	8	2 1/2	132	24
	SCOTT WALSH	8	3 1/2	110	21
	GENE CONKLIN	8	3 1/2	112	27
2001	AL CHRISTEIN	8	4 1/2	130	25
	TERRY McELROY	5	3 1/2	136	22
	FRED ZAMENICK JR.	8	4 1/2	126	30
2002	FRANK HALL	6	4 1/2	108	25
	BOB LEETCH	7	3 1/2	126	25
	TODD DUMOULIN	8	3 1/2	114	27
	STEVE RADZISZEINSKI	8	3 1/2	110	30
	DAVE BARKI	10	3 1/2	118	26
2003	RON LUCAS	7	2 1/2	110	22
	MIKE VRIESEMA	6	1 1/2	118	23
	STEVE VRIESEMA	8	3 1/2	120	23
	LONNIE CRUDELE	8	3 1/2	128	28
	LUIGI GUERRIERO	5	3 1/2	130	23
	BOB GOSDA	7	3 1/2	140	33
	STEVE OTLOWSKI	6	4 1/2	120	29
	HARRY JONES	8	3 1/2	128	26
	DAN JONES	7	4 1/2	112	32
	TODD DUMOULIN	4	4 1/2	138	30

Acorn Crop and Overwinter Deer Density

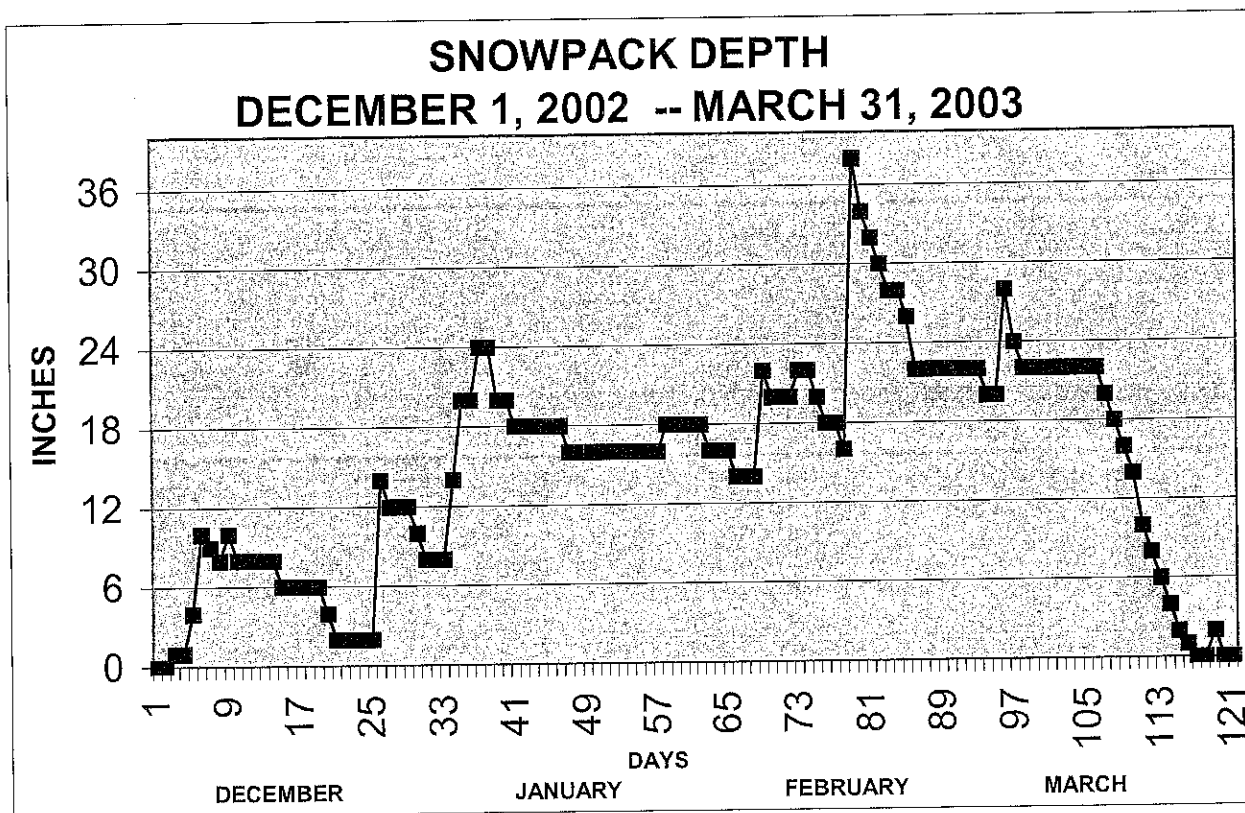


BLACK ROCK FOREST SNOW FALL

November 18, 2002 -- April 7, 2003

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
5.0"	24.0"	18.0"	32.0"	10.0"	3.0"

TOTAL – 92 INCHES



Snow Events

18 snow events

First Snow – Nov. 18, 2002

Last snow – Apr. 07, 2003

7 Event 6"+

2 Events 12"+

Largest Snow Event – Feb. 17, 2003 (22")

Snow Pack

115 days snow cover

114 Continuous days

102 Days 6"+

81 Days 12"+

56 Days 18"+