

1. Current population trend or estimate - and proximity to management objectives:

1992 Estimates:

Mule deer	101,000	Stable (Mgmnt goal 97,000)
White Tail	171,000	Increasing (Mgmnt goal 173,000)

2. 1992 Hunting season statistics:

Type/length of season:	# of hunters afield:	# of hunter days:	% success:	Harvest	
				Antler:	Antlerless:
WTD variable	56,700	455,651	45%	19,250	6,200
MD variable	34,000	230,700	45%	8,800	6,500

3. Method used to estimate harvest:

Telephone questionnaire (interview)

4. Do you limit hunters to one season (rifle, archery or muzzleloader)?

No, although we do have limitations on certain licence and draw combinations.

5. Do your deer seasons extend into the breeding season? If so, how far?

Yes, most seasons close by Nov. 27 but some special seasons extend until Dec.9.

6. How many deer can a hunter legally take per year?

If successful in all draws a hunter could get 11 deer plus others if particular licences are issued with additional tags.

# Antlered:	# Antlerless:	Total:
MD 1	1	plus potentially 5 tags that can be used on either sp.
WTD 2	2	plus potentially 5 tags that can be used on either sp.

7. Do you use antler-point restriction regulations? If so, what is the purpose of this regulation and is the objective being met? How do you assess hunter compliance - illegal kill?

Yes, in some units we have a minimum 3-point requirement for mule deer. It allows any general licence (no draw involved) holder to hunt, but still ensures that some bucks remain for breeding. Illegal kill is monitored by reports from the public and verification by Officers.

8. Do you have regulations to limit or distribute hunters? What type of regulations and are they working?

Many seasons are open on a limited entry basis with specified numbers of hunters assigned to specific areas and, in all cases, to specified time periods within the overall season. They work well but are not without problems.

9. Do you use access (road) management to regulate hunter distribution? What is the hunting public's reaction? Who is responsible for enforcement of closures etc.?

There are various restrictions on vehicles and use of certain roads or trails, although most are not specifically in place to regulate hunter distribution.

10. Do you use a system such as "preference points" to distribute the opportunity to draw big game permits? If yes, what has been your experience with such a system?

We have just implemented a new perpetually accumulating priority system for use in fall 1993. Hunter priority will increase 1 level with each unsuccessful application for a specific hunt.

11. In what ways do you believe hunting impacts your deer populations (ie. compensatory/additive mortality, total population size, genetics, behaviour, etc.)? What data do you have to support this?

Varies, depending on habitat, human activity, latitude etc. Especially in agricultural areas on the prairies, hunting is likely the main mortality factor, particularly with mule deer. Hunting certainly keeps deer wary of humans.

12. What do you feel are the major factor(s) limiting the deer populations, and what evidence is this based on?

In accessible southern areas, human activity is likely the major limitation annually. In the long-term, undoubtedly the available habitat and climatic (especially winter) conditions are the big factors.

13. Do you make any attempts to model deer populations? If so, please describe the model. Identify any problems.

Very little.

14. What is your state or province's approach to manipulating habitat to benefit deer?

We do little habitat manipulation specifically for deer.

15. Primary deer research efforts underway at this time (please list):

None being conducted by this agency.