Fort Gordon Natural Resources Branch
2018-2019 Deer Harvest Summary Report

26 April 2019
presented by

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IMCOM Mission – Our mission is to synchronize, integrate and deliver installation services and sustain facilities in support.

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Harvest Summary

Deer Harvest by Management Zone, 2018-2019

Zone	Bucks	Does	Total
18-49	110	71	181
Archery	29	27	56
SAIA	6	16	22
All Areas	**145**	**114**	**259**

The 2018-2019 deer season was a good one, with harvest being the highest in 11 years.

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Deer Harvest By Age Class, 2018-2019
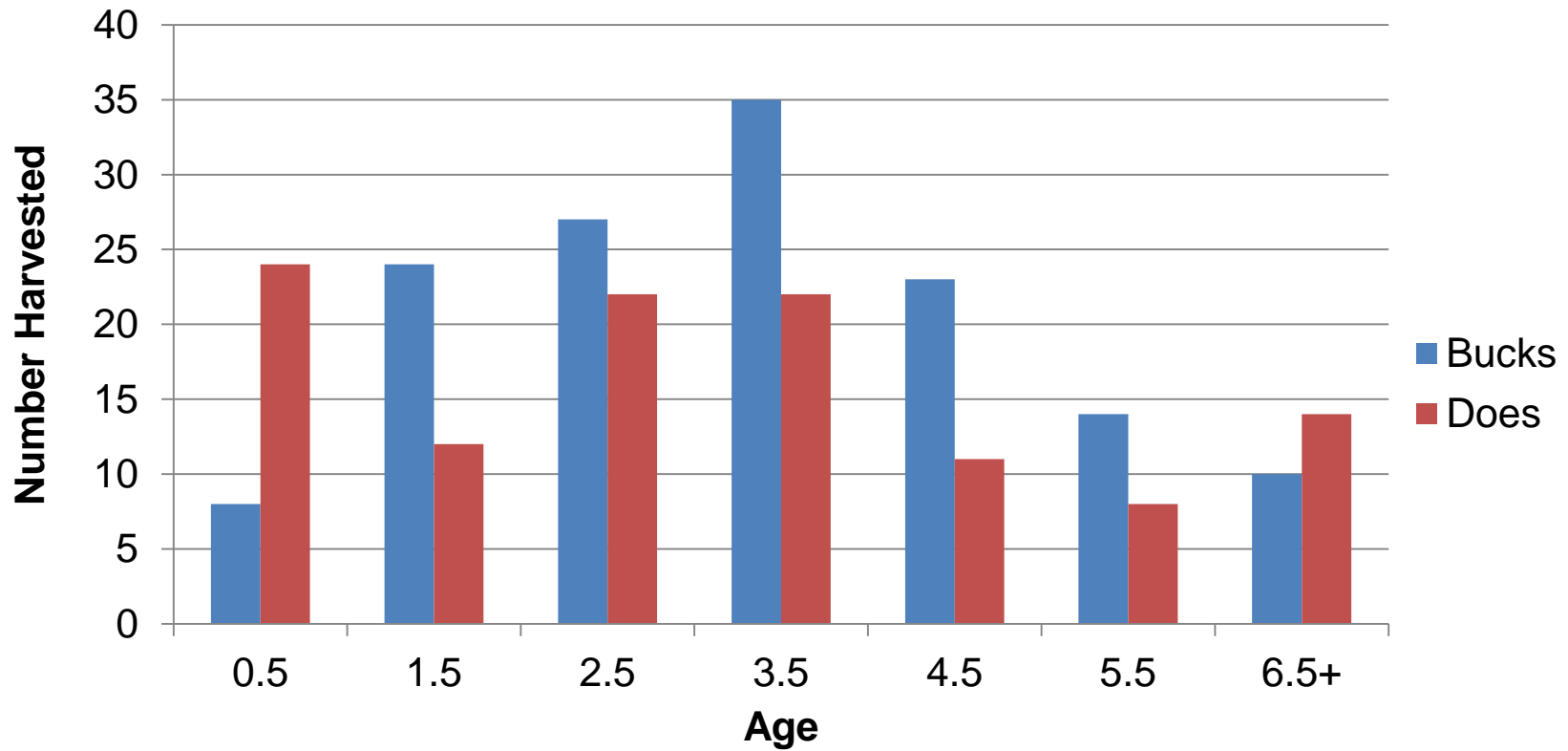
Age structure is one of several important indicators of deer herd status and health. The age structure from this season's harvest indicates a stable, healthy herd. However, the high number of fawn does harvested is concerning. Thanks to all those who submitted jawbones as required.
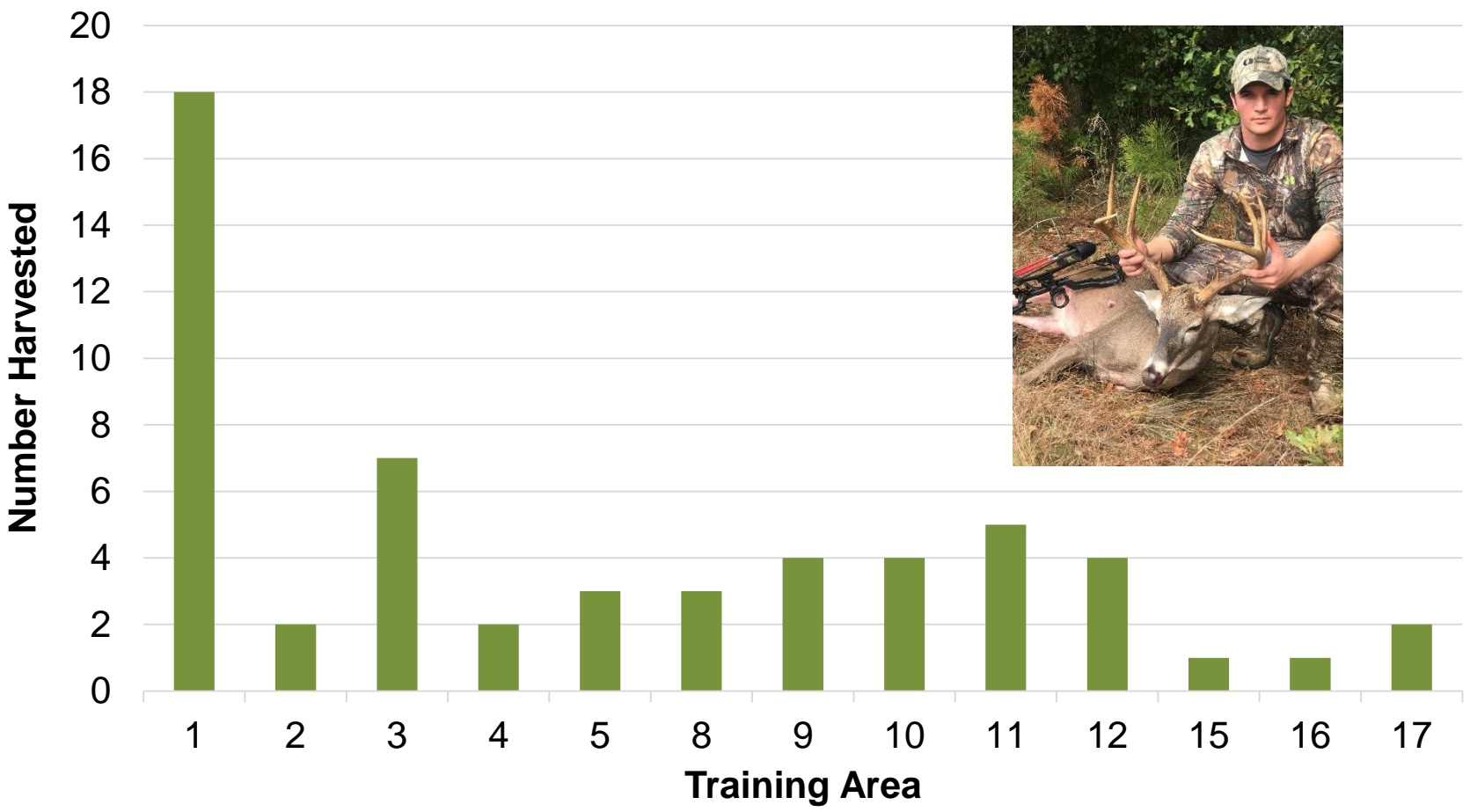
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Deer Harvested by Area in Archery Zone, 2018-2019

Areas not shown did not have deer harvested in them.
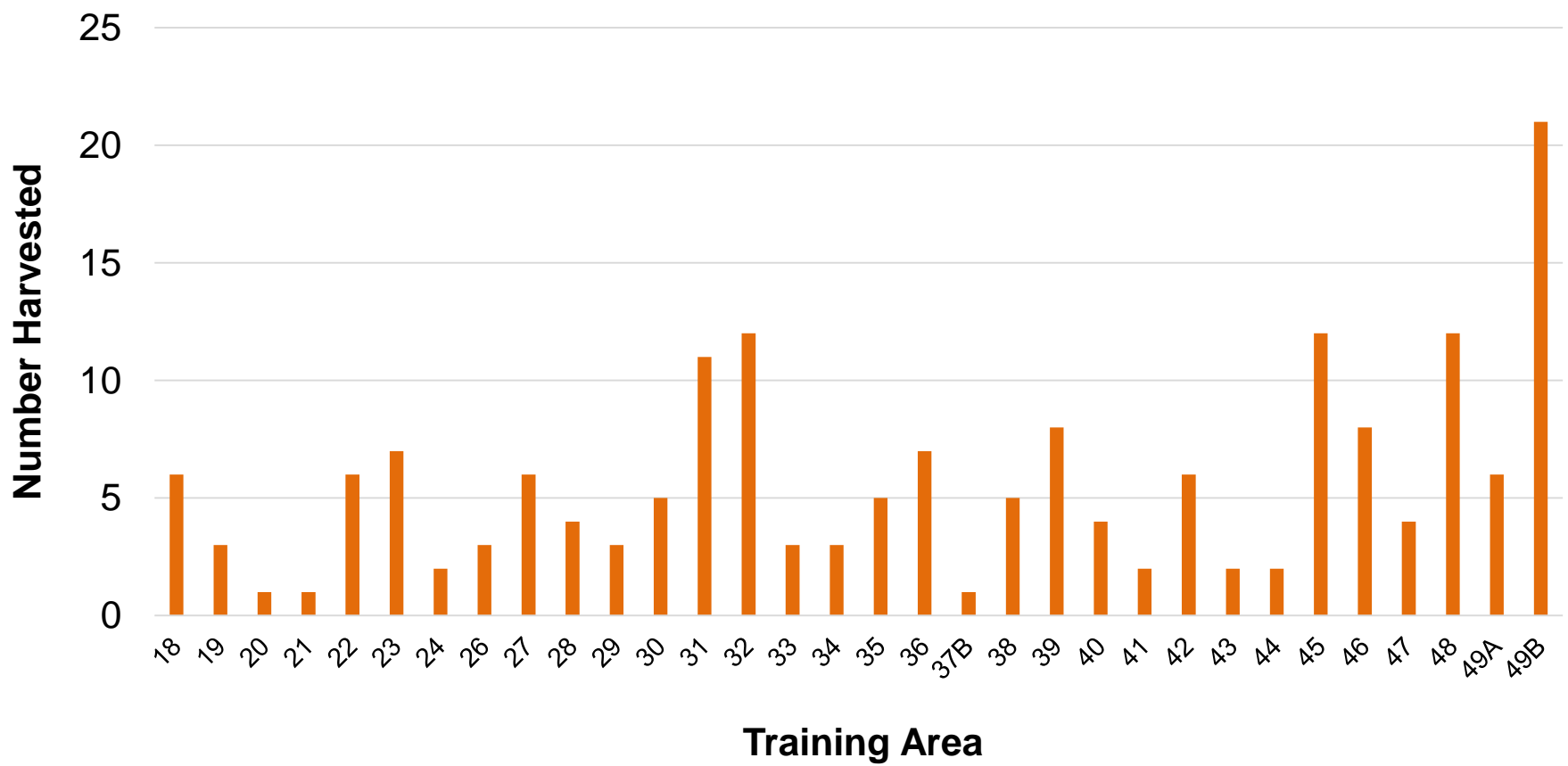
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Deer Harvested by Area in 18-49 Zone, 2018-2019
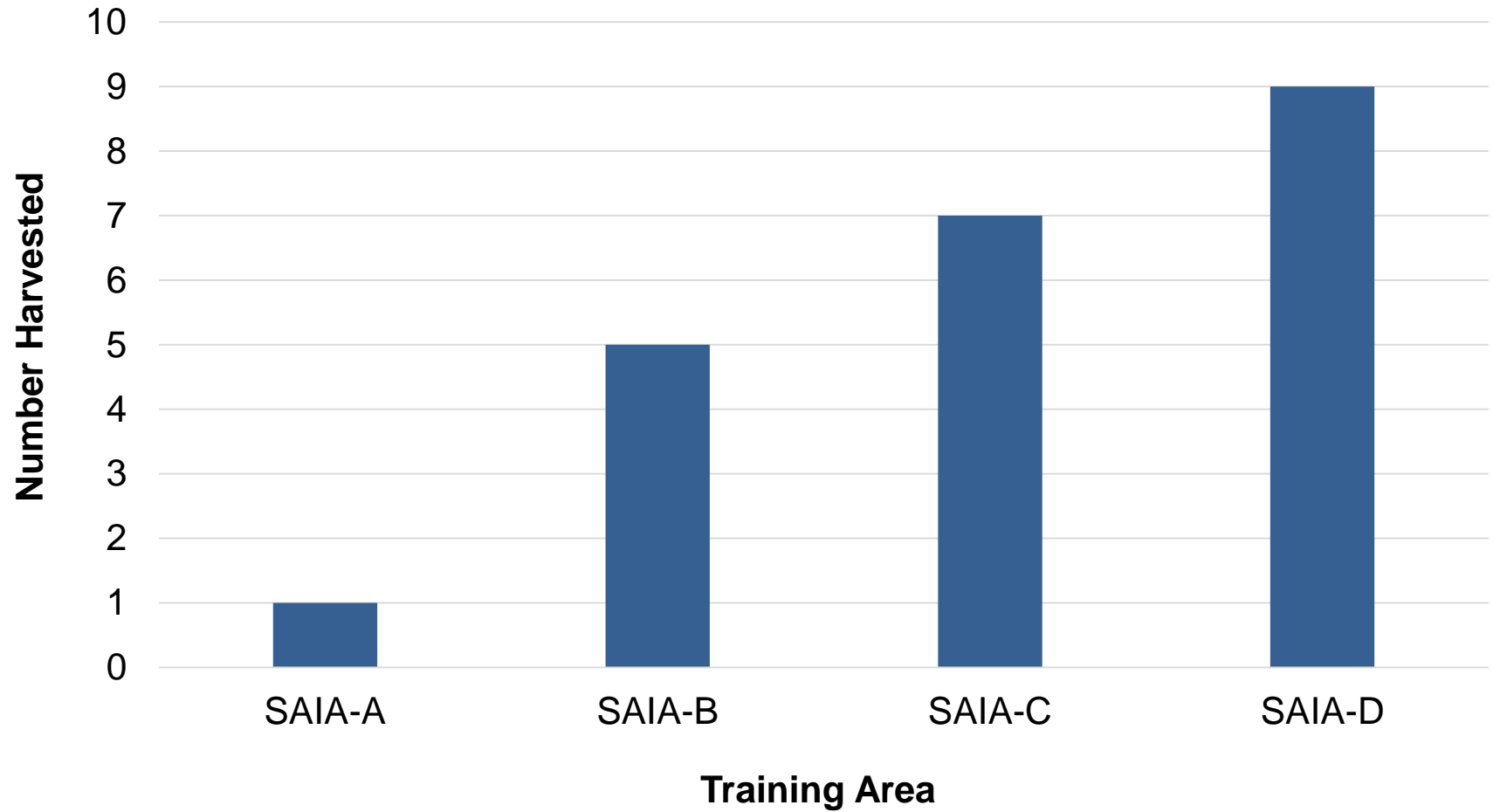

Areas not shown did not have deer harvested in them.

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Deer Harvested by Area in SAIA Zone, 2018-2019

Bar chart showing Number Harvested (y-axis, 0-10) by Training Area (x-axis):
- SAIA-A: 1
- SAIA-B: 5
- SAIA-C: 7
- SAIA-D: 9

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Antlerless Harvest Quota (TAs 18-49)

- The Antlerless Harvest Quota for training areas 18-49 was initially set at 50, which was reached on 16 November

- After receiving favorable results from our Fall camera survey the quota was extended for another 25 antlerless deer. This extended quota was met on 5 January

Antler Data

Average Antler Characteristics, 2018-2019

Age	Sample Size	Points	Inside Spread (in.)	Gross B&C (in.)
1.5	6	4.0	7.3	42.4
2.5	8	6.4	10.5	66.5
3.5	12	7.9	13.5	93.1
4.5	14	8.1	15.1	110.5
5.5	11	8.7	16.1	115.0
6.5+	5	9.4	16.4	126.5

This antler data represents approximately 40% of the total bucks harvested. Thanks to those hunters who allowed NRB biologists to measure their bucks.

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Antler Data

Notable Bucks Harvested, 2018-2019
(Those scoring 125 Gross B&C or greater)

Age	Points	Inside Spread (in.)	Right Main Beam (in.)	Gross B&C Score (in.)	Live Weight (lbs.)
4.5	8	15.25	20.5	125.625	160
4.5	8	17.25	22	125.75	160
4.5	9	13.125	19.5	126.375	155
4.5	8	16.75	21.5	129.625	175
5.5	10	16	20.25	130.125	185
6.5	12	17	21	133.375	152
5.5	10	19	23.25	141	170
7.5	10	17.5	24.75	159.625	184

This antler data represents approximately 40% of the total bucks harvested. Thanks to those hunters who allowed NRB biologists to measure their bucks.

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Antler Data

- This season was an exceptional one with 11 deer being measured over 120 inches Gross B&C and 4 of those being greater than 140 inches Gross B&C. The actual number of trophy deer harvested was likely higher since not all deer get measured.
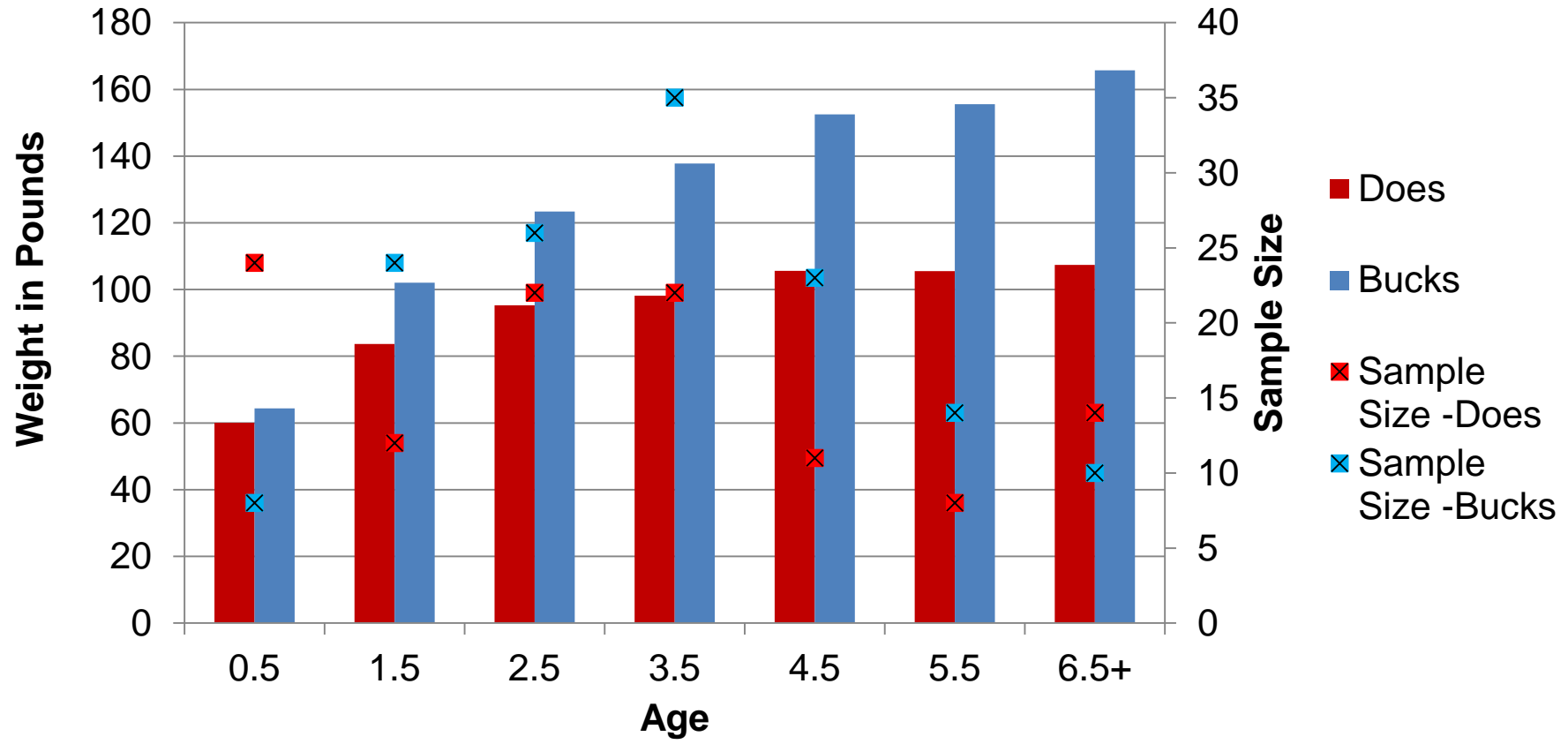

141

133 3/8

159 5/8

124 3/8

118 7/8   123 4/8

130 1/8

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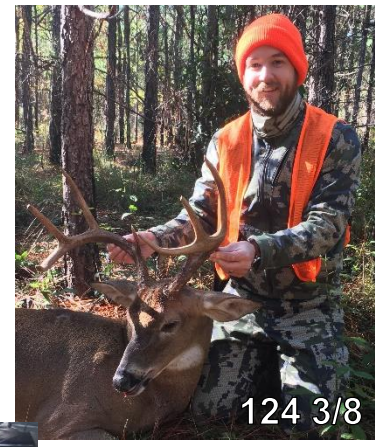
Body Weight

Average Live Weights 2018-2019

Kidney Fat Index

Kidney Fat Index (KFI) is a measurement of the amount of fat on the kidneys of harvested deer. Biologists use this index to assess the health of individual deer as well as the health of the entire deer herd. KFI is measured on a scale of 1-4 with 1 being poor and 4 being excellent. Kidney fat for both bucks and does harvested in 2018-2019 season averaged in the fair range. Kidney fat can be highly variable between individual deer depending on rutting activity, lactation, and local habitat quality.
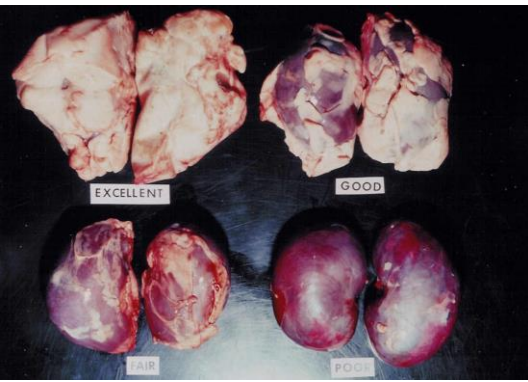
Average KFI of Harvested Deer, 2017-2018

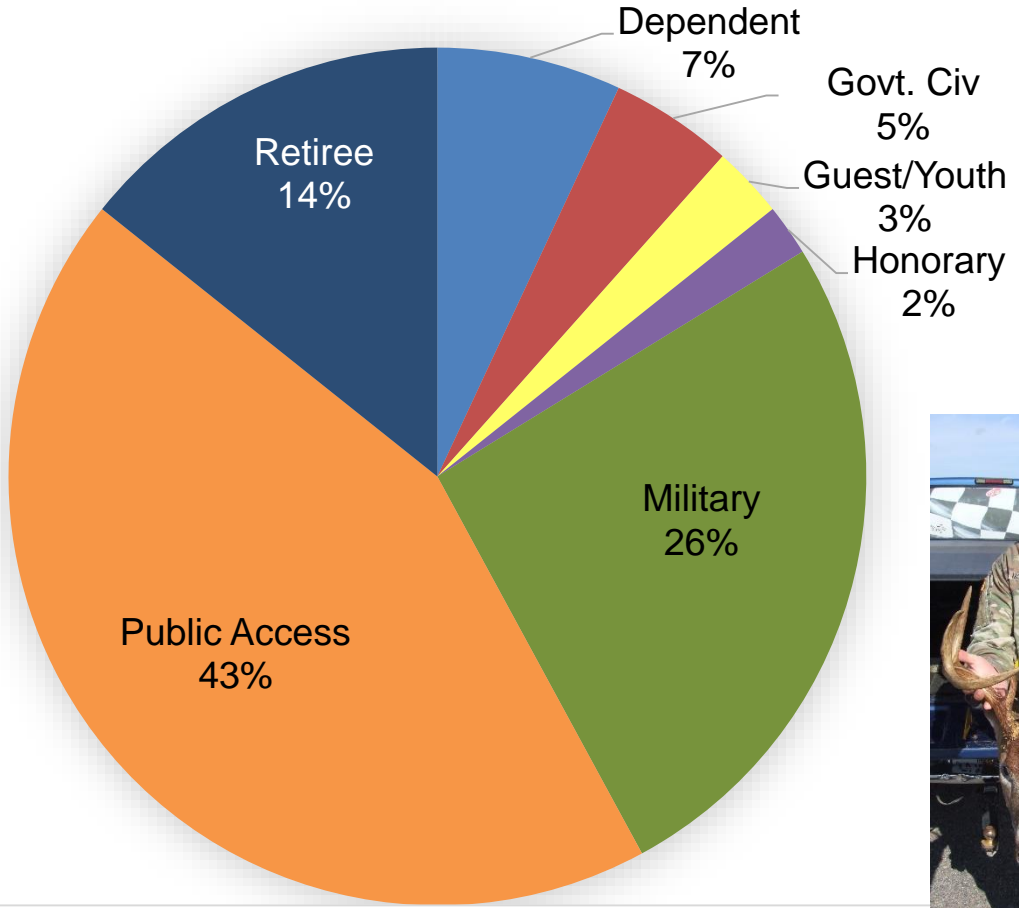|	Average KFI	Sample Size
Bucks	2.3	26
Does	2.0	19

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Deer Hunter Stats

Deer Harvest by Hunter Type, 2018-2019

- Dependent 7%
- Govt. Civ 5%
- Guest/Youth 3%
- Honorary 2%
- Military 26%
- Public Access 43%
- Retiree 14%

Harvest by Weapon Type, 2018-2019
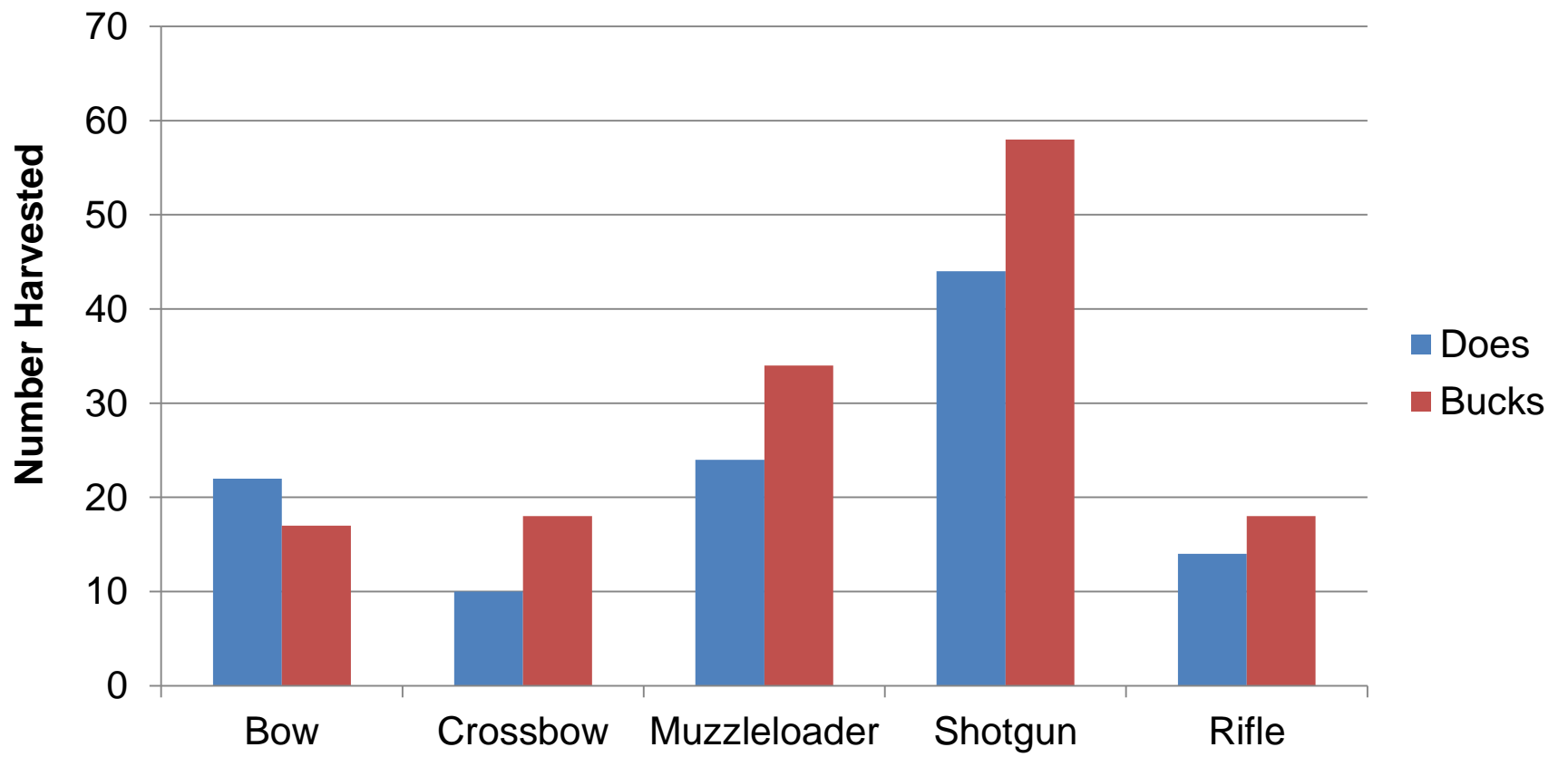
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Annual Trends

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Annual Trends

Total Deer Harvest Trend

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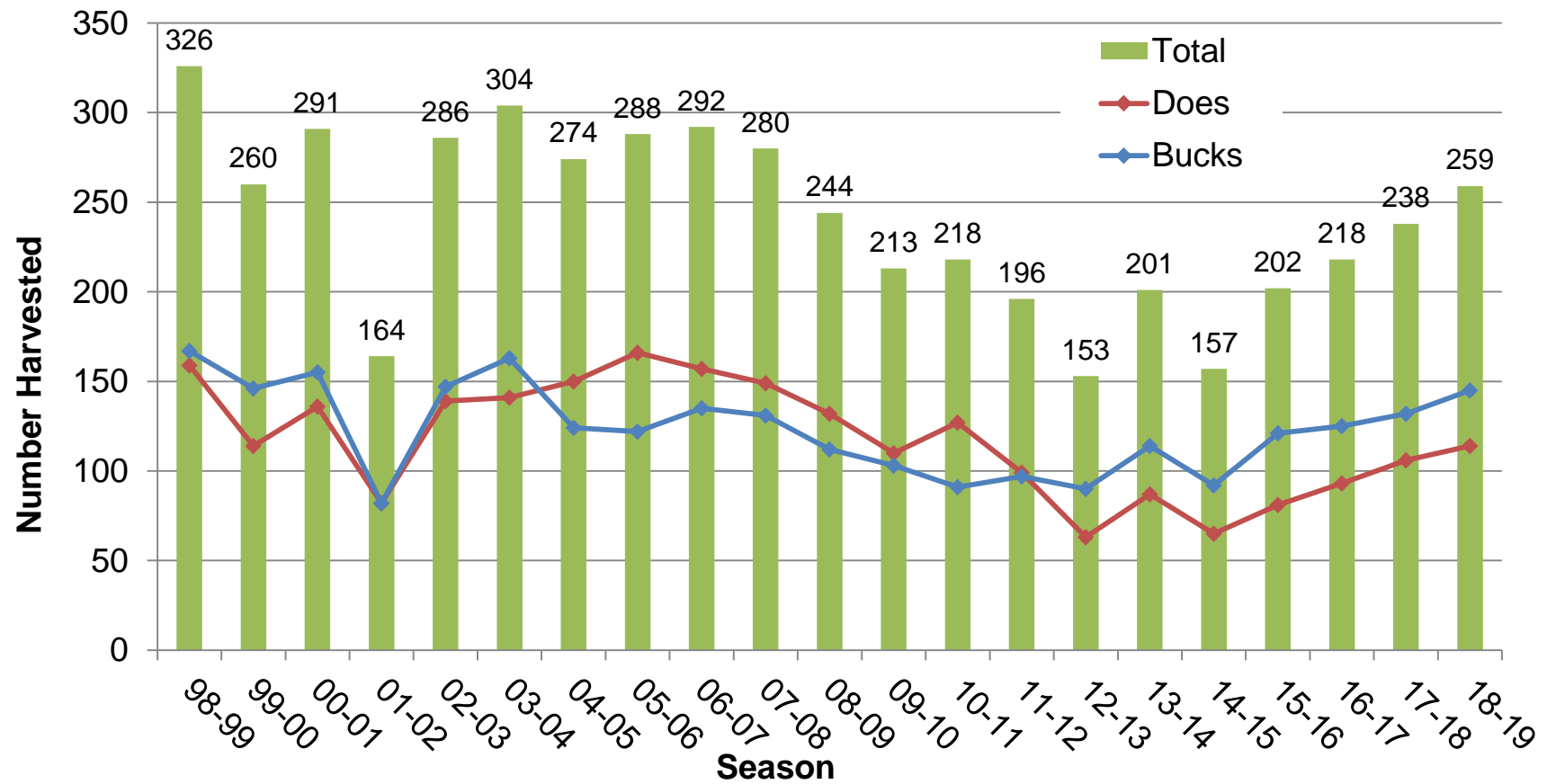
Annual Trends

Deer Harvest Trend By Deer Management Zone

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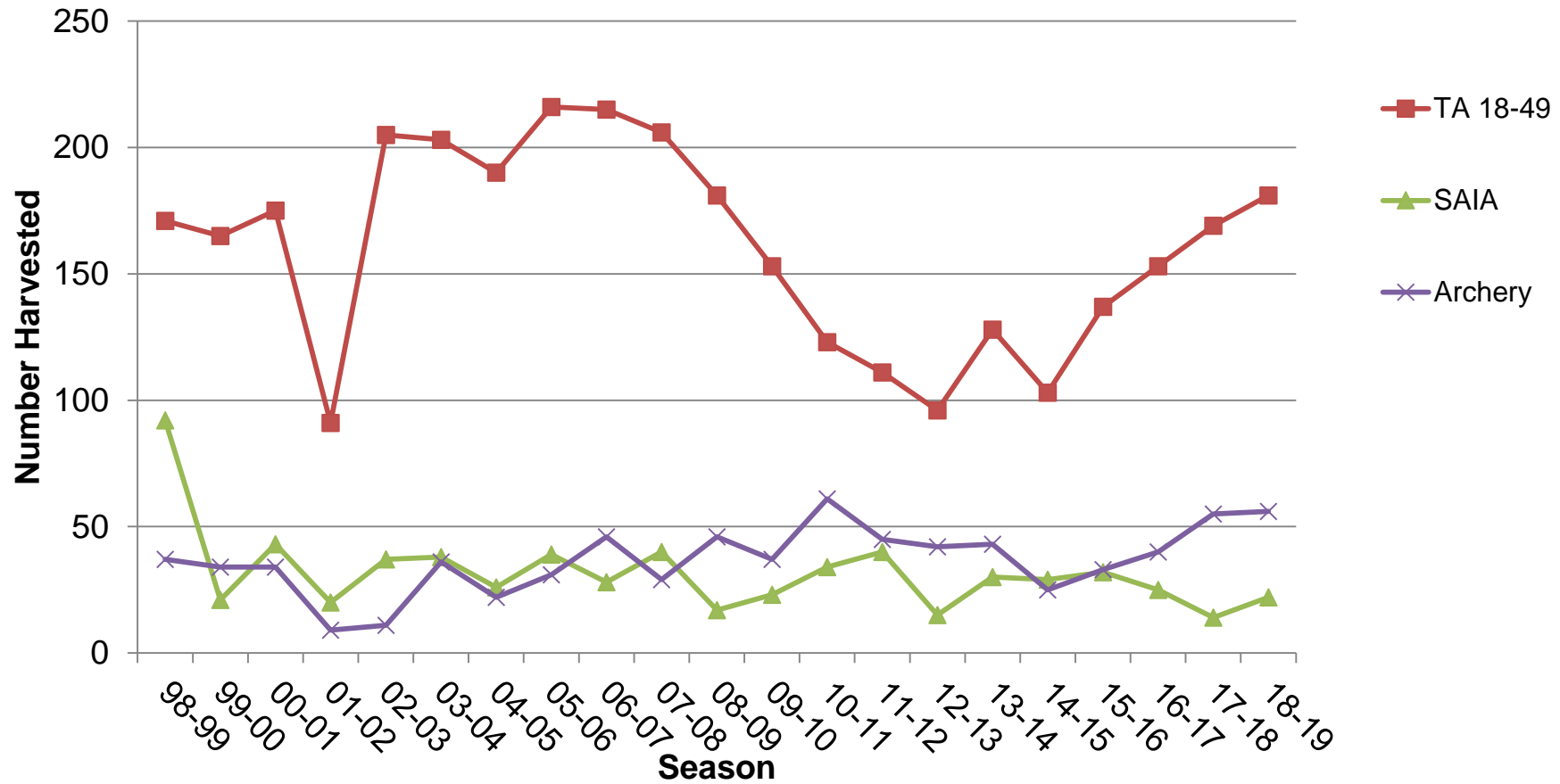
Annual Trends

Annual Deer Harvest and Hunter Events

*Began using iSportsman, hunter events after this time may not be directly comparable to previous years
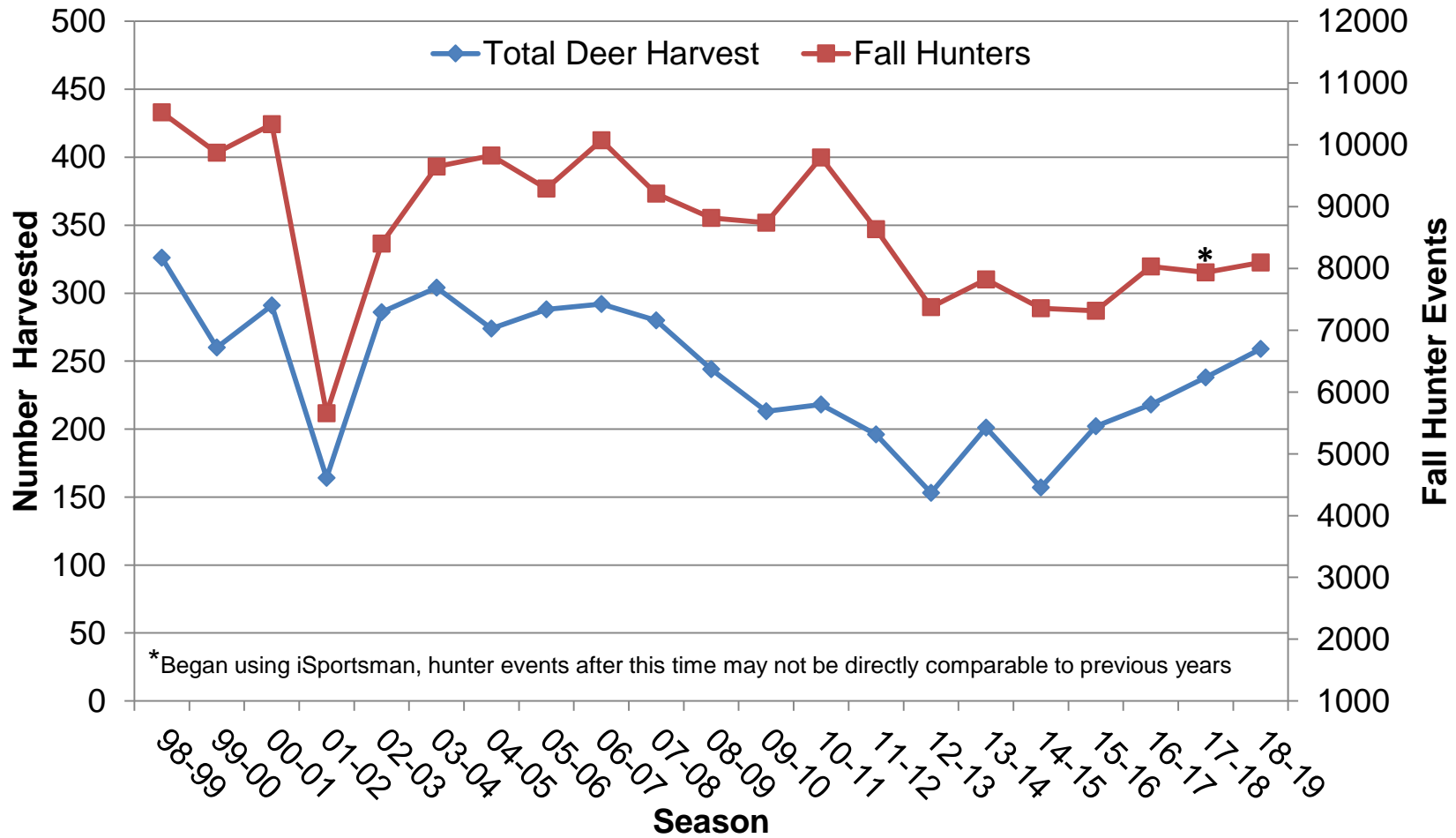
Annual Trends

Average Weights of Yearling Deer
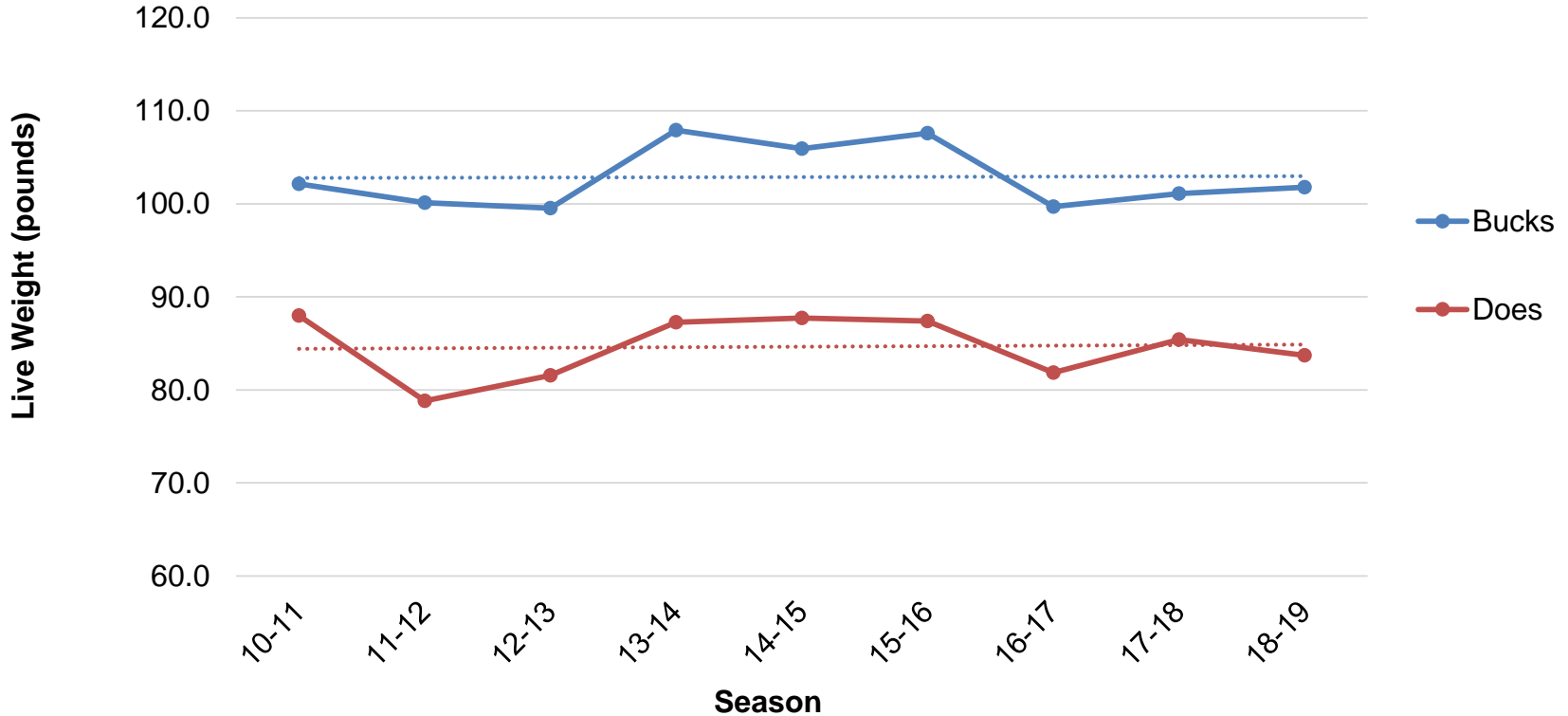
Tracking the weights of yearling deer from year to year is one way the NRB evaluates herd health and habitat quality. This is one reason for requiring submission of jawbones from all harvested deer. Thanks to everyone who submitted jawbones.
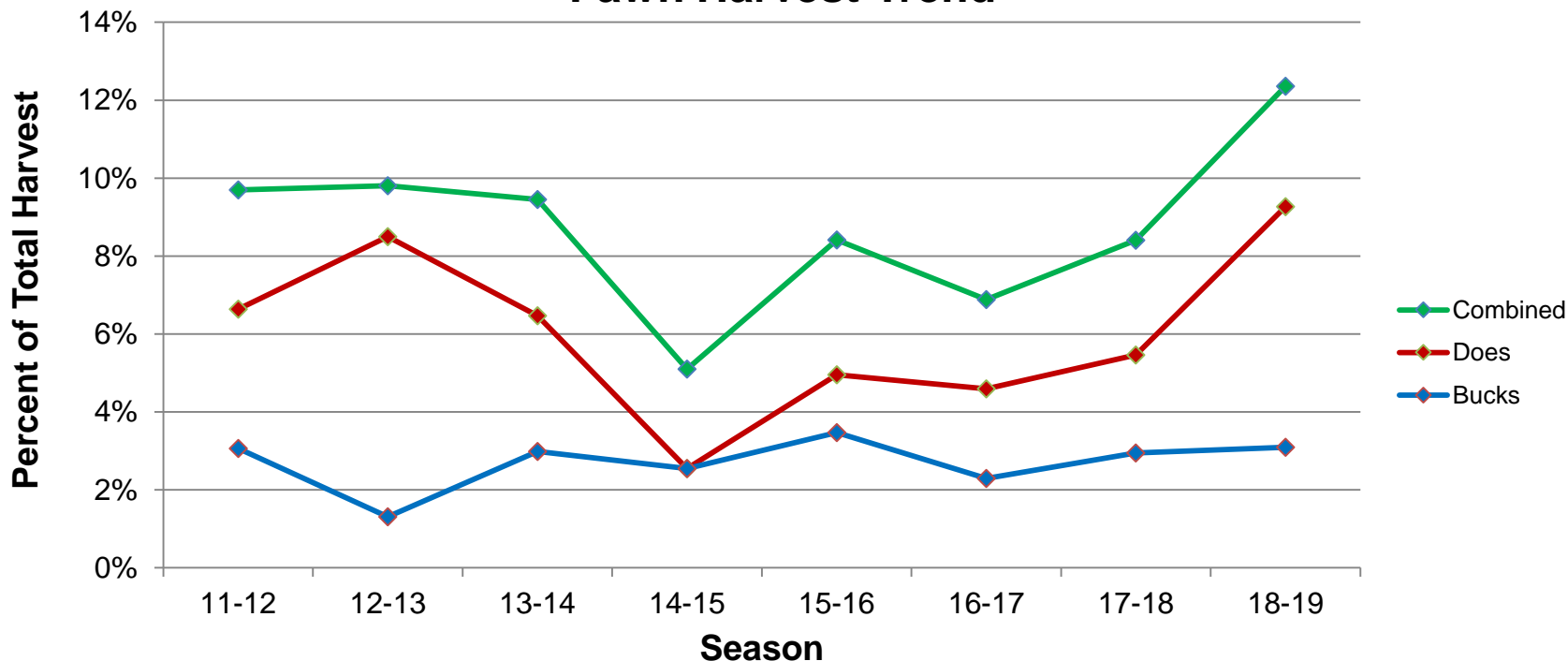
Annual Trends

Fawn Harvest Trend

While most hunters would agree that limiting fawn harvest would help grow the population, having some fawns in the harvest is not all bad. The percent of fawns in the harvest can be used as an index of population status and growth rate. More fawns in the harvest may indicate more fawns in the population. The fawn harvest this season was exceptionally high, at least for doe fawns.
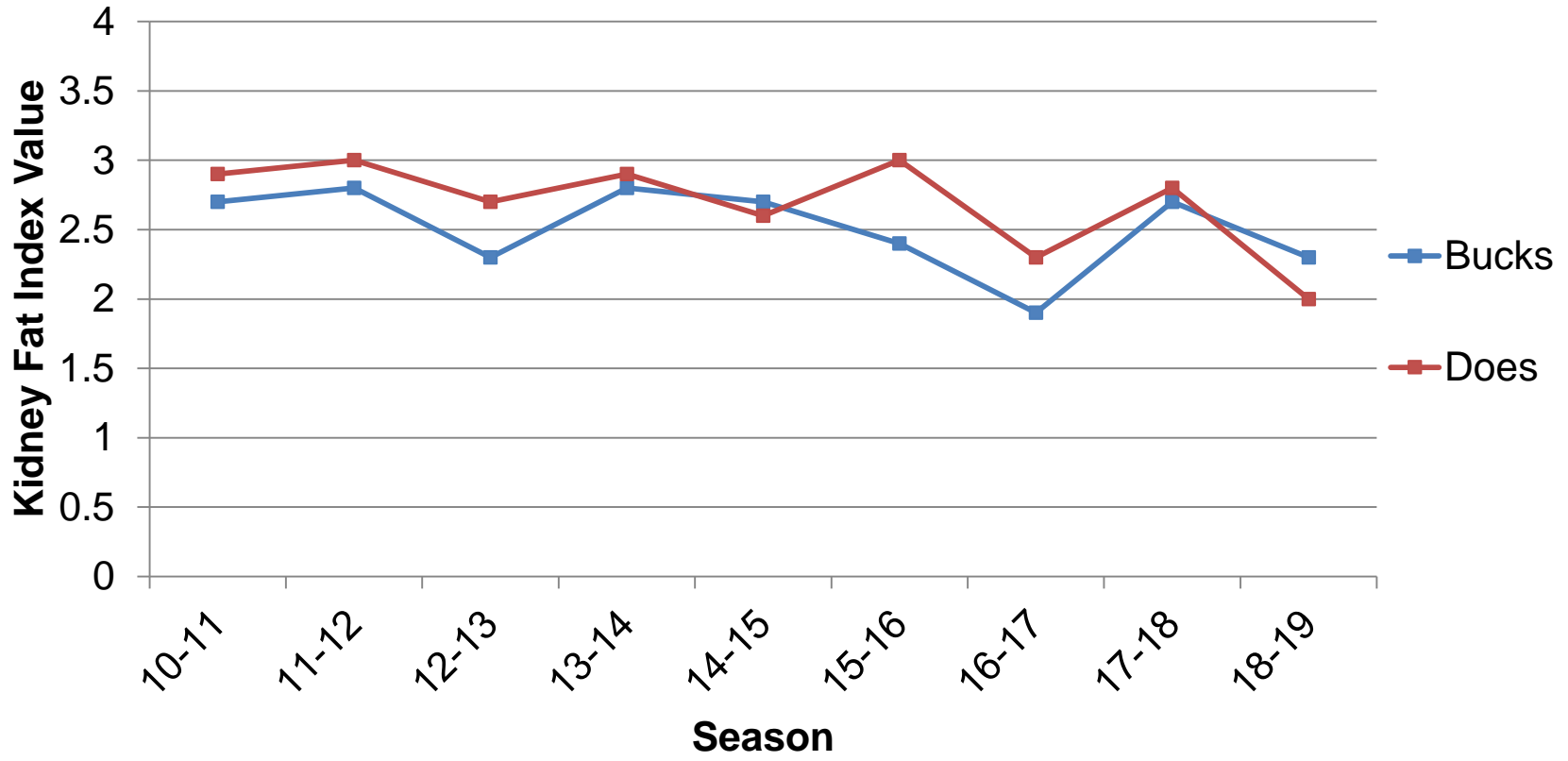
Annual Trends

Average Kidney Fat Index

While many factors such as pregnancy, lactation, rut, habitat, etc. can effect a deer's kidney fat, having a stable KFI trend between 2.5 – 3 shows that overall herd health is good.
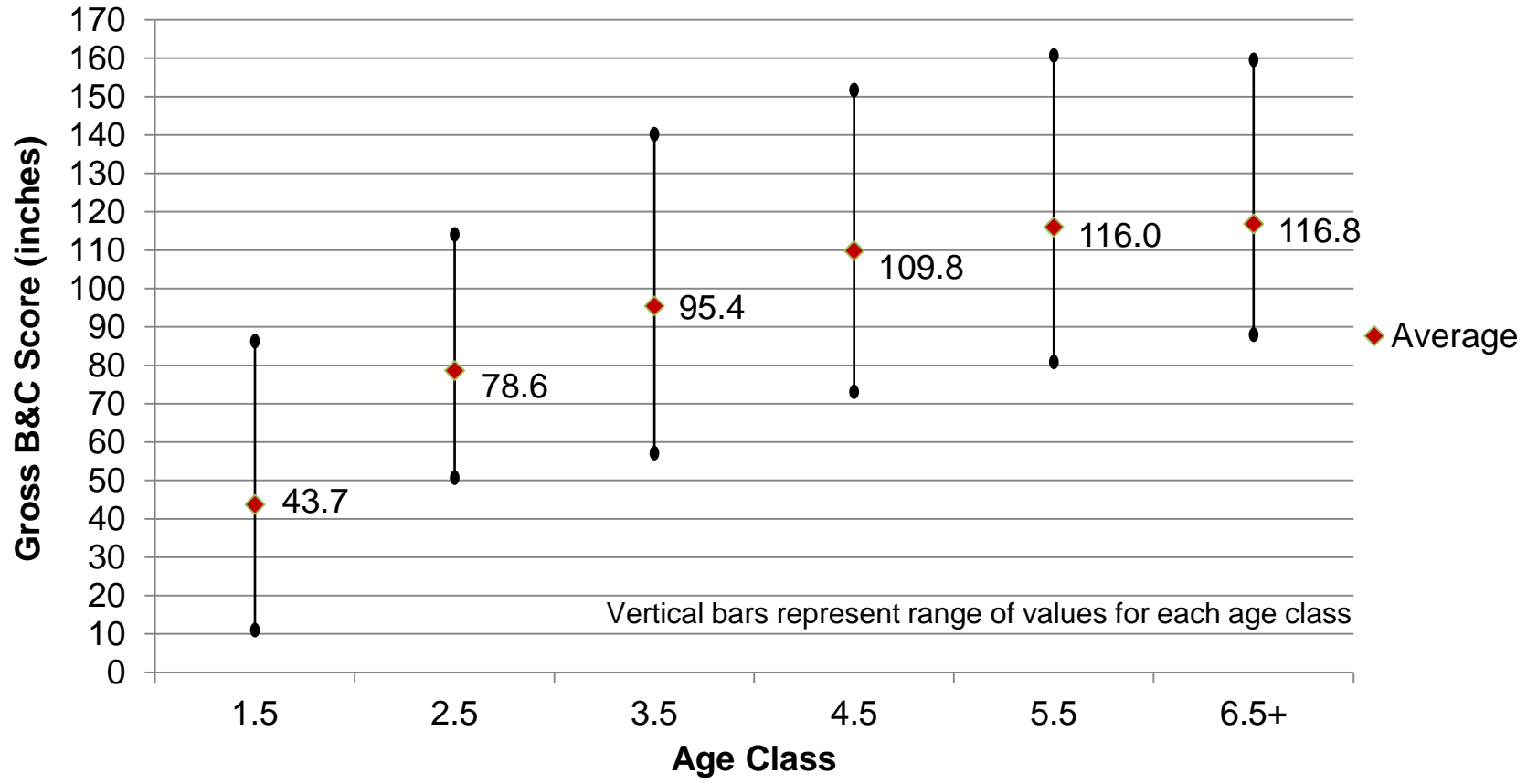(See slide 11 for an explanation of Kidney Fat Index)

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Antler Data Summary
(2009-Current)

Average Gross B&C Score by Age Class

Vertical bars represent range of values for each age class

Data points labeled: 43.7, 78.6, 95.4, 109.8, 116.0, 116.8

X-axis: Age Class (1.5, 2.5, 3.5, 4.5, 5.5, 6.5+)
Y-axis: Gross B&C Score (inches)

Legend: ◆ Average

Antler Data Summary
(2009-Current)

Inside Spread by Age Class

Vertical bars represent range of values for each age class

- 7.6
- 12.1
- 13.9
- 15.4
- 15.5
- 15.9
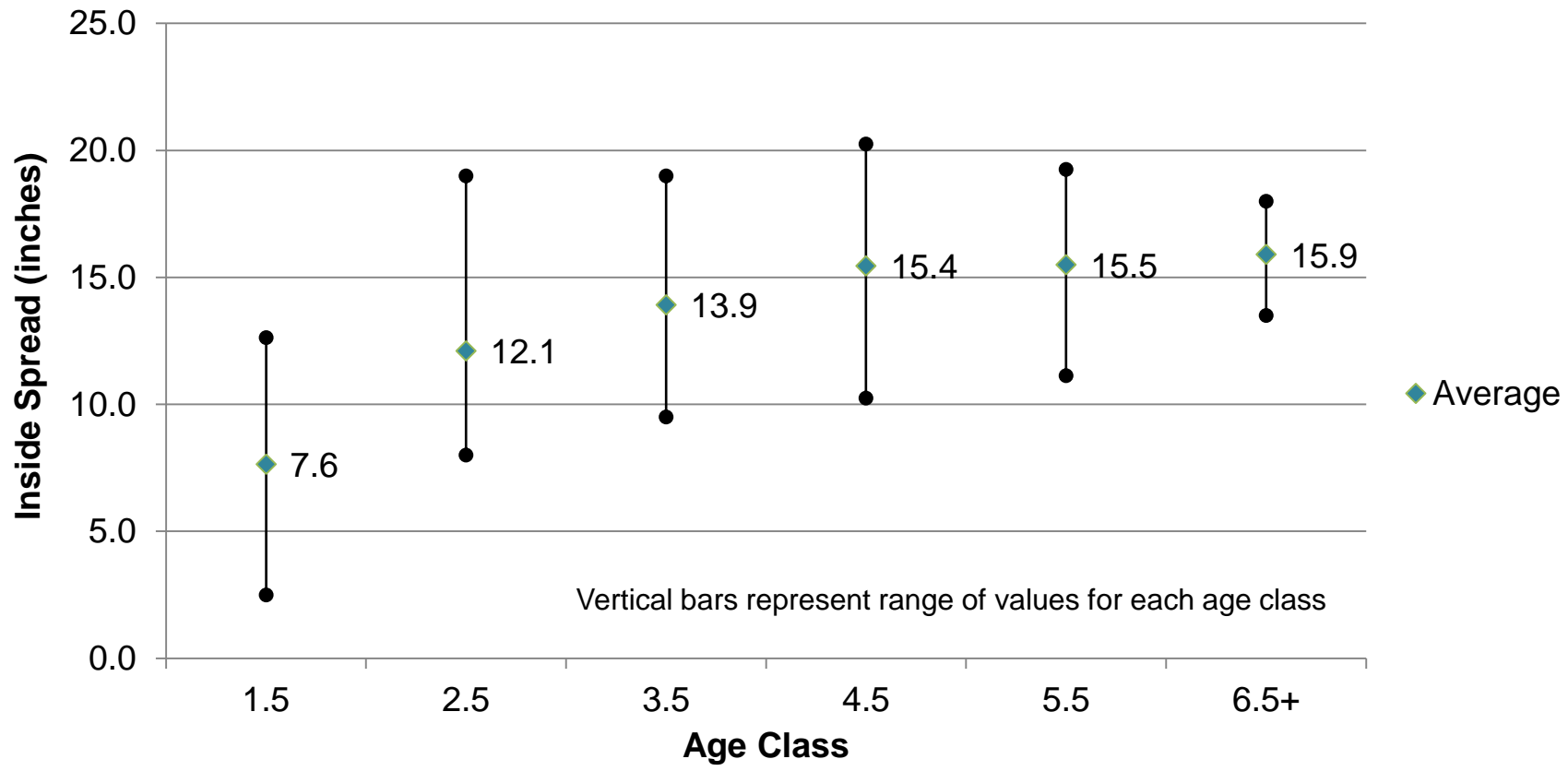
Average

Antler Data Summary
(2009-Current)

Average Main Beam Lengths by Age Class
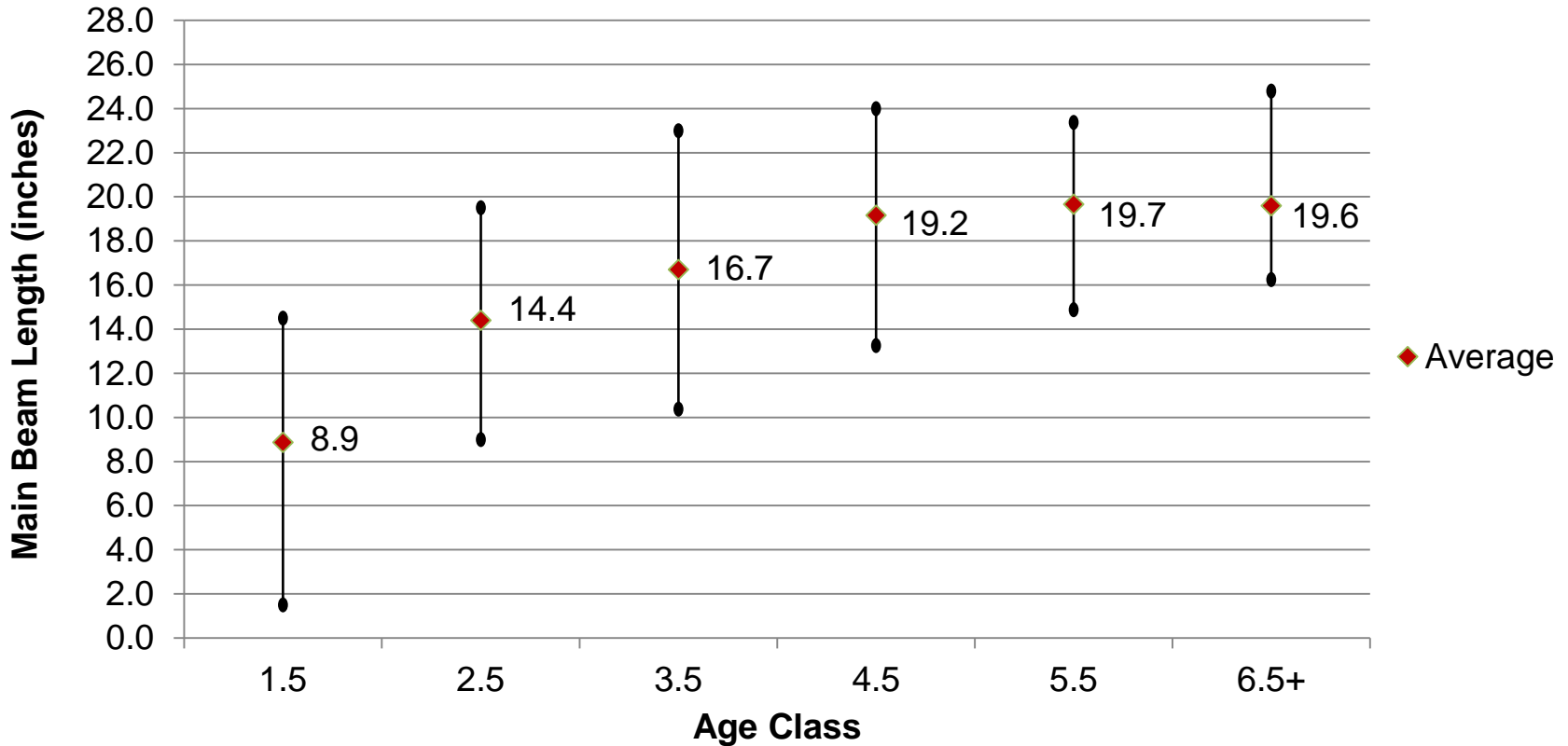
Peak Conception Dates

- Based on fetus data collected since 2010 the average date of conception is **2 November**

- The range is 10 October to 1 December, with approximately 2/3 of conceptions falling in the first half of this range
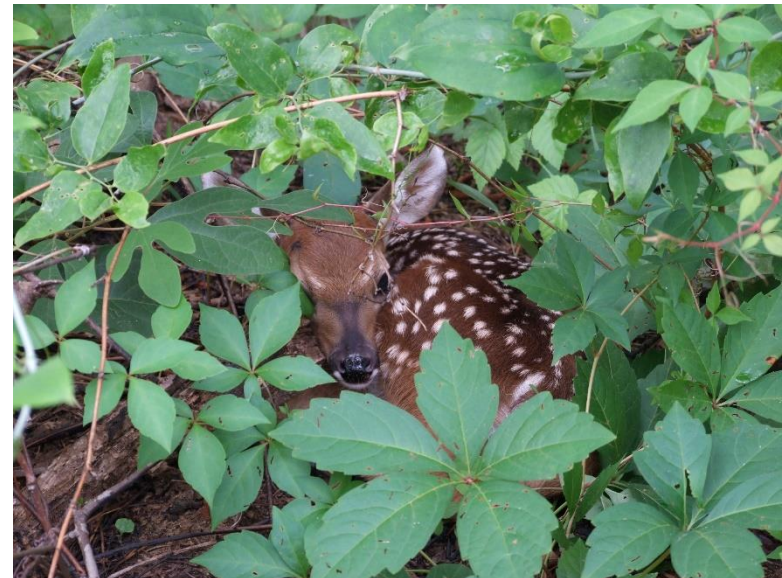
Questions?

If you have questions or comments regarding data represented in these slides please email: michael.juhan.civ@mail.mil

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INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND

SUSTAIN, SUPPORT, DEFEND

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