

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife & Heritage Service
2018-2020 Hunting Regulation
Stakeholder's Meeting Notes
Gwynnbrook WMA
2/8/18**

Black Bear

- Longer season may reduce issues such as baiting.
- Hunter success rate currently about 8% had been around 13%.
- Would love to see over-counter tags.
- Shift season earlier before Early Muzzleloader season for deer.
- How about limited spring season for bow hunting?

Furbearers

- Suggest otter bag limit be unlimited in coastal areas.
- Daytime coon hunting.
- Hours of use on NRMAs close at sunset, limits opportunity for predator hunting.
- Unarmed rabbit chasing outside of regular hunting season (regs)?

Webless Migratory Birds

- Maryland Waterfowlers support and commend DNR and Flyway Council.
- When would dove days be added? A few days to each of the segments.
- Does bag limit effect length of season?

Pheasant

- Is the banding issue reg or law?
- Perhaps eliminate the banding requirement.
- Is it possible to get a 3rd turkey in the spring bag limit?
- Baiting during the winter season vs fall season on specific properties?

- What are the winter harvest numbers? Minimal population effect from winter season.
- Longer fall season requested. Some guys aren't participating b/c the season isn't long enough. They are going to other states to hunt turkeys in the fall.
- Short fall season is impacted by hunters traveling to hunt other species in other states, too.
- Extra 3 days in the fall season would help.

Whitetail Deer

- What is HD?
- Any measurable coyote depredation?
- What is estimated deer pop vs 10 - 15 years ago?
- Is HD having a bigger effect with a smaller deer pop?
- How much is the bonus stamp? Should go up to \$15 to \$20 for residents and \$50 - \$100 for nonresidents
- Stamp prices are too cheap. Licenses should cost more.
- Western MD – in favor of a 2 buck limit – no bonus tag in Rgn A.
- Mt MD QDMA opposed to a bonus stamp. 2 buck limit with one including an APR (3/side)
- A reduced buck bag limit may prevent hunters spending time in the woods so antlerless harvest may be affected.
- Statewide bag limit - 1 unrestricted buck and 2 with an APR with a bonus tag.
- Require APR on all bucks except junior hunters. Hunters can take does to fill the freezer
- Still need to take care of our senior hunters – continue to allow one management buck for seniors.
- There is value to a statewide bag limit – especially from an enforcement perspective. Simpler regulations are better.
- Region A – antlerless opportunity is limited. Continue to allow a management buck (unrestricted) in the bag limit. 2 buck limit – one APR.
- Region A – move the doe days early in the firearm season.
- How about a statewide bag limit of 1 buck with additional bonus stamps (1 bonus stamp available in rgn A and 2 in rgn B)?
- 1 buck bag limit with additional bonus stamps would be bad in Rgn B.

- In region B you need to keep hunters in the woods taking does. The multiple buck bag limit keeps hunters in the woods. APR on 2 bucks + 1 hunters' choice buck.
- In region B, farmers would like to keep the 2 doe requirement before taking the bonus buck.
- Potentially have 'region specific' bonus tags in addition to a 1 buck statewide bag limit.
- Concern that a bonus stamp may encourage people hunting in Rgn A to take more. Consider requiring an APR tied to the bonus buck stamp.
- Concern that deer density is too low to entertain multiple bucks/weapon season in Region A.
- Bow hunters want the bonus stamp available to continue hunting. The incentive is important to keep hunters in the field. 2 buck limit with a bonus stamp is preferred. OK with APR on one or 2 bucks.
- Majority of region A hunters want a buck bag limit reduction. The bonus tag may hurt the majority of hunters who have limited time to hunt.
- Bonus tag in Rgn A will definitely impact firearms hunters negatively - especially nonresident hunters.
- With liberal bag limits, the 2 doe requirement is not necessary – although the educational impact is good.
- Concern over reduction of bag limits being seen by hunters as having something taken away. Region A would have issues with having to pay for the same opportunity (bonus tags).
- Rgn A hunters on large hunt clubs want a reduced buck bag limit - 2 bucks.
- Physically mark bonus tags as good in Region B only.
- 2 buck bonus tags able to be used in same weapon season.
- Re: the public land early muzz concept, let the doe harvest on Rgn A public lands go and watch it. Pull it back in 2 years if there's concern.
- Region B – specifically lower shore. Need to consider lowering the doe harvest in Rgn B. Consider lowering to a max no. of 5 does/weapon to get the message across that the pop needs monitored.
- Good deer density is important to hunter recruitment
- Rgn B put a max of 10 deer total across weapon seasons.
- Consider additional management regions (beyond the current rgn A & rgn B).

- Let deer in agricultural regions be controlled by DMPs – not hunting seasons.
- Stop messaging that we're overrun with deer.
- Possibly initiate an urban/suburban objective such as a late season (February) archery antlerless season.
- Possibly no more than 2 does/day in Rgn B
- Possibly reduce/eliminate the doe only EM season in Rgn B.
- Are modern handguns allowed in the current shotgun limited counties?
- Do a senior hunt day similar to the junior hunt day (senior license limited) or have it concurrent with the junior hunt.
- A senior day may not be popular.
- A senior day concurrent with the junior day would get the generations out together.
- A senior day should be a doe-only day.