

# ***Keweenaw Bay***



## ***Natural Resources Department***

### **Keweenaw Bay Tribal Wildlife Survey**

**Results For 2009**

**By**

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## INTRODUCTION

This report includes information summarizing the results of the 2009 Wildlife Survey circulated among Tribal hunters and trappers of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) by the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Natural Resource Department (KBIC-NRD). A KBIC hunting, fishing and trapping license allows the holder to harvest certain wildlife species within Michigan's 1842 treaty ceded territory (on and off reservation) (Figure 1). Surveys were mailed on April 6, 2009 to 647 Tribal license holders of 2009. The response deadline was set for May 1, 2009 and a total of 220 (34%) were returned to the KBIC-NRD.



**Figure 1.** 1842 Treaty area in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (on and off the KBIC Reservation).

Similar surveys were conducted in 1991, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, and 2005. Results of the 2009 survey are compared to past survey data when applicable. The 2009 KBIC-NRD wildlife survey included questions pertaining to deer, bear, small game, waterfowl and furbearer harvest, as well as KBIC wildlife harvest regulations, rare and/or sensitive species observations, and general wildlife management comments and concerns of hunters and trappers. As an incentive to encourage responses, we enclosed a participant prize drawing ticket with the survey. Prize tickets became valid when a completed survey was returned to the KBIC-NRD. The prize drawings were for a shotgun, binoculars, a hunter backpack that contained a variety of hunting supplies, and a rifle scope. Participation prizes were drawn May 15, 2009.

Information derived from this report will give the KBIC Tribal Council and KBIC-NRD perspectives on wildlife harvest activities and attitudes of Tribal members regarding wildlife management issues of 2009.



## **METHODS**

### **Survey Details**

The 2009 Tribal Wildlife Survey (Appendix I) was similar to the 2005 survey, and covered a wide range of wildlife management aspects. A primary focus of the survey was white-tailed deer management, with questions related to hunting methods, harvest levels, areas hunted, time spent pursuing deer, and current harvest regulations. Tribal members were also questioned about various other wildlife issues including black bear harvest and management, small game and waterfowl, fur bearer trapping, rare/sensitive species observations and opinions, and acquiring and preserving wildlife habitat.

Some questions were added to the 2009 Tribal Wildlife Survey regarding moose hunting and wolf management strategies. In light of recent State approval of the development of a moose hunting season there was a question pertaining to whether or not Tribal survey participants would take part in a limited moose hunt if/when the season opened. Also, in light of KBIC-NRD receiving funds through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to create a Tribal Wolf Management Plan, questions were included regarding strategies Tribal members feel KBIC should adopt for wolf management and whether or not they would hunt/trap wolf if there was a limited season. General comments were encouraged and several respondents included a wide array of comments with their survey submissions.

### **Prize Drawings**

Returned surveys and completed raffle tickets were reviewed by KBIC-NRD staff and information was entered into a Microsoft Excel data file. Prize drawings were held by the KBIC-NRD on May 15, 2009 and the winners were as follows: Joe Lafermier won the shotgun, Kyle Stein won the rifle scope, Melvin Lafermier won the binoculars, and Bill Largent won the hunters backpack kit. Funds for the prize drawing were provided by the KBIC Natural Resource Committee.

### **Deer Hunting Regulations**

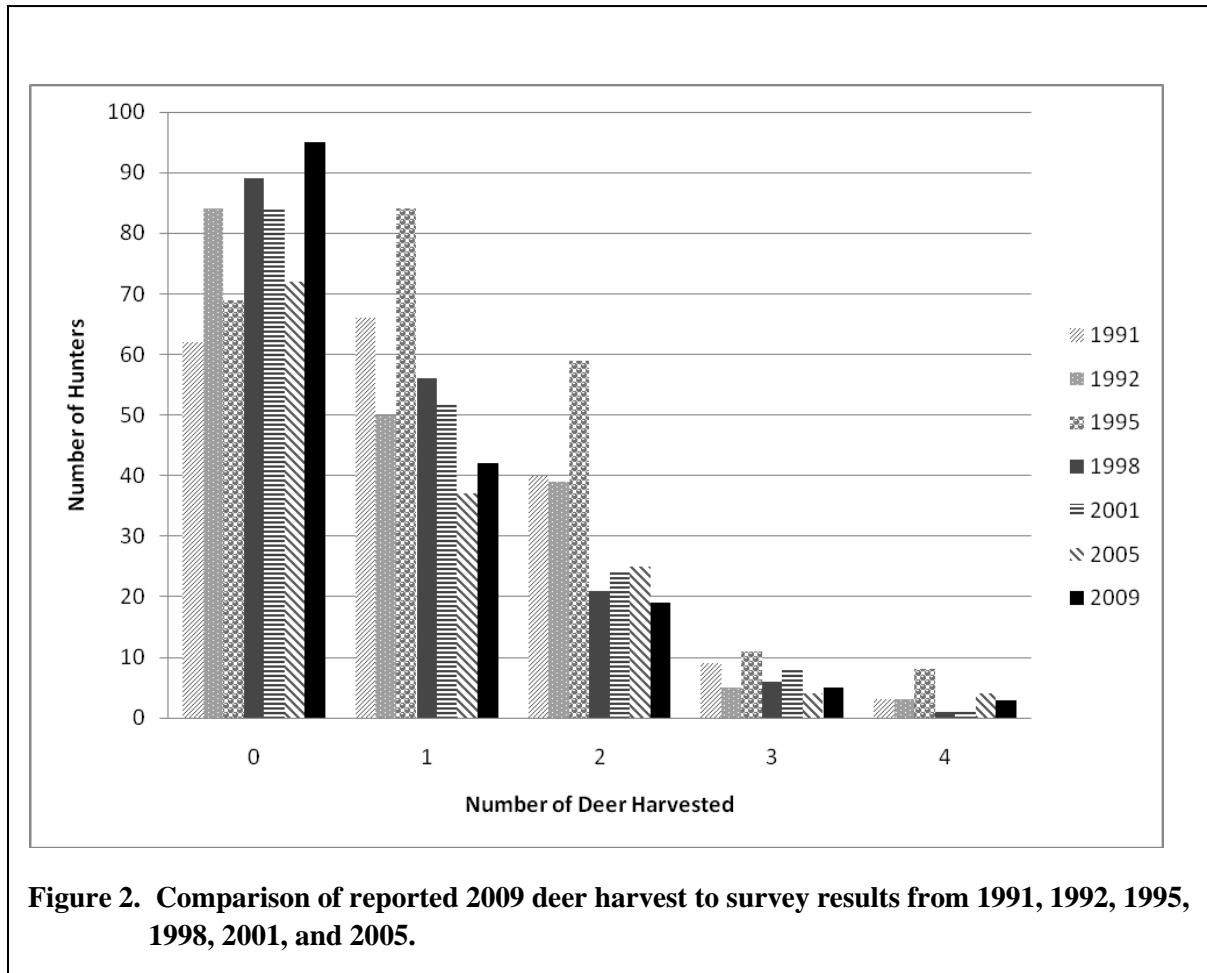
KBIC members were subject to the following bag limits and regulations for the 2009 deer hunting season:

- Deer season was open from September 1, 2009 to January 1, 2010
- KBIC members were given 2 deer tags with their license
- A tag was to be placed through the gambrel of the deer immediately upon the kill of the deer and prior to transportation from the kill site
- Licensees could have picked up 2 additional deer tags after the first 2 tags were utilized
- Maximum harvest limit per hunter was 4 deer
- Deer could be taken of either sex
- All deer were to be registered with the Tribal Licensing Clerk
- A KBIC hunting, fishing and trapping license allowed the holder to harvest deer within much of Michigan's 1842 treaty ceded territory (on and off reservation).

## RESULTS

### Deer Hunting Results

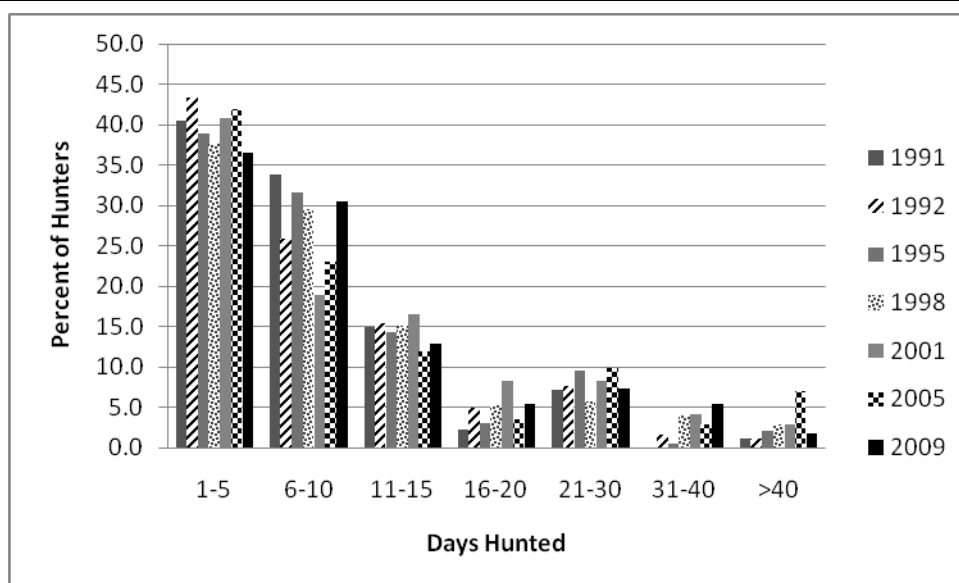
Of the 220 members who returned surveys, 164 (75%) reported time spent deer hunting. Of these, 42% (n=69) members successfully harvested at least one deer; 42 hunters harvested one deer, 19 harvested two deer, 5 harvested three deer, and 3 harvested four deer (Figure 2, Table 1).



**Table 1. Number of deer reported harvested by Tribal members who hunted in Michigan in 1991, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2005 and 2009**

	Hunters													
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
Deer Harvested	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	62	34	84	46	69	30	89	51	84	49	72	50	95	58
1	66	37	50	27	84	36	56	32	52	31	37	26	42	26
2	40	22	39	21	59	26	21	12	24	14	25	17	19	12
3	9	5	5	3	11	5	6	4	8	5	4	3	5	3
4	3	2	3	2	8	3	1	1	1	1	4	3	3	2
5	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Total Hunters</b>	<b>180</b>		<b>182</b>		<b>231</b>		<b>173</b>		<b>169</b>		<b>143</b>		<b>164</b>	

Survey respondents spent a total of 2,184 days hunting in Michigan. Hunters most frequently spent 1-5 days afield (37%, n=60), while 31% spent 6-10 days (n=50), 13% spent 11-15 days (n=21), 6% spent 16-20 days (n=9), 7% spent 21-30 days (n=12), and 6% (n=9) spent more than 30 days hunting deer (Figure 3, Table 2).



**Figure 3. Number of deer hunting days reported by Tribal members in 1991 through 2009 hunter surveys.**

**Table 2. Summary of number of reported deer hunting days by Tribal members in 1991 through 2009 hunter surveys.**

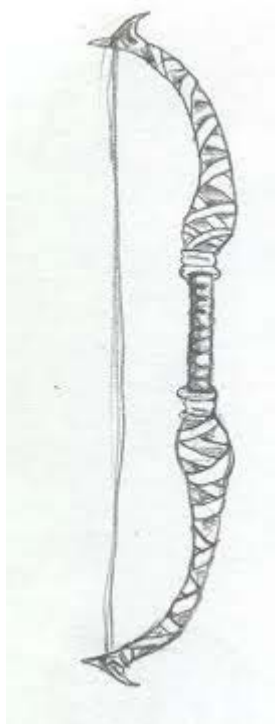
Days	Hunters													
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1-5	73	40.6	79	43.4	90	39.0	65	37.6	69	40.8	60	42.0	60	36.6
6-10	61	33.9	47	25.8	73	31.6	51	29.5	32	18.9	33	23.1	50	30.5
11-15	27	15.0	28	15.4	33	14.3	26	15.0	28	16.6	17	11.9	21	12.8
16-20	4	2.2	9	5.0	7	3.0	9	5.2	14	8.3	5	3.5	9	5.5
21-30	13	7.2	14	7.7	22	9.5	10	5.8	14	8.3	14	9.8	12	7.3
31-40	0	0.0	3	1.7	1	0.4	7	4.1	7	4.1	4	2.8	9	5.5
>40	2	1.1	2	1.1	5	2.2	5	2.9	5	3.0	10	7.0	3	1.8
<b>Total Hunters</b>	<b>180</b>		<b>182</b>		<b>231</b>		<b>173</b>		<b>169</b>		<b>143</b>		<b>164</b>	

Hunters were asked to indicate each method (e.g. stand/blind hunting, stalking, road hunting, deer drives) they utilized in 2009 and a total of 175 respondents answered this question. Twelve respondents that didn't actually hunt recorded their preference and are included in these results. Survey results indicate that the hunting method most frequently used by Tribal members was stand/blind hunting (66% n=106). Shining was a listed hunting

option in the 2009 survey and 18% (n=29) of respondents indicated they attempted to shine for deer during their hunting effort (Table 3).

**Table 3. Deer hunting methods chosen by Tribal hunters that responded to the hunter surveys from 1991 to 2009.** (Note: A deer hunter may have indicated more than one method.

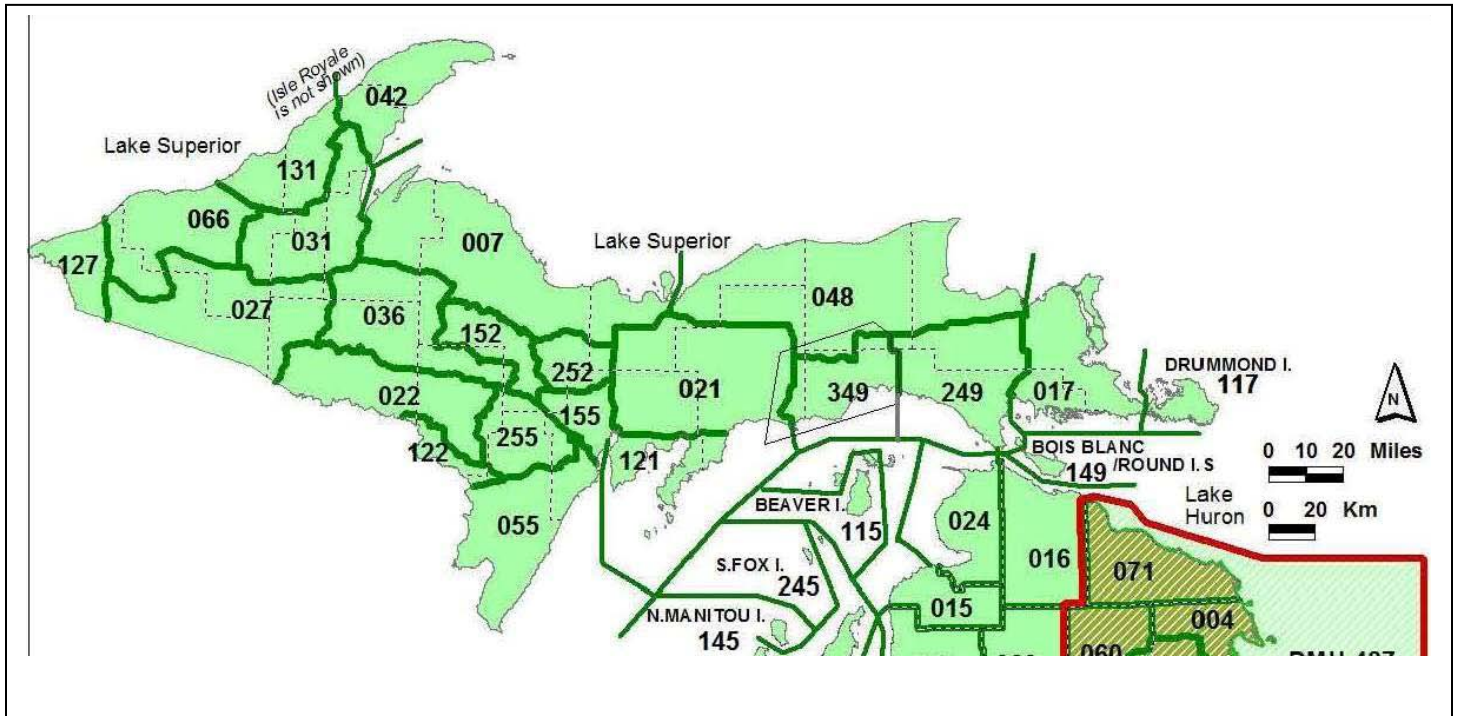
HUNTERS														
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
Methods	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Stand	94	52.2	118	64.8	157	68.0	115	66.5	108	63.9	91	39.2	21	6.9
Stalking	71	39.4	72	39.6	103	44.6	76	43.9	77	45.6	63	27.2	29	9.5
Shining	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	23	9.9	126	41.2
Road	62	34.4	71	39.0	102	44.2	68	39.3	57	33.7	47	20.3	62	20.3
Drives	10	5.6	17	9.3	34	14.7	22	12.7	19	11.2	8	3.4	68	22.2
Total Responses	180		182		231		173		169		232		306	



A reported 28 (17%) hunters most preferred to stalk deer over other methods and a total of 62 (38%) of respondents indicated they attempted to stalk deer during their hunting effort. A total 26 (16%) of the respondents preferred road hunting while a total of 68 (42%) indicated they attempted road hunting for deer during their hunting effort. Only 3 respondents (2%) indicated that they preferred deer drives, 11 respondents (7%) preferred shining.

Tribal hunters were asked in the 2009 survey whether they baited deer while hunting. Baiting was practiced by 61% of those Tribal members that indicated they hunted (n=106). The majority of hunters, 88 of 106 (83%), who most frequently stand hunted also baited. Six of the 28 hunters (21%) who spent most of their time stalking also practiced baiting. Eight of 16 hunters (50%) of hunters that reported spending most of their time road hunting also practiced baiting.

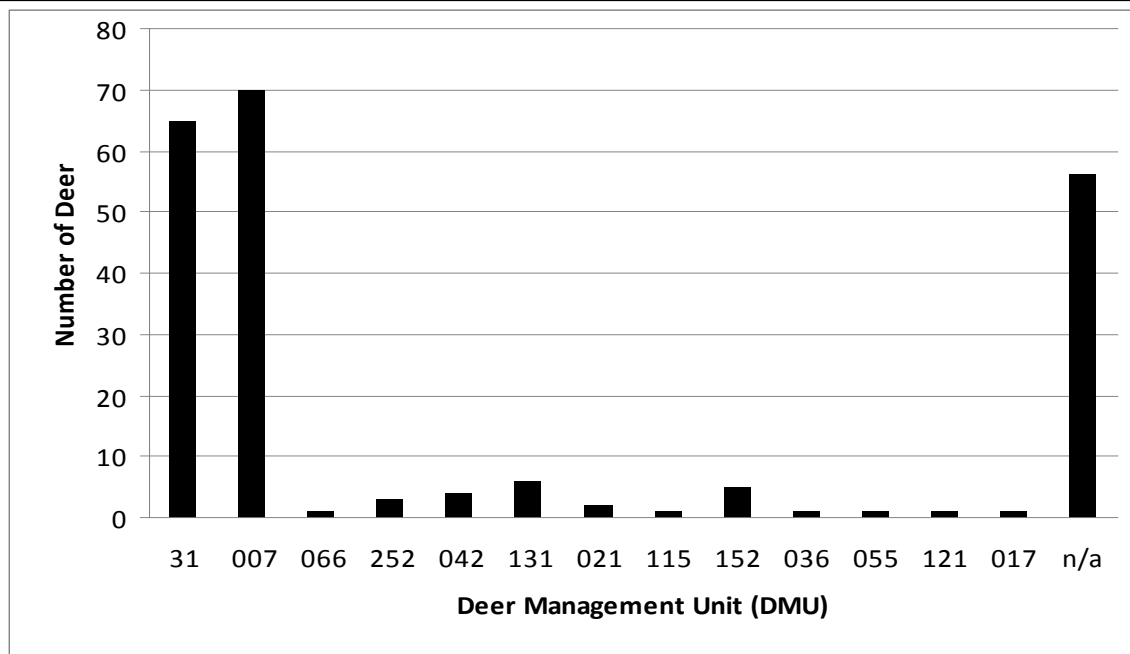
Tribal hunters were asked to reference a provided map and to indicate from which management unit they harvested deer and 165 respondents answered this question. The management units used for the survey were based upon those used by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment in 2010 (Figure 4).



**Figure 4. Current Michigan DNRE Deer Management Units (DMU's) of the Upper Peninsula where survey respondents indicated they spent time deer hunting deer in 2009.**



In 2009, KBIC members concentrated most of their deer hunting effort in the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan from Marquette to Ontonagon. The deer management units most frequented by Tribal Hunters that responded to this question in 2009 included Zone 007 (42%; n=70) and Zone 31 (39%; n=65). The remaining Tribal hunters that responded to this question (18%; n = 30) indicated that they most frequented other zones (Figure 5). Note: Management Unit boundaries have been redefined since 2005 by the Michigan DNRE, therefore hunting zone preference data from past surveys may not be directly compared to results from previous surveys.



**Figure 5. Number of deer taken per Deer Management Unit (DMU), defined by the MI DNRE. Deer management unit boundaries have changed over the years and may not be directly comparable to past years. (See Figure 4 for current boundaries of DMUs.)**

The reported buck:doe harvest ratio for 2009 was 1:1, with 45 bucks and 43 does being taken for a total of 88 deer harvested. This was the lowest total harvested reported by KBIC hunters compared to previous reports with the greatest harvest number, 267 deer, reported in 1995 (Table 4).

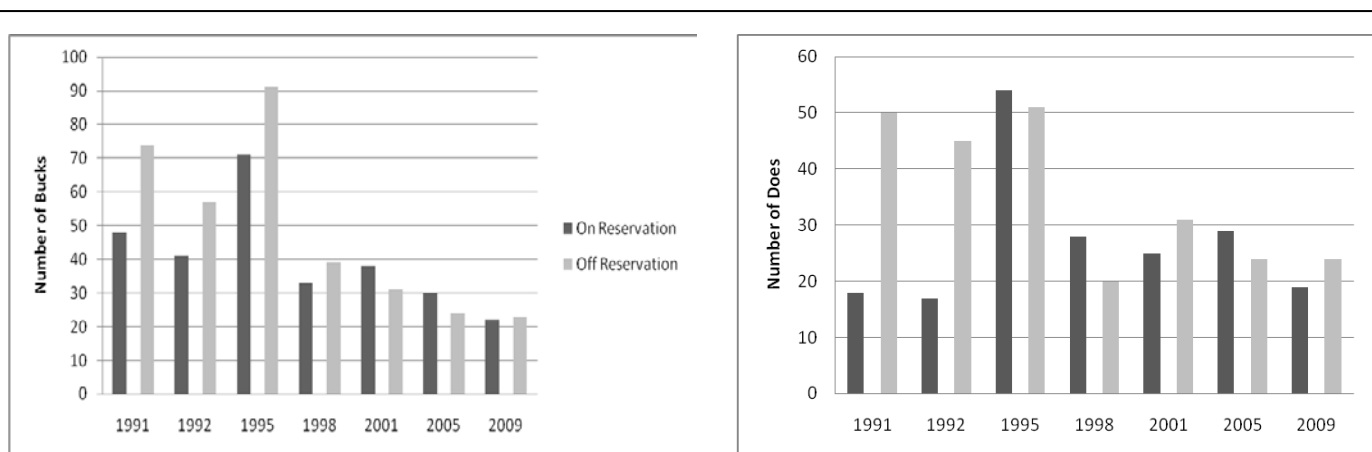




**Table 4. Number of bucks and does harvested on and off the Reservation reported by Tribal hunters from hunter surveys 1991 – 2009.**

	Deer													
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
Harvest	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Bucks</b>														
On Reservation	48	39.3	41	41.8	71	43.8	33	45.8	38	55.1	30	54.6	22	48.9
Off Reservation	74	60.7	57	58.2	91	56.2	39	54.2	31	44.9	24	43.7	23	51.1
<b>Total Bucks</b>	<b>122</b>		<b>98</b>		<b>162</b>		<b>72</b>		<b>69</b>		<b>**55</b>		<b>45</b>	
<b>Does</b>														
On Reservation	18	26.5	17	27.4	54	51.4	28	58.3	25	44.6	29	51.8	19	44.2
Off Reservation	50	73.5	45	72.6	51	48.6	20	41.7	31	55.4	24	42.9	24	55.8
<b>Total Does</b>	<b>68</b>		<b>62</b>		<b>105</b>		<b>48</b>		<b>56</b>		<b>56*</b>		<b>43</b>	
<b>Total Deer</b>	<b>190</b>		<b>160</b>		<b>267</b>		<b>120</b>		<b>*128</b>		<b>**114</b>		<b>88</b>	

Of the total 88 deer harvested, 22 bucks and 19 does were harvested on reservation. Twenty-three bucks and 24 does were harvested off the reservation. (Figure 6).

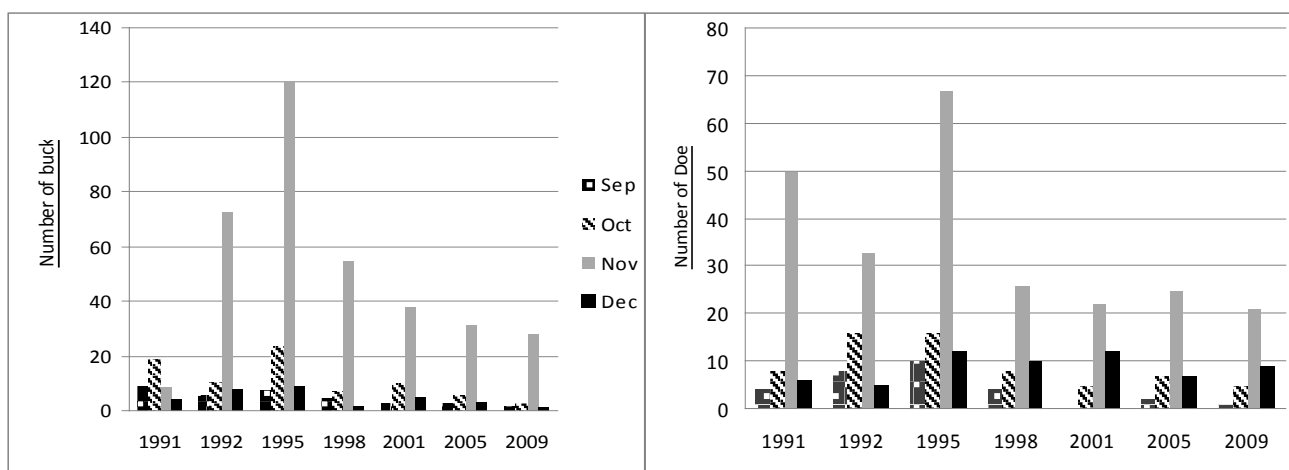


**Figure 6. Number of bucks and does reported to be harvested on and off the Reservation by Tribal hunters from 1991 – 2009 hunter surveys.**

Based on data derived from 2009 survey responses that indicated hunting success, most deer harvest occurred during the month of November (56%; n=49) and 21% (n=18) did not provide a date of harvest (Table 6, Figure 7).

**Table 6. Number of deer reported per month to be harvested by Tribal hunters from survey results 1991-2009.**

DEER HARVEST														
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
Bucks	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sept	9	7.4	6	6.1	8	4.9	5	7.3	3	5.4	3	6.8	2	5.9
Oct	19	15.6	11	11.2	24	14.8	7	10.1	10	17.9	6	13.6	3	8.8
Nov	90	73.8	73	74.5	121	74.7	55	79.7	38	67.9	32	72.7	28	82.4
Dec	4	3.3	8	8.2	9	5.6	2	2.9	5	8.9	3	6.8	1	2.9
Total Bucks	122		98		162		69		56		44		34	
	1991		1992		1995		1998		2001		2005		2009	
Does	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
September	4	5.9	8	12.9	10	38.5	4	8.3	0	0.0	2	4.9	1	2.8
October	8	11.8	16	25.8	16	61.5	8	16.7	5	12.8	7	17.1	5	13.9
November	50	73.5	33	53.2	67	257.7	26	54.2	22	56.4	25	61.0	21	58.3
December	6	8.8	5	8.1	12	46.2	10	20.8	12	30.8	7	17.1	9	25.0
Total Does	68		62		26		48		39		41		36	
Total Deer	190		160		188		117		95		85		70	

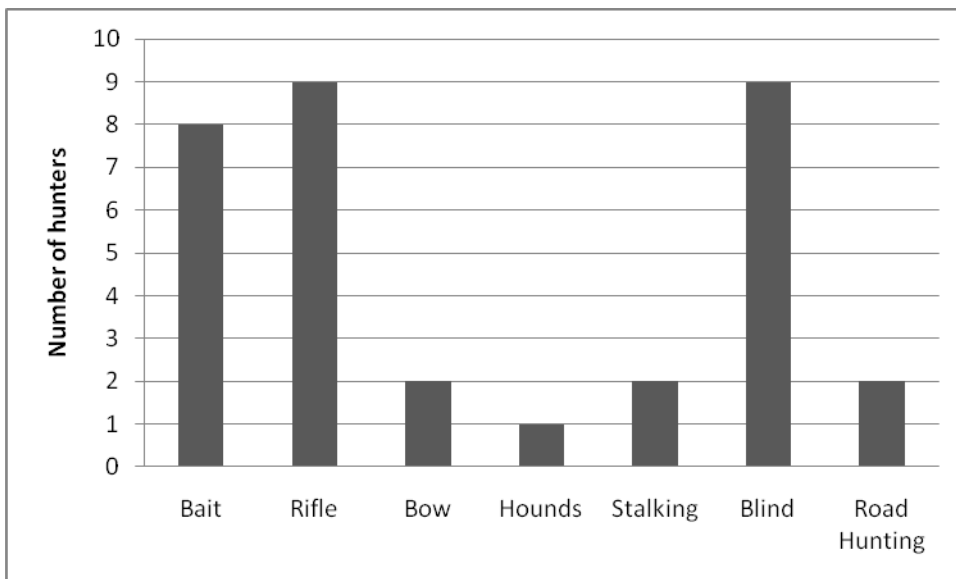


**Figure 7. Number of bucks and does reported to be harvested during the months of September through December from survey results 191-2009.**



## Bear Harvest Results

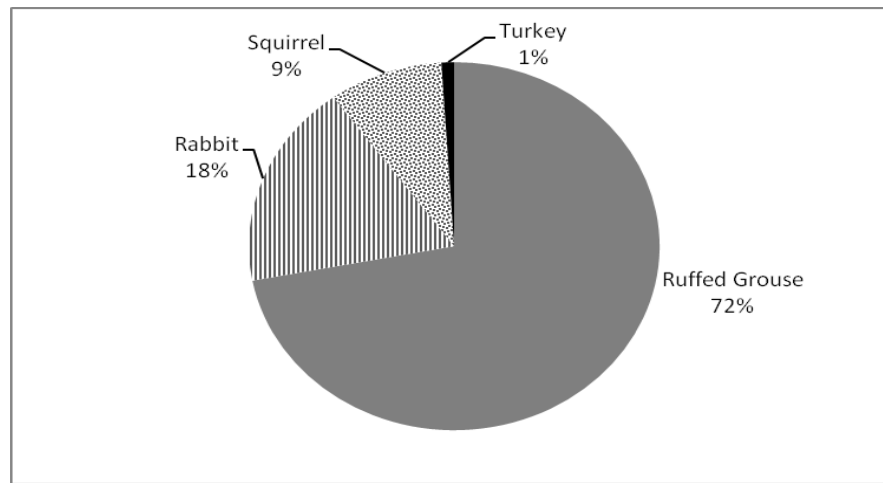
Fourteen of 220 (6%) of survey respondents indicated that they spent time hunting black bear. A total 2 of the 14 (14%) Tribal bear hunters reported that they successfully harvest a bear and both were male. Average number of days spent pursuing bear was 10 days. Of the tribal bear hunters, 9 reported using a rifle (64%) and 8 reported utilizing bait (57%). Only 1 Tribal hunter reported using hounds (7%) (Figure 8).



**Figure 8. Methods of hunting bear used by the fourteen respondents that reported to hunt bear in 2009. More than one method may have been reported per hunter.**

## Small Game and Waterfowl Harvest Results

Approximately 30% (n=67) of Tribal members who completed the wildlife survey indicated they had harvested small game species in 2009. A reported 374 ruffed grouse, 92 rabbits, 47 squirrels, and 4 turkeys were taken and are similar to harvest numbers from 2005 (Figure 9).



**Figure 9. Percentage of total small game harvest reported by KBIC Tribal hunters in 2009 for four game animals.**

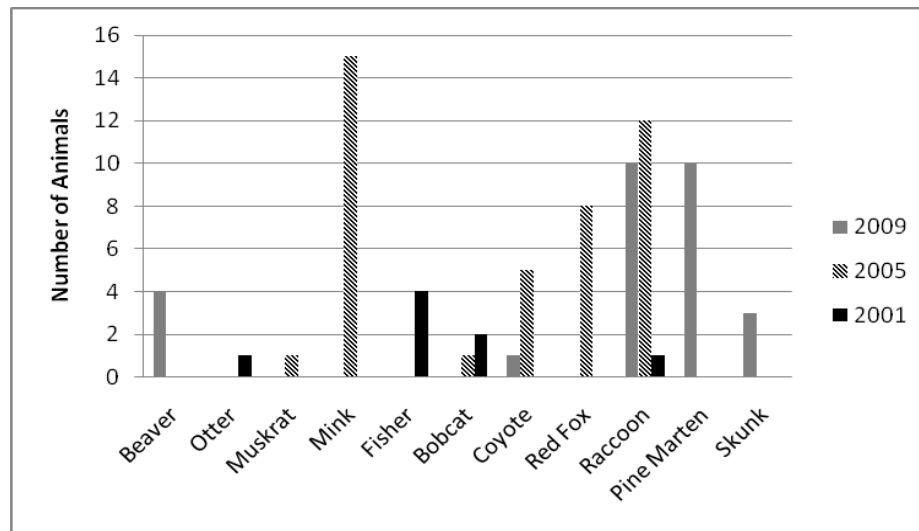
Only 7 Tribal hunters (3%) stated in returned surveys that they pursued migratory gamebirds and/or waterfowl during the 2009 season. Of these successful hunters harvested ducks, geese, and woodcock with 10, 69 and 31 respectively. Although there were fewer hunters pursuing these species in 2009, more were harvested compared with 21 hunters successful in harvesting 1 duck, 26 geese and 15 woodcock in 2005.

The 2009 survey included habitat types in which they targeted these migratory species and only 4 of the 7 hunters responded with two hunting in active farmland, one in marsh, and one on an open lake compared to 2005 with 11 hunting active farmland, 5 in marsh, 3 on open lakes, and 3 over swamp land.

### **Furbearer Trapping Results**



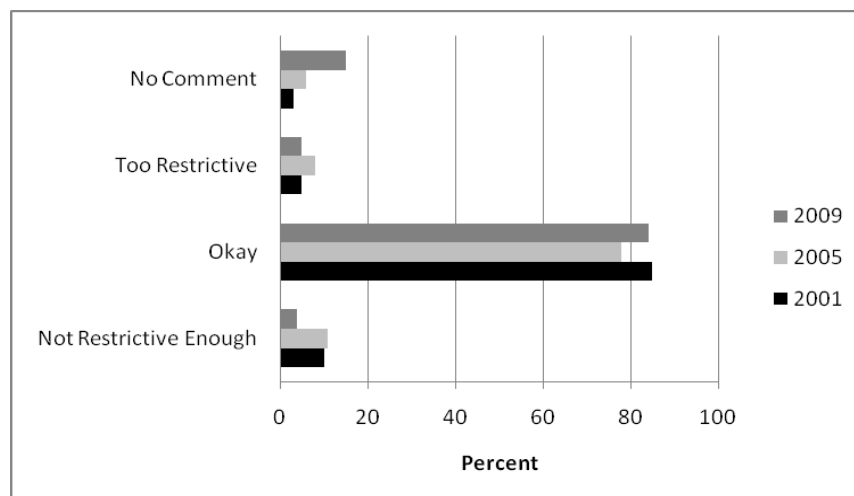
Six KBIC members (<3%) indicated in returned surveys that they had attempted to trap furbearers in 2009. This is compared to 9 members in 2005 and 2 members in 2001 that attempted trapping. Beaver, Otter, Muskrat, Bobcat, Fisher, Pine Marten, Raccoon, and Coyote were listed as target species. A total of 28 animals were trapped and include 4 beaver, 10 raccoon, 1 coyote, 10 pine marten, and 3 skunk (Figure 10).



**Figure 10. Number of animals reported to be harvested from KBIC trappers from the 2009, 2005 and 2001 surveys.**

## Regulations

Tribal hunters were asked about how they felt about the KBIC hunting regulations. They were asked to choose one of three responses: not restrictive enough, okay, or too restrictive. The majority of Tribal members participating in the survey felt the rules and regulations governing KBIC hunting and trapping in the State of Michigan 1842 Ceded Territory were acceptable with 184 of 206 (84%) saying the level of regulation was “okay”. Approximately 5% believed they were too restrictive, 4% thought they were not restrictive enough, and 15% did not respond (Figure 11). If Tribal hunters expressed that regulations were “too restrictive” or “not restrictive enough”, they were asked to comment. Appendix II lists all comments received in 2009 Tribal Wildlife survey in regards to regulations.

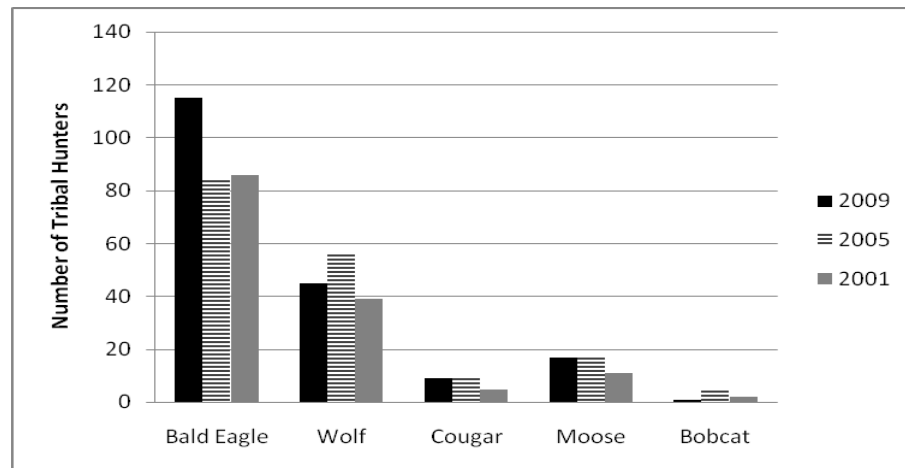


**Figure 11. Attitudes of Tribal hunters regarding hunting and trapping regulations in 2009, 2005 and 2001. Shown as percent of total responses.**

## Rare and/or Sensitive Species Observations



Many (90%; n=198) of the survey respondents conveyed that they had observed species such as bald eagle (n=115), wolf (n=45), cougar (n=9), bobcat (n=1), moose (n=17), owl (n=2), turkey (n=4), fox (n=1), and coyote (n=4) (Figure 12). See Appendix III for specific comments regarding rare and/or sensitive species.



**Figure 12. Number of Tribal hunters that observed five rare or sensitive species in 2009, 2005 and 2001.**

## Comments Section Results

A total of 110 (50%) of respondents chose to make comments. Many of the comments in the general comment section expressed noticeably fewer deer (25%; n=20), a negative comment about wolves affecting deer numbers or causing concern for human safety (18%; n=14), or simply statements of noticeably increased numbers of wolves (13%; n=10).

## Wolf Management

A new question was added this year to help ascertain opinions on wolf management options. We asked respondents to choose one of four management options for wolves:

- KBIC should promote complete protection and not allow our Tribal members to take wolves for any reason on the Reservation.
- KBIC should promote protection, but allow the taking of wolves in the event that there is some negative impact to humans (i.e. livestock damage, pet killed, etc.).

- KBIC should promote limited harvest opportunity for Tribal members and work to provide control measures for wolf populations, if needed (i.e. limited hunting/trapping season).
- Other: (Please explain)

A total 208 Tribal members (95%) responded to this wolf management question. Some Tribal respondents felt that wolves warrant complete protection on the reservation (11%; n=23), limited taking of only negative impact animals was supported by 39% (n=82) respondents, and management of the population through limited hunting/trapping was supported by 47% (n=98), while 2% (n=5) felt that wolves should be removed entirely from the reservation.



Many respondents made wolf specific comments and approximately 57% of the wolf related comments were interpreted as being negative towards wolves. Negative comments ranged from concern over the predation on deer, to human safety, and increased encounters with wolves near urban areas. Roughly 31% of the wolf related comments were interpreted as being positive towards wolves. The remaining 12% of wolf related comments were interpreted as being neutral. Neutral comments regarded wolf sighting information such as numbers and locations. See Appendix IV for all comments specifically regarding wolves.

### **Moose Hunting**

In light of recent State approval of the development of a moose hunting season in the Upper Peninsula, we asked if survey participants felt "...KBIC should participate in a limited harvest of moose within the 1842 Ceded Territory". The response options were "yes", "no", and "I don't Know".

A total 214 Tribal members (97%) responded to this moose hunting question. Most respondents felt that KBIC should participate in a limited moose hunt (55%; n=117), while 27% (n=57) felt KBIC should not participate, and 19% (n=40) didn't know.

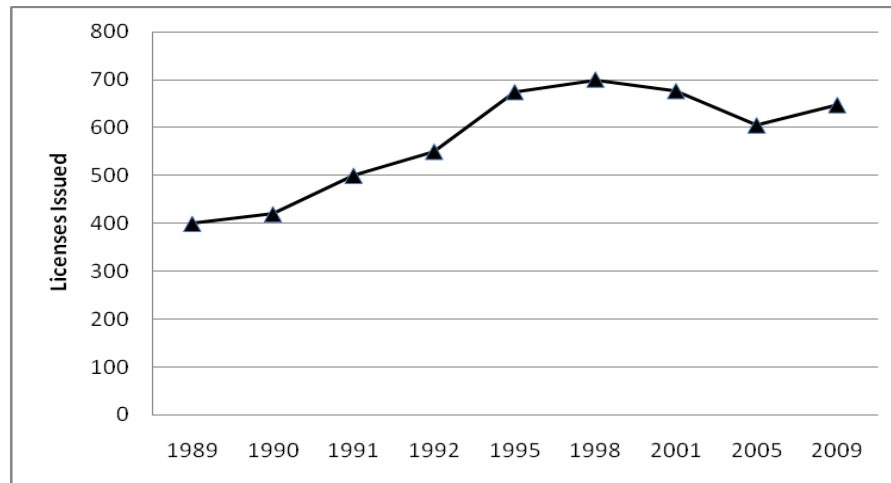
### **Acquire, Protect and Enhance Wildlife Habitat**

We also asked whether or not participants supported the current KBIC efforts to acquire, protect and enhance wildlife habitat and asked for comments on habitat types and/or species of interest. A total 206 (94%) responded to this question. Of those that responded, 95% (n=195) checked the "yes" option and 5% (n=11) checked the "no" option. Most people chose to comment in the general comments section and can be summarized as most concerns were about the decreasing deer numbers, decreasing small game numbers, and increasing wolf numbers. All remaining general comments can be viewed in Appendix V.

### **Discussion**

There are currently over 5000 registered Tribal members (all ages), most of whom are eligible to obtain hunting, fishing, and trapping cards. In 2009, 647 fishing, hunting and trapping licenses were issued, compared to 605 in 2005 and 676 in 2001 license years. A general trend of license increase was observed in the 1990's, based on survey efforts throughout that period (Figure 13). Increased interest in exercising treaty rights and an

increase in the number of registered Tribal members, may have led to the heightened number of license holders in the 1990's with slight declines observed in the last three survey years.

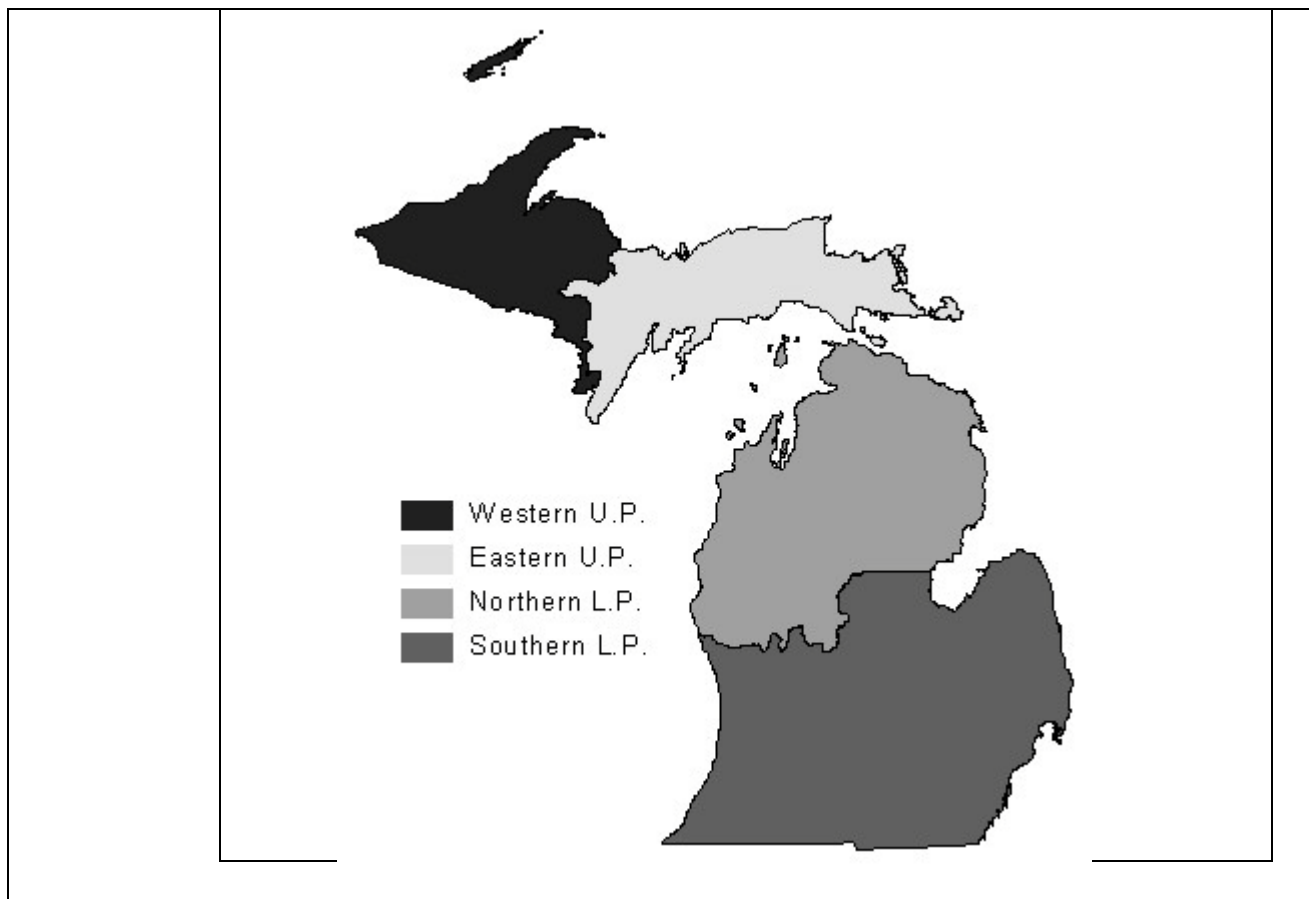


**Figure 13. Trend in KBIC hunting, fishing and trapping license issuance during the years of tribal hunter survey conductance, 1989 through 2009.**



The state of Michigan is divided into several “Eco-Regions” for wildlife management purposes by the MI DNRE. The Michigan 1842 Ceded Territory lies within the Western U.P. component of the upper peninsula Eco-Region (Figure 14). MI DNRE estimates over 100,000 state licensees hunt deer in the Western Upper Peninsula (Frawley 2010). MI DNRE estimates that 30,700 deer were harvested from the Western Upper Peninsula Eco-Region in 2009 by state licensees compared to 23,581 in 2001 and 36,700 in 2005.





**Figure 14. Terrestrial Eco-Regions defined by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Web Site at <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>).**

Actual KBIC Tribal deer harvest may be substantially higher than the total 121 deer reported in the survey data collected in 2009. However, even if KBIC harvest was 10 times the reported numbers, that harvest would be <4% of the estimated deer harvested in Michigan's western Upper Peninsula in 2009.

The KBIC Licensing Clerk indicated that 62 deer (26 bucks and 36 does) were registered by Tribal hunters in 2009 (GLIFWC/KBIC Licensing Clerk Results 2009). Forty-three percent of survey respondents (n=69) reported harvesting 121 deer in 2009 (59 bucks and 62 does). Obviously, deer hunters did not fully utilize the current deer registration system. Some hunters are probably not aware of the Tribal registration program and may be reporting their harvested deer to the Michigan DNRE. As stated in the Tribal Code, all deer must be registered with the Tribal Licensing Clerk. KBIC Natural Resource Department should work with Licensing and Conservation Officers to better publicize this requirement and the benefits and purpose of registration. An upcoming wildlife management plan will address this issue further, with a more intensive community education program initiative most likely suggested. The Natural Resource Department can work with the Tribal Licensing Clerk and Conservation Officers to remind all hunters to register their deer via Tribal newsletter, by distributing posters and other means. A deer weigh-in station would further encourage community members to actively participate. This alternative can be discussed in the future.

As for interest and reporting of harvest, bear is the other mandatory species for reporting of harvest with KBIC. Only 6% of survey respondents indicated that they hunted bear and two bear were reported as harvested, both

male. The KBIC Tribal Licensing Clerk reported that zero bear were registered. Again, the Natural Resource Department can work with Licensing and Conservation Officers to educate and emphasize the need and raise community awareness for the registration of game to help assess wildlife populations and monitor for health issues.

Hunters that completed the survey and reported to have pursued small game and waterfowl was about 30% (n=67) with a majority having harvested ruffed grouse. As for waterfowl, geese were recorded as harvested more often than ducks. Less than 3% of respondents (n=6) indicated that they attempted to trap furbearers. Historically trapping was done regularly by Indian Tribes for clothing and today KBIC members utilize natural furs for regalia and a variety of cultural purposes. It seems that the heritage of trapping has been nearly lost with the lack of need for native fur clothing and fluctuating prices for fur trade which make it less than profitable for the amount of effort required. Education of tribal youth about resource stewardship and trapping may increase participation. Interest in trapping may remain low unless markets or the need for fur increases.

KBIC-NRD anticipates conducting similar surveys in the future. Most of the 2009 data are similar to past survey data with some differences in the number of hunters, deer harvested, days spent hunting, and views about moose and non-game species such as wolves. Through hunter/wildlife surveys in 1991, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2005 and 2009, KBIC-NRD was able to obtain valuable information pertaining to the hunting activity of KBIC hunters, attitudes toward regulations, and non-game species. By continuing this survey, we can establish a database of hunter activities and attitudes with which to gauge changes in community values, perceptions, and hunting pursuits. The established database will demonstrate to State and Federal natural resource agencies KBIC's interest and ability to manage and regulate wildlife in the 1842 Michigan Treaty Ceded Territory.

It is hoped that more Tribal members exercise their Treaty Rights, voice the need to better protect and enforce the laws that assure these rights, and protect the resources that Ojibwa People cherish.

### **Acknowledgements**

Miigwech to all KBIC Members who returned completed surveys. Jeanne Kauppila, KBIC Licensing Clerk, assisted in providing necessary licensing information and data. Charlotte Loonsfoot assisted in assembling survey documents and compiling returned survey data. Jacob Haapapruo also assisted with compiling the returned survey data.

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- Frawley, Brian J. 2006. Michigan Deer Harvest Report 2005 Seasons. Wildlife Division Report 3371. Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Lansing, MI.
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## Appendix I. KBIC Hunter Survey 2009 distributed to 647 registered hunters in April 2010.

### 2009 KBIC Wildlife Survey

#### Instructions: Submit completed survey by May 1, 2010 to be eligible for gift drawings

- 1) Please fill out the survey form as completely and honestly as possible. Use a colored pen if possible.
- 2) Refer to the map on the back of this form when answering hunting and harvest questions.
- 3) Don't forget to include ticket stub (for entry into the prize drawings) with survey submission!
- 4) If you have questions on how to fill out the survey, call us at (906) 524-5757.

- 1) Did you harvest deer during the 2009 season? Yes ☐ No ☐
- 2) How many deer did you harvest? 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ Other ☐
- 3) How many days did you pursue deer? ☐
- 4) Which method did you **most frequently** use (select one)? Deer drives ☐ Shining ☐  
Stand/Blind hunting ☐ Stalking ☐ Road hunting ☐
- 5) Which methods did you use? Deer drives ☐ Shining ☐ Stand/Blind hunting ☐  
Stalking ☐ Road hunting ☐
- 6) Did you use bait while pursuing deer? Yes ☐ No ☐

#### Look at the map on the back of this form and locate areas you hunted

- 7) Which zone or zones did you pursue deer in? (Please list in order of most to least time spent)  
Zone ☐ (Most time Spent), Zone ☐, Zone ☐, Zone ☐ (Least time spent)
- 8) Indicate the sex, date (day and month), and area for each deer you harvested.

Deer No.	Buck	Doe	Date	On/Off Reservation	Zone (see map)	County

- 9) Did you harvest black bear in 2009? Yes ☐ No ☐
- 10) How many and what was the sex of each bear? ☐
- 11) How many days did you pursue bear? ☐
- 12) Which method(s) did you use to pursue bear? ☐ Bait ☐ Rifle ☐ Bow ☐ Hounds ☐ Stalking ☐  
Stand/Blind Hunting ☐ Other (please describe) ☐
- 13) Did you harvest small game (i.e.: rabbits, grouse, turkey, squirrels) in 2009? Yes ☐ No ☐  
What animals and how many of each did you harvest in 2009? ☐
- 14) Did you harvest migratory birds/waterfowl (i.e.: ducks, geese, woodcock) in 2009?  
Yes ☐ No ☐  
Which birds and how many of each did you harvest in 2009? ☐
- 15) On how many occasions did you waterfowl hunt? 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-10 ☐ >10 ☐
- 16) What general habitat type did you waterfowl hunt within (i.e.: open lake, marshy wetland, swamp, active/inactive farmland) during 2009? ☐
- 17) Did you trap furbearers in 2009? Yes ☐ No ☐  
What animals and how many of each did you trap in 2009? ☐
- 18) What do you think of the hunting regulations? Not restrictive enough ☐ Ok ☐  
Too restrictive ☐ (If you answered (too restrictive) or (not restrictive enough), please indicate why you feel this way in the comments section at the end of the form).
- 19) Have you observed rare and/or sensitive species, such as bald eagles, cougars, moose, timber wolves, etc., on or near the reservation? If yes, give details (i.e.: animal's location and activities).  
☐  
☐  
☐

- 20) Comment on concerns you may have regarding the protection of rare and/or sensitive species.  
☐  
☐

- 21) Which of the following positions would you like to see KBIC adopt for wolf management for Tribal members within the 1842 Ceded Territory? (please check one)

- ☐ KBIC should promote complete protection and not allow our Tribal members to take wolves for any reason on the Reservations.
- ☐ KBIC should promote protection, but allow the taking of wolves in the event there is some negative impact to humans (livestock damage, pet killed, etc.)
- ☐ KBIC should promote a limited harvest opportunity for Tribal members and work to provide control measures for wolf populations, if needed
- ☐ Other: (please explain) ☐

- 22) If it were legal, would you hunt or trap a wolf within the 1842 Ceded Territory? (please check one)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

- 23) In light of recent State approval of the development of a moose hunting season, do you feel that KBIC should participate in limited harvest of moose within the 1842 Ceded Territory?

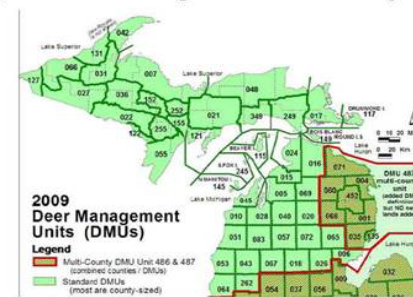
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

- 24) Are you in support of increased efforts by the KBIC to acquire, protect, and enhance wildlife habitats to support both game and non-game wildlife species? Yes ☐ No ☐

- 25) Please comment on #24 if yes, for example - what type of habitat and/or for what species?  
☐  
☐

**Additional comments section.** We are interested in any additional information or comments you may have regarding hunting, trapping, and wildlife on and near the reservation. We would like to know if you are seeing an increase or decrease in occurrence of game species, furbearers, or large predatory animals such as wolves and cougars and whether this concerns you. Please add any general comments here as well.

**Thank you for your cooperation. Remember to fill out the award ticket for prize drawings and return it along with this survey before May 1, 2010 to the hatchery (or mail it in the stamped return envelope provided) or give to Jeanne Kauppila, Tribal Center Licensing Clerk. Please use the map below to complete this form.**



**Appendix II. Hunters opinions about hunting and fishing regulations from the 2009 hunter survey.**

I do not hunt but I do support all hunting. I believe there is an increase in large predatory animals and it is concerning to me, but I would not support hunting them until it is needed.

should have a wolf season.

rare animals need protection so they do not become extinct

Do not regulate wolves. Focus on acquiring, protection, and enhancing wildlife habitat

Man should not kill anything

Too restrictive regulations, can't shine/kill at night

Shouldn't have a moose season till wolves are managed

Have a lottery for 3-5 hunters per year for Moose

More Limits? No

I honestly think the deer season for tribal members should not start so early. 4 tags is too many.

Our people need to have their hunting, fish and game access to the needs of their family. "No limits"

Should only be allowed to shoot does until a certain point. Should be no turkey season until there is an actual population.

Would like fisher and pine marten season longer than two months.

Our only requirements should be to use common sense from education. We shouldn't be stripped of our rights because you want to tag animals from wisconsin and rare and sensitive species from canada.

I live in Ishpeming near the east end of the ceded territory. A detailed map of the eastern end of the ceded territory would be very helpful. The rules for hunting, trapping, etc are getting more and more, They should actually be lessened so you do not make criminals out of us that just enjoy hunting and fishing.

Between the months of september and october, bow and arrow should be the only hunting weapons legal to use. Having rifle hunters out with bow hunters isn't safe.

Moose hunting shouldn't happen until the wolf population is managed.

Many tribal members are married to non-tribal members and there should be a limited allowance for them to hunt/fish together. For example the entire family is out in a boat doing a family outing and authorities come along and see this unfortunately someone is getting in trouble not called for? Not many positive activities to do in this county as it is. What can be done, if anything.

I believe we should be charging non-indians to hunt on our rez. When I hunt their land I have to buy a state license.

I believe the tribe should support the kennecott mine, because we can't depend on grandma's social security check to support the casino forever. Social security check to support the casino forever. Social security will run out if there is no employment around here.

I think there is not enough punishment for those tribal members that do not follow the rules, guidelines or limits on game and fish. They usually get a slap on the wrist and are back out violating using tags that do not belong to them or taking large amounts of fish. Many tribal members do not tag animals or report their kills to the license department. I also think there should be somewhere on the reservation to take deer and bear carcasses instead of dumping them in beartown.

Regulations are not restrictive enough, too much shining done with little to no enforcement. Season is too long, sept. and oct. should be bow hunting only, too dangerous with rifles when that much natural cover is still on trees.

I do not know if increased deer limits are supposed to be wildlife improvements, but I am absolutly opposed to deer limits on reservation or any where for that matter. I have no liking for telling someone when I'm picking berries or where. I also think we should be able to harvest Balsam branches to sell.

I don't like the idea of baiting animals to them. In a way, people are just making the animal semi-tame, almost like a pet and then kill them. I also don't think people should have more than one buck per household per year. So, we can bring back the deer population a little.

Deer population is not good. Seems like some people are taking too many or we have to look at other reasons why this is happening.

What ever animal is within the ceded territory, we should be able to harvest. Except eagles.

My additional comment would be that I am very thankful for the rights that I use and would love to continue using them, so there needs to be management. It saddens me that my children will not have the same opportunities.

### Appendix III. Comments from Tribal hunters about rare and/or sensitive species from 2009 hunter survey. Page 1 of 5.

I saw lots of bald eagles. Also saw Cougar tracks in the Plains

but didn't see a cougar.

all seen within 1 Mile of Tribal Center

all seen within 1 Mile of Tribal Center

all seen within 1 Mile of Tribal Center

all seen within 1 Mile of Tribal Center

many wolves

several bald eagles

chasing a rabbit

by Carlas Resturant

moose walking across road

plentiful

wolves behind sons house on mission Rd.

I see bald eagles a lot near FFRd. & in the Arvon.

Appendix III. Comments from Tribal hunters about rare and/or sensitive species from 2009 hunter survey. Page 2 of 5.

eagles feeding on deer carcas 5 to 6 and 2 were mature.

timber wolves are all over & should be stopped

bald eagle flying around Lake Superior and feeding on dead carcasses on side of road

harvested eagle feathers

It ran across the highway in front of us.

they were in my yard. We always see Eagles on the Fewsville Hill.

down the road.

on deer carcase

on deer carcase

eagles were sighted numerous times as I was driving in these counties.

I saw several wolves while hunting.on one occasion, a timber wolf chased a fawn into our yard at camp in the mid afternoon, the wolf stood watching at the edge of the trees about 50 yards away for about a minute then turned and left. The fawn was only 15 feet from us.

near Big Lake

by Carlas Resturant

I hav e seen eagles about every once in a while

i have seen eagles nests within walking istance of my home & know of 2 more within reservation boundriey. I collect feathers from all at molting time.

all over the place look up and you will see them "sweet"

I see them in high trees in heavily wooded areas

all around

Wolves in black creek swamps. 2 of them. There were hunting, theres lots of wolf tracks on rez on the Huron Bay Area.

Appendix III. Comments from Tribal hunters about rare and/or sensitive species from 2009 hunter survey. Page 3 of 5.

Bald Eagles all over our reservation. Two wolves out in Bear town closer to Keweenaw Bay.

I have observed eagles on Bear Town Rd., and also on Baraga Plains Rd.

heard wolves and coyotes

Yes, bald eagle's Marquette Trust land turkey's, heard wolf's and coyote's

Eagles Fishing-Moose crossing US 41 between L'Anse. Three Lakes-Wolves crossing Dynamite Hill road.

A female moose around the Ford Farm Rd. crossed the Skanee Rd. Bald eagles around the lake, Huron Bay.

Just at a friend's house, sitting around and my girl friend saw two wolves.

Four bald eagles at pinery, in area where the forest was cut down, eating deer carcasses.

One gray wolf and six turkeys on the Bear Town Rd. about two and a half miles north of Baraga near a friend's camp.

Bald eagles around head of the bay.

Too many wolves and there getting brave haven't seen fawns in two years now.

Many Bald eagles in trees and in flight

Bald and golden eagles

Many wolves and coyotes terrible.

Many Bald Eagles all along the big lake. Head of the Bay and at sand point. One moose on the way to Marq.

Appendix III continued; page 2 of 2.

We see Bald Eagles very frequently at our home on the Bayshore Rd. and at my parents home on the Huron Bay. Approx. three weeks ago there was a coyote in our yard. These predators are so close to town.

Heard Wolves and coyotes

Black cougar near Big Eric's Rd. and Skanee Rd. Crossed in front of vehicle and then crouched behind a little about twenty feet off the main rd. Paul and myself watched him for a few minutes and then the cat ran deeper into the woods.

Appendix III. Comments from Tribal hunters about rare and/or sensitive species from 2009 hunter survey. Page 4 of 5.

Wolves, on SU 41 near passing area past bovine running across the rd.

Moose tracks near Craig Lake. Timber Wolves near Keweenaw Bay (Heard them in the woods behind my house.) Others saw them on the side of the Sturgeon Rd.

Bald eagles pinery, head of the bay, Pow Wow grounds. Moose near swamps between covington and crystal falls.

Timber wolves crossed Road by camp.

Bald eagles in my yard and near the lake

We can hear coyotes behind our house hunting and sometimes we hear wolves.

everyday

Eagles, both bald and golden, on or near rez. Cougar on rez.

two males with full racks

Bald eagles past the pines flying near the creek, a quarter mile north and by chassell.

They took all of our land and now they are chipping away at our rights maybe one day we'll just be watching some one else hunting on a t.v. show.

Lots, Too many

More eagles now than ever before not too much of the others. Seen them by the casino and over the projects and many by the state park and bridge. It's nice to see.

In wet marsh land south of L'Anse.

By my house

Eagles seen almost once a week in many places in houghton and keweenaw county.

five at one time on Bay Shore Rd. Near ratanen's Picknic Table.

five Miles south of chassell and m-26

Bald eagles near rivers and lakes in Marquette county.



Appendix III. Comments from Tribal hunters about rare and/or sensitive species from 2009 hunter survey. Page 5 of 5.

Fishing and driving around, they were feeding on deer carcass.

I have seen Eagles at Marina beach and a Wolf outside of L'Anse going toward Marquette on US-41. (Canyon Falls)

US-41 1 mile west of Baraga

Yes, bald eagle's Marquette trust land turkey's, heard wolf's and coyote's

Bald eagles over the pines a lot.

All year long on Lake Superior (eagles), and moose tracks in March on Lower Arvon Rd.

Wolf tracks near hunting camp.

Eagles all over, wolves in 007, Pine marten in 007.

Stand/Bait

Eagles all the time around the bay looking for fish.

Near the gravel pit.

Stand/Bait

Nesting and harvesting near Keweenaw Bay.

tracks

Lots of Eagles in L'Anse area.

I've seen Eagles just about everywhere in Baraga County.

Bald eagles all over on/off the reservation. Moose right in town of Marquette/golden eagles I've seen most in Ishpeming. Timber wolves nightly on reservation (MQT) out in hunting area. Cougar heard but haven't seen near Gwinn. Wolves near almost hit with my car on dirt road.

Bald Eagles are all around Baraga. I saw a cougar and a timber wolf on Tange Rd.

Bald Eagles all over the place. Wolf in alberta, moose outside of covington, cougar by van Riper.

Yes, on a deer carcass on beartown road, there should be some sort of dumping grounds for this.

Appendix IV. Comments from KBIC hunters from the 2009 hunter survey that are specific about wolves. Comments are seperated into anti-wolf, pro-wolf and wolf nuetral categories. Page 1 of 3.

#### ANTI-WOLF

The timber wolf is a big concern to me. I believe we can get along without them. We have enough competition without another predator.

Its hard to find any deer to hunt. Once you start baiting. the wolves are scaring the deer away

Too many wolves not enough deer

When humans or live stock are at risk because of wolves, we should definitely have a limited harvest.

The area where I hunt has had a severe decline in deer, rabbits, and grouse in the past 5-10 years. I belive that it is largely in part to wolves, along with too much logging which creates roads for people to access critical terrority for deer and small game. I hunted for thirty plus days and didn't see any bucks and few does.

We've seen numerous wolves on our property. (Front Yard) We heard a pack in back yard every full moon. Concerned about children waiting for bus on long driveways. We heard that there was a small wolf on its hind legs lookin in the next door camp.

The increase in wolves and cougars concerns me and that is why my answer to number twenty-one is what it is If Needed.

I feel that the wolf population has gotten too large too fast. My concern is that when they run out of young and weak deer and such to eat, what measures will these animals take to survive.

I think the wolves are eating the deer we have many more deer in town now that there are more wolves, and possible cougars. Never seen a cougar but have seen wolves in different places.

I am not bringing in or protecting wolfs or cougars. It is getting scary and dangerous to allow children out to play if you live in the woods or in a wooded area. This was not a problem just a few years ago.

Huge increase in wolves and coyotes. Should be able to kill them, to many of them.

Even with the fairly mild winters of late, the deer population is down. I think there are to many predators mostly the coyote and wolf.

To many wolves killing our deer heard. To many coyotes killing our small game. Section 031.

Once our fathers ran out the wolves for a reason-we do not need them

Wolf population needs to be controlled by a limited hunt or trap

Appendix IV. Comments from KBIC hunters from the 2009 hunter survey that are specific about wolves. Comments are seperated into anti-wolf, pro-wolf and wolf nuetral categories. Page 2 of 4.

We need to change laws on wolves. There are too many in U.P.

Get rid of the wolves

We have too many wolves

Feel state has them overly protected

Need to get rid of all the wolves, killing deer.

Wolves need to have a controlled season to reduce their numbers in some areas.

I lost an dog to an eagle. There are way too many wolves in the area close to town!

I think when wolves threat a person or a person's pet or farm animal, then they should be shot.

Wolves should be thinned out

Too many wolves and a couple of moose.

The eagle is a medicine bird, no harm. Wolves are a nuisance.

Large predators thinning out my livestock/deer

We need to control wolf population

Too many wolves.

The deer population is down because of the wolves

Too many wolves killing our deer.

What more can I say! Get rid of them.

Should have a wolf season.

I have also been watching wolves and realize more wolves were watching me. There is too many!

Appendix IV. Comments from KBIC hunters from the 2009 hunter survey that are specific about wolves. Comments are separated into anti-wolf, pro-wolf and wolf neutral categories. Page 3 of 4.

Kill them all! What good do they do?

They are killing everything! Get rid of them.

This unchecked wolf population is getting out of control, it is going to be really sad when someone gets hurt.

Wolves have taken a lot of the deer heard, not in all places.

Protect the eagle. I'd just as soon shoot the wolves and cougars.

#### PRO-WOLF

Leave them alone, there's not enough

They need to be protected more

Protection is a good thing, nature takes care of population.

Feel state has them protected

Feel they are protected

They should be protected

Keep on endangered list

I think the tribe should work with state & Federal wildlife agencies in the protection of threatened or endangered species to help ensure their longevity.

Should continue to protect them so they don't become extinct.

Wolves need to be protected

All Clan animals and animals in sacred stories (except Muskrat) in ancient stories need protection.

I believe the protection is good.

Keep the ban on hunting wolves, don't see over population.

Appendix IV. Comments from KBIC hunters from the 2009 hunter survey that are specific about wolves. Comments are separated into anti-wolf, pro-wolf and wolf neutral categories. Page 4 of 4.

We should aid in preserving.

I do not hunt but I do support all hunting. I believe there is an increase in large predatory animals and it is concerning to me, but I would not support hunting them until it is needed.

they need protection so they do not become extinct

Man should not kill anything

I wouldn't hunt wolves because they are sacred to our culture and they are not that many around here.

On wolf Management - trap them & move them but don't kill them

They were here first we should let them be.

Do not regulate wolves, focus on acquiring, protecting , and enhancing wildlife habitat

#### WOLF NEUTRAL

Don't care for the taking the wolves off the endangered species list.

Possible problems with wolf population and deer population but don't have enough information to make informed comment.

I have noticed that there are more wolves and fewer deer and partridge.

Have seen large increase in wolf sign and sightings, and severe decrease in deer population. Saw very few deer this past season and less deer sign and more wolf sign when snow arrived in late nov.

Wolf tracks are common in my hunting area. 2009 was the worst deer season I have ever experienced.

I hunt in the yellow dog plains and I see mostly coyote and wolf tracks by far and you want to call them rare and sensitive? I don't think so...

I've never seen a wolf in my life until around 2005 since then I've seen a number of wolves and the deer herds decrease in certain areas.

Wolves have taken a lot of the deer herd, but not in all places.

Appendix V. General comments from Tribal hunters from the 2009 hunter survey. This list includes some comments from previous appendices. Page 1 of 5.

The timber wolf is a big concern to me. I believe we can get along without them. We have enough competition without another predator.

Deer population is not good. Seems like some people are taking too many or we have to look at other reasons why this is happening.

I am in the woods all the time. I know what's going on out there. I see the damage. It's not just the wolves. Let's put a bounty back on the coyotes. I've seen a lot of coyote damage. I've seen deer killed by coyotes, witnessed it happen!

22) yes, if it was near my house, to protect my child & pets.

I noticed a much lower deer population and I didn't see any bucks

I know things

with limited number of acres available on reservation, large tracts of land (preserves?) should be kept without leases (homeowners). Otherwise, eventually it will be difficult to find hunting areas or manage for sensitive species.

I wouldn't hunt wolves because they are sacred to our culture and there are not that many around here.

From casual observation of apparent lack of deer/deer kill in Huron mts. Area most hunters blame wolves for lack of deer. Last few years seems to have indicated very few successful hunters.

I felt like deer population seemed down a little but nothing of concern.

a lot less deer due to hard winters, limited feeding and predation. I very much like what tribe is doing in area of planting fish this not only replenishes fish, but is a very positive thing instead of hearing from most people how netting etc. is depleting our fish supply.

make a better map of boundaries, because I have run in's with state and DNR officers about where my boundaries are. The book says west of the mouth of Choclay River. They say it runs with the river. The book says the mouth. Is there a better map for boundaries? if so can I get a copy please.

I think we should have a wildlife sanctuary for all animals that are hurt restore them, then let them go when condition is good! It would be nice for the public to come & see what is happening with the animals & lots of information about wildlife. The one like in Green Bay WI.

right off hand the only species I can think of that I have seen less of are smelt and partridge

It's hard to find any deer to hunt. Once you start baiting, the wolves are scaring the deer away

didn't see too many deer this year

I honestly think the deer season for tribal members should not start so early. 4 tags is too many.

I believe there has been a decrease in the whitetail deer population as of 2009 hunting season. There just has not been as many deer sightings.

Appendix V. General comments from Tribal hunters from the 2009 hunter survey. This list includes some comments from previous appendices. Page 2 of 5.

Cougars behind New Day by the Lyndon Creek

on wolf Management - trap them & move them don't kill them

I believe that traditional ojibwa values & cultural ways should be applied but in our way these are applied voluntarily & are being diminished by the application of restrictive anglo saxon protestant laws.

my uncle mike Bressette and cousin Derrick bressette have hunting property in Marquette county which are within boundries of my hunting license, but I wasn't able to get up there last year. This year I'll b able to go....

too many wolves not enough deer

Moose hunting shouldn't happen until the wolf population is managed.

When humans or live stock are at risk because of wolves, we should definently have a limited harvest.

I have only hunted the reseravation two years now, the 08 and 09 seasons, and I seen a lot more deer and deer sign in 08.

Less deer, increase in wolf population

I live just off the rez. There has been wolve tracks a 1/2 mile down the rd from my house. This is concerning, because I have a young child. It would be nice if the DNRE would conduct a census to know where the general population would be.

A decrease in deer population usually can get one or two deer. With the bear season coming first and it seems the dogs running bear, ran off the deer.

The area where I hunt has had a severe decline in deer, rabbits, and grouse in the past 5-10 years. I belive that it is largely in part to wolves, along with too much logging which creates roads for people to access critical terroritory for deer and small game. I hunted for thirty plus days and didn't see any bucks and few does.

Decrease in the White Tail Population. Have seen a lot more coyote activity than in past years. It is also very noticable of deer carcasses behind dump in Pike's Peak location. Some deer only had a hind quarter removed, and some people wonder were deer are. A survey on deer carcasses and registration numbers should be made in order to increase protection measures.

We've seen numerous wolves on our property. (Front Yard) We heard a pack in back yard every full moon. Concerned about children waiting for bus on long driveways. We heard that there was a small wolf on its hind legs lookin in the next door camp.

Between the months of september and october, bow and arrow should be the only hunting weapons legal to use. Having rifle hunters out with bow hunters isn't safe.

The increase in wolves and cougars concerns me and that is why my answer to number twenty-one is what it is If Needed.

Need to help increase the population of snow shoe rabbits and rough grouse.

Appendix V. General comments from Tribal hunters from the 2009 hunter survey. This list includes some comments from previous appendices. Page 3 of 5.

I feel that the wolf population has gotten too large too fast. My concern is that when they run out of young and weak deer and such to eat, what measures will these animals take to survive.

I haven't been in the area enough lately to notice changes in the wildlife population. However, I strongly promote education of our youth and community in general about harvesting and protection of all our wildlife.

I notice a very large decrease in our deer herd. I opted not to harvest in 2009. I see and here more wolves. The cougar I seen was 2 years ago. I have not seen it since.

I think the wolves are eating the deer we have many more deer in town now that there are more wolves, and possible cougars. Never seen a cougar but have seen wolves in different places.

We like to fish a lot and are appreciative of the efforts that the tribe is making for stocking and planting native species. Thanks also for the fishing derby that has become annual. We have enjoyed this for years. Our children always look forward to it with great anticipation. It is well organized and a wonderful of promotion to the sport of fishing.

Have better maps for menominee Co. For hunting birds, and etc. and off rez hunting.

I am not bringing in or protecting wolfs or cougars. It is getting scary and dangerous to allow children out to play if you live in the woods or in a wooded area. This was not a problem just a few years ago.

We use our tribal card mostly for fishing and gathering.

I fell and broke my knee before the season. Surgery was required and the rehabilitation is still on going. I could not hunt.

Less deer numbers.

Our people need to have their hunting, fish and game access to the needs of their family. "No limits"

I don't hunt or live near the reservation, but I have noticed that where I hunt there is a decrease in deer and a definite increase in wolves and coyotes.

Should only be allowed to shoot does until a certain point. Should be no turkey season until there is an actual population.

Would like fisher and pine marten season longer than two months.

Yes there is a increase in wolves, not to sure about increase or decrease in cougars.

Huge increase in wolves and coyotes. Should be able to kill them, to many of them.

I think you guys are doing a fine job especially with our fisheries.



Never see any cougars or wolves. Just a few coyotes here and there.

Appendix V. General comments from Tribal hunters from the 2009 hunter survey. This list includes some comments from previous appendices. Page 4 of 5.

Our only requirements should be to use common sense from education. We shouldn't be stripped of our rights because you want to tag animals from Wisconsin and Canada rare and sensitive species.

Whatever animal is within the ceded should be allowed to be hunted

Many tribal members are married to non-tribal members and there should be a limited allowance for them to hunt/fish together. For example the entire family is out in a boat doing a family outing and authorities come along and see this unfortunately someone is getting in trouble not called for? Not many positive activities to do in this county as it is. What can be done, if anything.

When I was little we used to have wild turkeys in my back yard, and now we do not see them. I think we should plant some wild turkeys on dynamite hill please think about it. Thank you.

Well it was in 2005 that I seen my first wolf. It was in my back yard. I think it was a female, it was spring time. So I looked out back to see if my husky was ok and there she stood. I watched my dog crouched down in the grass not making a sound. Well I yelled and banged on the door, flicking the light on and off trying to make it go away. And then my husky jumped up and started to growl when I did all of this, then the wolf went away. I unhooked my dog and never hooked it up out back again. If they have to protect themselves I want it to be now.

Seeing muskrats, deer population seems to be stable. Wolves have increased which I don't support.

I live in Ishpeming near the east end of the ceded territory. A detailed map of the eastern end of the ceded territory would be very helpful. The rules for hunting, trapping, etc are getting more and more, They should actually be lessened so you do not make criminals out of us that just enjoy hunting and fishing.

Wolves have never been on the reservation since the white man brought them back. Now they are all over. What the white man wants he gets. We need to walk for the tribe and not give the state these stats.

Have seen large increase in wolf sign and sightings, and severe decrease in deer population. Saw very few deer this past season and less deer sign and more wolf sign when snow arrived in late Nov.

Wolf tracks are common in my hunting area. 2009 was the worst deer season I have ever experienced.

I believe we should be charging non-Indians to hunt on our rez. When I hunt their land I have to buy a state license.

The deer population seems to be down, even with the mild winters. There seems to be more wolves. Protecting of endangered species is important if we don't want extinct species, management may be necessary.

Even with the fairly mild winters of late, the deer population is down. I think there are too many predators mostly the coyote and wolf.

I believe the tribe should support the Kennecott mine, because we can't depend on grandma's social security check to support the casino forever. Social security check to support the casino forever. Social security will run out if there is no employment around here.

I think there is not enough punishment for those tribal members that do not follow the rules, guidelines or limits on game and fish. They usually get a slap on the wrist and are back out violating using tags that do not belong to them or taking large amounts of fish. Many tribal members do not tag animals or report their kills to the license department. I also think there should be somewhere on the reservation to take deer and bear carcasses instead of dumping them in Beartown.

Regulations are not restrictive enough, too much shining done with little to no enforcement. Season is too long, sept. and oct. should be bow hunting only, too dangerous with rifles when that much natural cover is still on trees.

Appendix V. General comments from Tribal hunters from the 2009 hunter survey. This list includes some comments from previous appendices. Page 5 of 5.

I have noticed that there are more wolves and fewer deer and partridge.

I go to our hunting camp near pikes peak. Where I hunt with the boys and wether or not I get a deer, I really enjoy the time spent with my family. Sometime people give me deer meat.

I do not know if increased deer limits are supposed to be wildlife improvements, but I am absolutly apposed to deer limits on reservation or any where for that matter. I have no liking for telling someone when I'm picking berries or where. I also think we should be able to harvest Balsom branches to sell.

To many wolves killing our deer heard. To many coyotes killing our small game. Section 031.

I love to fish, spearing, hunting, I have just been busy. I will in the near future hunt and fish again, but I am looking for a job.

I don't hunt and fish a lot of my family does. I would love to see our wildlife taken care of on our reservation. I love nature.

My additional comment would be that I am very thankful for the rights that I use and would love to continue using them, so there needs to be management. It saddens me that my children will not have the same opportunities.

We have seen wolves in our area but not anymore. They are after food on people's bait piles. I think the bald eagles are awsome and should always be protected. I have also seen turkeys and I don't think people should be able to harvest them, let the population grow.

I don't like the idea of baiting animals to them in a way people are just making the animal semi-tame, almost like a pet and then kill them. I also don't think people should have more than one buck per household per year. So, we can bring back the deer population a little.

I've never seen a wolf in my life until around 2005 since then I've seen a number of wolves and the deer herds decrease in certain areas.