

Deer Management Program Annual Report 2025



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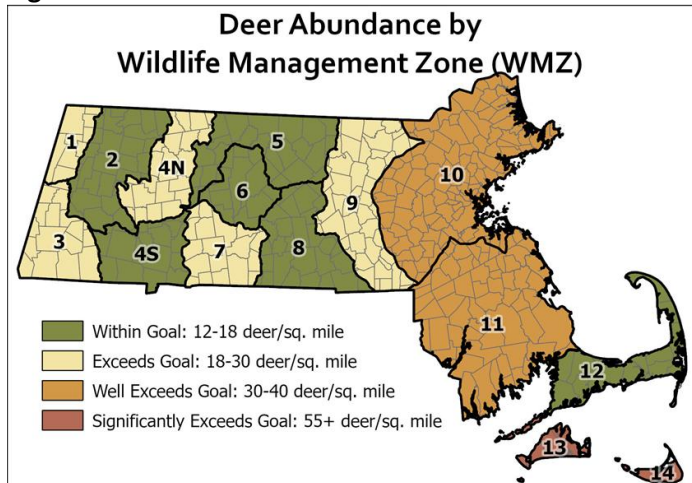
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Introduction

The Trustees is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to preserve for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts. As part of our mission to preserve places for public use and enjoyment, Trustees properties are open to the public for many visitor activities. As a landowner and conservation organization, The Trustees have recognized the value of hunting for deer management as an effective way to steward our natural resources and ecosystems, landscaping and gardens, and agricultural crops as well as an active recreational activity. Our hunting policy (<https://thetrustees.org/content/hunting-on-trustees-properties/>) guides the designation of hunting access. Currently, 56 properties do not allow hunting, 35 properties are open to hunting, and controlled hunting for deer management is implemented on 36 properties.

Deer populations are overabundant throughout much of the eastern United States. This overabundance is a direct effect of human influence that eliminated their natural predators, created ideal habitat through urban development, and today fewer people hunt with less land to hunt on, and we regulate how harvest can occur. Excessive browse from overabundant deer populations poses a great threat to natural and cultural landscape resiliency/integrity, biodiversity, rare species preservation, and exacerbates the negative impacts of climate change. Currently, hunting is the only practical and permissible means to control deer populations in Massachusetts. As a leader in conservation The Trustees should be taking action to find solutions and increase our understanding of this complex problem.

Figure 1. MassWildlife Estimated Deer Abundance in Massachusetts



This report is intended to summarize our efforts to manage deer populations through controlled hunting on an annual basis. It is not meant to provide a detailed description of the program and its' history or deer abundance and their impacts, rather an overview of our annual deer management efforts and measures of success. For more background on the program and deer impacts, see links and appendices. The report will analyze trends in four major metrics at properties designated as controlled hunting. Metrics collected at controlled hunting properties include number of deer harvested, deer browse, number of hunters per property and the number of hours they spent hunting. We will also incorporate communications with the hunters to provide an important qualitative assessment of how the season went. Ultimately, the question guiding success is – if the current hunting effort is reducing or maintaining the deer population to the extent that negative ecological/cultural impacts from deer browse are either being reduced and/or not occurring. Based on this data, adjustments can be considered (e.g., changing regulations, the number of hunters, or replacing ineffective hunters) to improve the programs efficacy.

Controlled Deer Management

On properties where opening the property to hunting would impact the visitor experience or our ability to effectively manage deer, we operate what we call controlled hunting. These hunts (primarily archery hunting for deer management) follow The Trustees policy on hunting and require written permission, an evaluation process and we limit the number of hunters, wildlife that can be harvested, and require hunters to follow additional rules and regulations (see Appendix 1) beyond state regulations (e.g., when, where and how they can hunt). Evaluation to select hunters includes license checks and shooting proficiency tests. In coordination with the Coast and Natural Resources team, Trustees' Stewardship staff and Volunteer Hunter Coordinators implement controlled hunting at our properties. Selected hunters are trained by staff or volunteer coordinators about the property and safety guidelines. Hunters must remain in communication with staff or volunteer coordinators throughout the hunting season. Hunters are also required to report specific information including any deer they have harvested. 36 properties are designated as controlled hunting.

As mentioned in the introduction 36 Trustees properties are open to hunting. Properties that are open to hunting meet the criteria in The Trustees policy on hunting that allow for this designation. Members

of the public may hunt these areas, for any regulated game species, following state hunting regulations, with no additional regulations implemented by The Trustees. On these properties signage alerts visitors that the reservation is open to hunting. The Trustees do not track harvest or hunter participation on these properties. Most of these properties are in the western part of the state.

Deer Browse Monitoring

The Trustees utilize the 10-Tallest Method, developed by U.S. Forest Service botanist Thomas Rawinski, to monitor deer browse on Trustees properties. This method focuses on plant height measurements at long-term surveying plots (<https://flnps.org/sites/default/files/newsletters/Ten-tallest%20Method%20Instructions%202018.pdf>). The 10-Tallest Method is a good choice as it provides a means of collecting plant height data over multiple years, efficiently and effectively. Additionally, observations are made on the general levels of deer browse in different habitat types using the Massachusetts Deer Browse Impact Survey protocol (see Appendix 2 for more detail, Stainbrook 2017). The Massachusetts Deer Browse Impact Survey is a good pairing with the 10-Tallest Method, as it provides a more qualitative look at deer browse property wide, while the 10-Tallest Method quantifies browse over time. Informal observation of deer impacts by Trustees' Ecologists during visits to a property is also an important component of understanding impacts at our properties and is often what keys us into properties with deer issues.

In this report the trend in deer browse is listed as Positive or Negative per portfolio. We use these two monitoring methodologies (primarily the 10-Tallest) to determine that trend. If 10-tallest data is indicating that more than half of the plant species monitored at a property are able put on growth, than the trend would be considered positive. If less than half of the species the trend would be negative. The MA Deer Browse Impact survey (1x every 5 years) is used as a control. If at the time when this survey was completed it indicated the property was impacted by deer, but since then the 10-tallest monitoring (bi-annual) is showing positive growth annually, then this would be factored into determining that the trend in deer browse impact in improving (positive).

During the spring and summer of 2019, both the 10-Tallest Method and The Massachusetts Deer Browse Impact Survey were implemented at 15 Trustees properties in eastern Massachusetts (Table 1). Ten Tallest monitor has continued on an annual basis, where half the properties receive monitoring every other year. The MA Deer Browse Impact survey is conducted once every five years. Not all properties where controlled hunting occurs receive deer browse monitoring due to limited resources and capacity.

Results

In 2011, The Trustees began consistently tracking the number of deer harvested at properties where controlled hunting occurs and in recent years began tracking both the number of hunters and hunter hours consistently across all controlled hunts. Consistent data collection is critical since trends among the various metrics is the most efficacious way to assess our controlled hunting programs. This report analyzes the last three years of harvest data and all years of deer browse data by regions.

The act of hunting and harvesting deer can be challenging and various factors influence success in any given year. For this reason, analyzing a trend in hunters' success is more important than looking at a singular year. Deer population monitoring is also challenging because methods to assess deer populations are imperfect and only provide estimates. This makes assessing the browse impacts more

important than determining and/or managing for a specific number of deer on a property, since it is a more reliable representation of the problem. While the more hours hunters put in improves likelihood of harvest it does not always guarantee increased harvest, however it remains an effective metric to analyze for evaluating a hunting-based deer management program. Therefore, we will also incorporate communications with the hunters to provide an important qualitative assessment to address variability each season.

In 2025, deer harvest data was reported from all 36 properties where controlled hunting occurred. A total of 212 hunters participated in controlled hunting programs, putting in 8385 hours of hunting time and harvested a total of 197 deer. This year had the highest harvest total since we began tracking harvest information in 2011. A significant amount of time was put in by hunters in the program and it took hunters on average 43 hours each to harvest a deer. At the five properties where gun hunting is implemented an average of 12 hours was needed to harvest a deer. This is due to shotgun hunting being a much more efficient means of hunting versus archery hunting. If possible, shotgun hunting should be considered as an option in the future as an efficient means to control deer in response to impacts, but it requires greater planning and staff time and typically requires properties being closed to the public.

MassWildlife has not reported statewide harvest data for 2025, and we will not be able to track how the program compared to statewide harvest results. This season some significant changes were made to hunting regulations that support greater deer management. Changes included an extended primitive firearm season for an extra month in Zones 13/14 (Islands). Larger changes are also being proposed by MassWildlife and the Healey-Driscoll administration to remove the ban on Sunday hunting, allowing the use of crossbows beyond just those with disability permits, and reducing the minimum archer hunting setback from 500ft to 250ft and removing hunting setbacks for falconry. These proposed changes will be moved through the legislature for statutory change and will potentially impact how hunting occurs on Trustees properties if the changes pass.

This year there was an increase of 63 deer harvested. The increase is in part due to reinstating controlled hunting on Cape Poge and efforts to increase the number of deer harvested on Coskata Coataue. Deer are significantly overabundant on the Islands (Nantucket and Martha’s Vineyard), and the inclusion of shotgun hunting allows for significantly higher harvest rates than other properties limited to archery. However, this did not account for the entire increase and multiple properties saw increases in the number of deer harvested. No specific reasons were noted for the increase in number of deer harvested at other properties.

Table 1. Total Harvest, Hunters, and Hours at all 36 Controlled Hunting Regions

Totals by Year	# of Deer Harvested	# of Hunters	# of Hunter Hours	Avg # of Hours Per Deer Harvested
2023	186	227	8590	46
2024	134	225	9100	71
2025	197	212	8385	43
3-Year Avg	172	221	8692	53

»Cape Poge added to controlled hunting program in 2025

2025 marked the sixth year of consistent deer browse impact monitoring using the 10-Tallest Method. In 2025, seven of the fifteen properties where we conduct deer browse monitoring were re-surveyed. This included the Crane Estate, Worlds End, Whitney Thayer Woods, Ward Reservation, Noanet, Moose Hill

Farm and The Bradley Estate. The Coastal Ecologist visited many plots with the seasonal Coastal Ecologist, to provide quality control on data, since some plant species are beginning to grow past the height cut off (60 in) for 10 tallest protocol or dying of causes unrelated to browse. On multiple occasions this season species in the plots were outgrowing the height cut off, and in some cases natural mortality was observed in multiple plant species. New plots were added to multiple properties, and in some cases additional plant species were added to existing plots to account for the loss and ability for continual monitoring.

The Massachusetts deer browse impact survey was conducted in 2019 at all 15 properties where 10-Tallest plots are established. This survey will be repeated in 2026 at 7 of the 15 properties. This survey is more a qualitative assessment of deer impacts property wide and does not require measuring plant height on a more annual basis like the 10-Tallest Method to achieve results.

Table 2. Deer Browse Impacts Rated Poor to Good in Relation to the Massachusetts Deer Browse Impact Survey Results (2019) and 10-Tallest Monitoring 2019-2025.

Poor	Declining	Nuetral	Improving	Good
Property	MA Deer Browse Impact Survey Results 2019		10-Tallest Trend 2020-2022	10-Tallest Trend 2023-2025
Worlds End	Impacted		Negative	Positive
Whitney & Thayer Woods	Impacted		Nuetral	Negative
Cornell Farm	Impacted		Positive	Negative
Crane Reservation	Moderately Impacted		Negative	Positive
Old Town Hill	Between Little to No Impact and Moderately Impacted		Nuetral	Positive
Ravenswood	Moderately Impacted		Nuetral	Positive
Bradley	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Neutral	Positive
Shattuck/Noon Hill	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Nuetral	Positive
Rocky Woods	Moderately Impacted		Nuetral	Positive
Appleton Farms	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Nuetral	Positive
Moose Hill Farm	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Pos/Neg	Nuetral
Rocky Narrows	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Positive	Negative
Ward	Between Moderately Impacted and Impacted		Positive	Positive
Lyman	Moderately Impacted		Positve	Positive
Noanet	Between Little to No Impact and Moderately Impacted		Positive	Negative

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Northshore Region (Deer Impacts = Positive Trend)

A total of 12 out of the 22 properties in the Northshore Region are open to controlled archery hunting, two properties are open to hunting, the remaining properties have multiple parameters that place them into the no hunting category (i.e. state setbacks, local by-laws, and size) or have yet to be opened to controlled hunting. Controlled hunting programs at Ward, Crane and Appleton are implemented in coordination with Volunteer Hunting Coordinators who provide significant support. A total of 43 hunters have permission to hunt these properties, the hunters put in a total of 2657 hours of hunting time and harvested 22 deer (145 hours/deer).

In October of 2024 we opened Ravenswood Park to control archery hunting from no hunting. In 2025 two hunters were added to the property, and one hunter did not wish to return. Adding hunters and cooperation among the hunters improved harvest this season. Hunters also discovered multiple tree stands from hunters not authorized to hunt on the property, notices were left on the stands alerting the hunters to remove the stands and contact The Trustees for more information, these stands were removed and hunters were denied permission.

Hunters reported that a low acorn crop this year on Crane Beach resulted in fewer deer being present on the beach, and most harvest occurred at the Estate. Cooperation among hunters remained strong and hunters worked well together.

Of the 10 properties open to controlled hunting deer browse monitoring is conducted on four – Ward, OTH, Crane, Ravenswood and Appleton. This year we conducted monitoring at Crane and Ward. Results across all properties are positive, many plant species can put on growth including some plant species preferred by deer. A handful of species, including black oak and pitch pine at Crane Beach died due to other reasons than deer browse, possibly due multiple years with prolonged drought during the growing season. Additional plots and species have been added to the monitoring to account for the loss of other species.

Table 3. Harvest, Deer Impact Trend, Hunters and Hunter Hours for the Northshore Region.

Property	Harvest				Deer Impact Trend	2025				
	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Average		Hunters	3-Year Average	Hours	3-Year Average	Hours/Deer 2025
Ward	8	3	7	6	Positive	6	9	512	561	73
Old Town Hill	3	0	2	2	Positive	3	3	132	125	66
Stavros	0	0	1	0	N/A	2	1	25	22	25
Long Hill	2	0	0	1	N/A	2	2	180	153	N/A
The Monoliths	0	0	0	0	N/A	2	2	100	85	N/A
Ravenswood	0	1	5	2	Positive	3	1	180	127	36
Crane Reservation*	17	2	12	10	Positive	5	6	532	652	44
Crane Wildlife Refuge*	6	6	2	5	N/A	9	10	240	213	120
Hamlin	0	0	0	0	N/A	1	1	30	43	N/A
Greenwood Farm	3	3	0	2	N/A	2	2	143	171	N/A
Appleton Farms	8	7	10	8	Positive	8	9	583	798	58
Total	47	22	39	36		43	4	2657	268	60

Figure 2. Crane Reservation 10-Tallest Average Plant Height 2019-2025

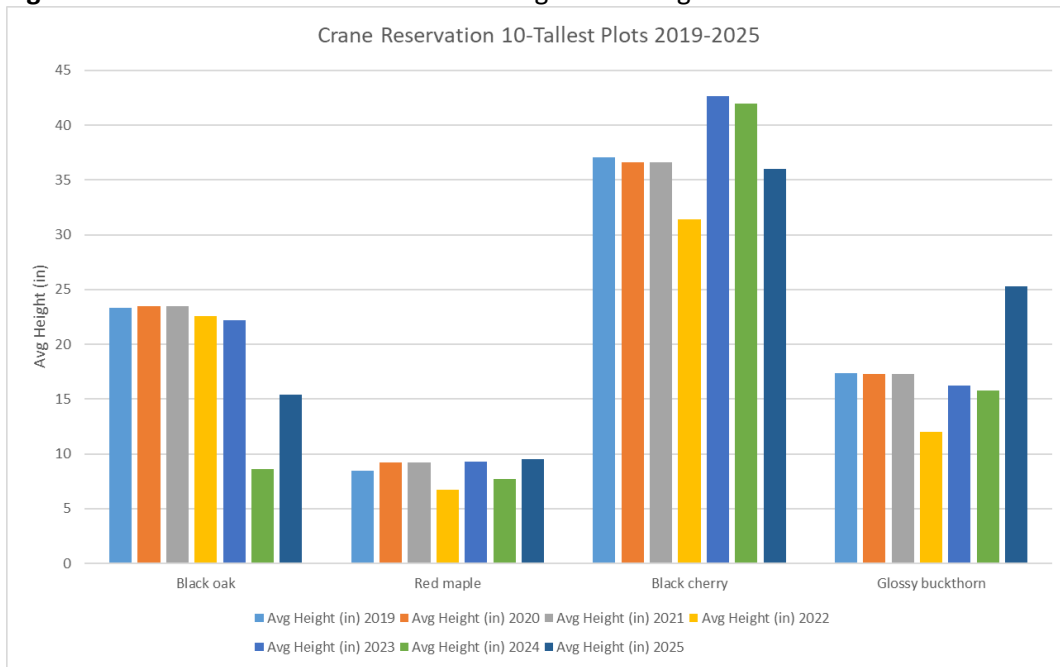
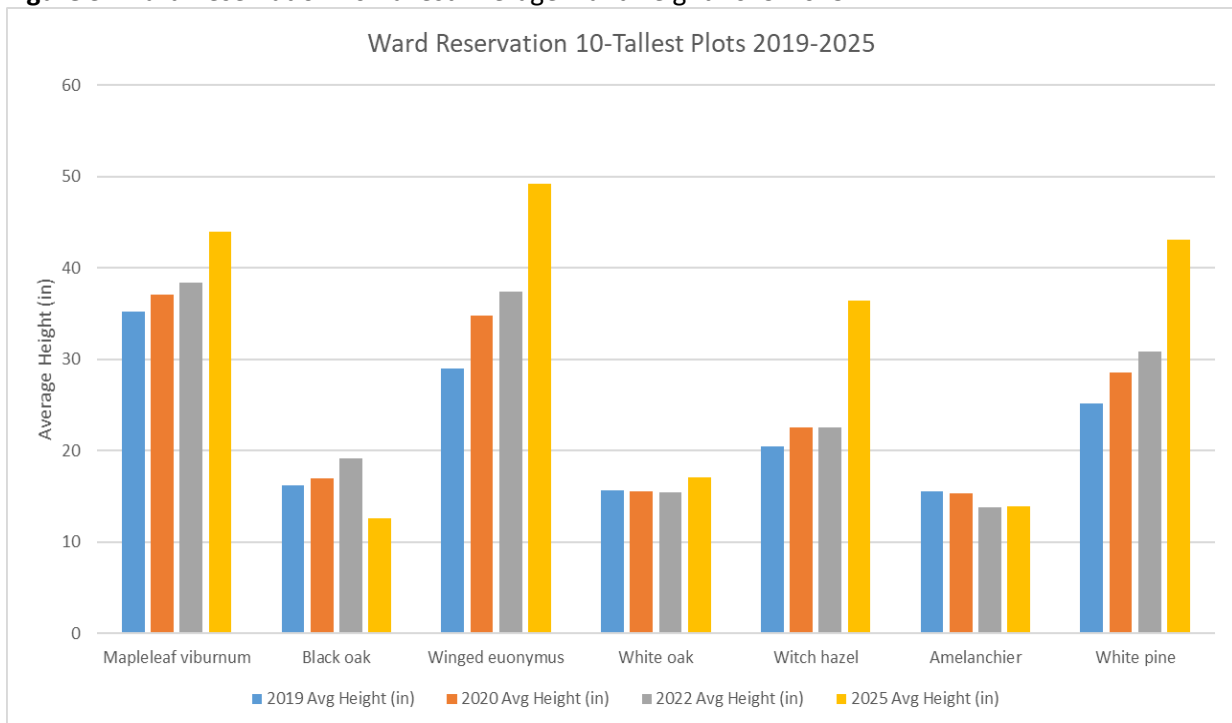


Figure 3. Ward Reservation 10-Tallest Average Plant Height 2019-2025



MetroWest (Deer Impacts = Positive Trend)

Twelve of the 23 properties in the metro west are part of our controlled hunting program, Bridge Island Meadows, Cormier Woods and Medfield Meadow Lots are open to hunting, making most of the properties hunted in this portfolio. The remaining properties have multiple parameters that place them

into the no hunting category or have not been opened to controlled hunting yet. Controlled hunting programs in the Charles River area are managed by volunteers through a town wide deer management program in Dover, Medfield and Sherborn. Volunteers managing this program have provided substantial support over the years and put in a lot of time and effort. The Trustees participate in this program in part because of the large amount of open space we manage in both towns – making it critical for The Trustees participate for the success of the effort. Chestnut Hill farm is the only property that has controlled hunting that is not included in the town’s effort. A total of 41 hunters have permission to hunt these properties and they put in a total of 3,120 hours of hunting time and harvested 24 deer (204 hours/deer).

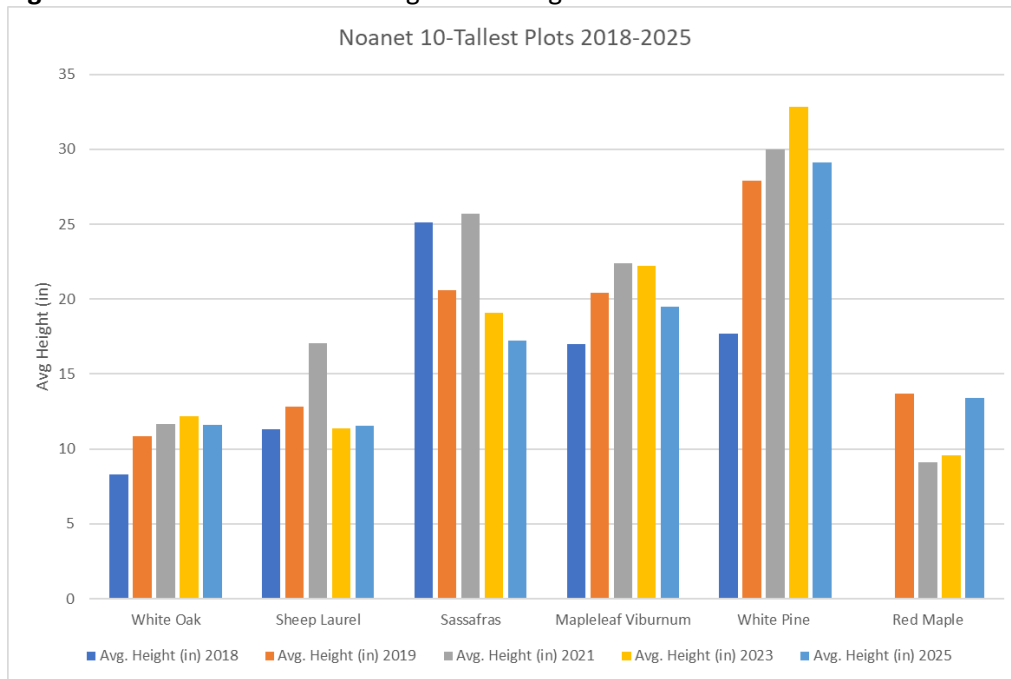
Harvest rates were generally in-line with previous years. Off-leash dogs and visitors off trail continued to remain a primary issue impacting hunter success. Coordinators note that multiple hunters in the program appear to not be putting in the same level of effort they have in the past resulting in fewer deer being harvested. They also mention some hunters in the program potentially focusing on hunting bucks, and passing on does.

10-Tallest monitoring is conducted on 5 properties including Rocky Narrows, Noanet, Rocky Woods, Noon Hill and Shattuck. Noanet was the only property surveyed in 2025. Trends show stable and increasing plant growth for nearly all properties that receive monitoring. This suggests that the town’s wide effort may be successfully maintaining the deer population at levels where widespread impacts are not occurring. However, this season we saw a slight decline in plant growth at Noanet. Declines in sassafras may not be a result of deer browse, at multiple properties we have found whole stems dying back completely and stump sprouting, suggesting other factors may be causing the decline.

Table 4. Harvest, Deer Impact Trend, Hunters and Hunter Hours for the Charles River Valley Portfolio.

Property	Harvest				Deer Impact Trend	2025				
	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Average		Hunters	3-Year Average	Hours	3-Year Average	Hours/Deer 2025
Chase	2	0	1	1	N/A	4	5	320	320	320
Peters	4	2	3	3	N/A	4	5	320	320	107
Powisset Farm	5	0	7	4	N/A	4	5	320	320	46
Noanet Woods	2	2	2	2	Negative	4	7	320	427	160
Rocky Woods	0	3	1	1	Positive	5	5	400	400	400
Fork Factory Brook	0	0	0	0	N/A	2	3	160	160	N/A
Medfield Rhododendrons	2	2	2	2	N/A	2	3	160	160	80
Shattuck	5	3	1	3	Positive	3	4	240	240	240
Noon Hill	6	3	6	5	Positive	3	4	240	240	40
Rocky Narrows	0	4	1	2	Negative	5	5	400	400	400
Cedariver	2	1	0	1	N/A	2	2	160	160	N/A
Chestnut Hill Farm	0	0	0	0	N/A	3	3	80	93	N/A
Total	28	20	24	24		41	4	3120	270	204

Figure 4. Noanet 10-Tallest Average Plant Height 2018-2025



Southeast Region (Deer Impacts = Neutral - Negative Trend)

Five of the 23 properties in the Southeast Region allow controlled hunting (Table 7), multiple properties are open to hunting in this region but many are closed to hunting. A total of 32 hunters have permission to hunt the 5 properties, the hunters put in a total of 1190 hours of hunting time and harvested 17 deer (98 hours/deer).

This season seven deer were harvested from MHF marking it one of the most successful seasons in recent years. Hunters believe that deer primarily reside on the adjacent Audubon land where 17 deer were harvested this season. Since the two properties are essentially one, harvest on Audubon land also applies to resource protection at MHF. Restricted hunting hours at MHF because of the pre-school were once again noted as a challenging factor hunting the property. A light acorn drop this year affected the number of deer using the property, and hunters reported seeing fewer deer. Overall, another good season for this property.

This year we again targeted two days of hunting at Worlds End, last year we targeted only one day due to fewer deer on the property, but the hunt had to be cancelled due to weather. Scheduling two days accounts for the chance that inclement weather cancels the hunt, and we should proceed with scheduling two days in the future. This year six deer were taken on the first day and no deer were taken on the second day.

Only one deer was harvested at Cornell Farm which typically has low harvest. Off-leash dogs were the most notable factor reported by hunters influencing successful harvest.

Ten-Tallest data was collected at Worlds End and Whitney Thayer Woods. 10-tallest data showed some decline in growth at Worlds End, however multiple plots had to be removed because vegetation

exceeded the 60in height cap, complementing significantly lower deer documented on the property during spotlight surveys, and staff observations, as well as significantly lower harvest rates during the later years of the hunt. New plots were added this year to account for other plots being removed. During the 10-Tallest survey it was noticed that property wide the understory was notably healthier with many seedlings from a variety of species being much more abundant. Whitney Thayer woods saw an improvement in growth for three species following a period of heavy browse.

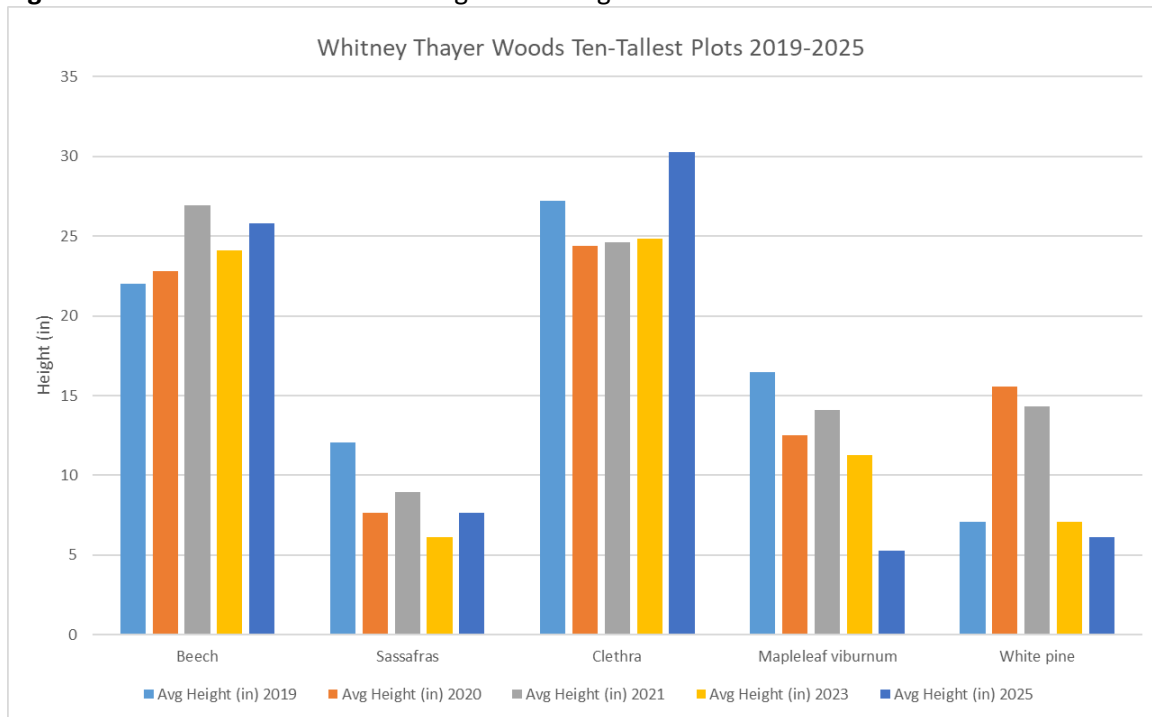
Table 5. Harvest, Deer Impact Trend, Hunters and Hunter Hours for the Southeast Gardens Portfolio.

Property	Harvest				Deer Impact Trend	2025				
	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Average		Hunters	3-Year Average	Hours	3-Year Average	Hours/Deer 2025
Moose Hill Farm	2	2	7	4	Negative	4	5	240	347	50
Bradley	0	2	0	1	Positive	3	2	180	167	N/A
Worlds End*	1	0	6	2	Positive	10	11	150	167	28
Whitney & Thayer Woods	3	5	3	4	Positive	13	12	520	449	150
Cornell Farm	2	2	1	2	Negative	2	2	100	167	167
Total	8	11	17	12		32	6	1190	259	98

Figure 5. Worlds End 10-Tallest Average Plant Height 2019-2025



Figure 6. Worlds End 10-Tallest Average Plant Height 2019-2025



Islands Region (Deer Impacts = Not Tracked)

Four of the 8 properties in the Islands Region are open to controlled hunting (Table 10). Controlled hunting on Cape Poge was reinstated in 2025. Hunting on islands properties is primarily conducted using shotgun. Hunters are provided with the same permissions, but property characteristics coupled with Island culture allows for shotgun hunting at these properties. Typically, a property of this nature would be open to hunting, but staff have voiced safety concerns and want to regulate permission. Since deer are extremely overabundant on the islands and since the properties contain ecologically important habitat communities – keeping hunting controlled allows us to be more adaptive with the program, better track deer harvest, and even increase the number of deer harvested. Since the shotgun season for deer is popular on the Island, limiting the number of hunters to specified groups that organize coordinated hunts increases hunter effectiveness vs. open uncoordinated hunting that may influence deer behavior and hunter success. A total of 89 hunters have permission to hunt the three properties, the hunters put in a total of 1278 hours of hunting time and harvested 115 deer (10 hours/deer).

Harvest rates remained consistently high, despite a substantial number of deer being harvested year after year. This is likely due to very high deer populations on both Marthas Vineyard and Nantucket and if land surrounding our properties is not hunted it will be more challenging to achieve control. This makes management on our properties critical to reducing impacts and keeping the local population managed. Efforts to improve already high harvest rates will be important moving forward and this year steps were taken to improve harvest on both MV and Nantucket. Additionally, for Zones 13/14 the primitive firearm season which includes archery and black powder was extended a month later allowing additional time hunting.

This year ACKDeer was created on Nantucket, a coalition advocating for and supporting the need for better island wide deer management. As part of this effort ACKdeer established a venison processing facility where hunters can donate deer to support food insecurity. The Trustees participated in meetings with ACKdeer and ramped up efforts on Coskata Coatue to participate in ACKdeer efforts. Increased effort included extending a controlled shotgun hunt from one to three days which resulted in 29 deer being harvested. Additionally, the refuge manager did an excellent job providing oversight, and working with hunters this season, which likely resulted in a much more effective program. A total of 51 deer were harvested, and 6 deer were donated to the island’s venison donation program.

Similarly on Marthas Vineyard, Tick Free MV is advocating for greater efforts to manage deer and will be conducting drone surveillance to estimate deer populations island wide. Adding Cape Poge to the deer management program was a positive step forward to harvesting more deer on our properties and 16 deer were harvested there this season. Hunters on the island did not mention any specific factors impacting their ability to hunt this season.

We are planning to establish 10-Tallest monitoring plots on Nantucket in 2026.

Table 6. Harvest, Deer Impact Trend, Hunters and Hunter Hours for the Islands Portfolio.

Property	Harvest				Deer Impact Trend	2025				
	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Average		Hunters	3-Year Average	Hours	3-Year Average	Hours/Deer 2025
Long Point	36	30	20	29	N/A	16	20	400	482	17
Menemsha Hills	20	11	28	20	N/A	15	30	156	176	9
Cape Poge*	0	0	16	5	N/A	16	0	218	73	15
Coskata Coatue	45	39	51	45	N/A	42	50	504	435	10
Total	101	80	115	99		89	25	1278	291	12

West Region (Deer Impacts = Not Tracked)

Many properties in the western part of the state are open to hunting. Properties are often large, most of the property falls outside safety setbacks, and hunting is more culturally accepted which allows most to be open. Few properties exhibit characteristics that would place them into a controlled hunting program. Bartholomew’s Cobble is the only property where controlled hunting occurs. The hunting designation was changed from no hunting to controlled hunting in December of 2021.

This was the third season-controlled hunting occurred at Bartholomew’s Cobble. An additional 3 hunters were added to the program this season. Since deer are much less abundant in the western part of the state, and doe tags are limited, it makes harvesting deer more challenging. Additional hunters may have helped increase the number of deer harvested this season.

Deer browse monitoring is not conducted at Bartholomew’s Cobble.

Table 7. Harvest, Deer Impact Trend, Hunters and Hunter Hours for the West Portfolio.

Property	Harvest				Deer Impact Trend	2025				
	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Average		Hunters	3-Year Average	Hours	3-Year Average	Hours/Deer 2025
Bartholomew's Cobble	1	1	2	1	N/A	7	4	140	101	70
Total	1	1	2	1.33		7	4	140	101	70

Appendix

Appendix 1. Controlled Hunting Regulations



Trustees Controlled Hunting Regulations 2025

- All hunters must provide a copy of their hunting license, license plate number and contact information to The Trustees.
- All hunters are required to pass a proficiency test conducted by The Trustees or Volunteer Hunting Coordinator prior to receiving permission to hunt Trustees properties.
- Written permission from The Trustees should be carried at all times while hunting on a Trustees property and produced upon request from Trustees staff or visitors. Vehicle I.D. placards should be placed in vehicle while hunting if required by hunt coordinator.
- Archery hunting must occur from tree stands at a minimum of 25 yards away from marked trails. (Only exception is during controlled gun hunting) Tree stands must be removed within 30 days of the close of hunting season.
 - In certain circumstances hunters may be allowed to leave tree stands up year-round
 - The location of the tree stand must be approved by a Stewardship staff member responsible for implementing deer management.
 - Hunters must provide the date the stand was established. and location of the stand (e.g., GPS coordinate, dropped pin location), so it is easily locatable.
 - Tree stand must be tagged with an approved tag provided by a Trustees staff member that indicates ownership (name of hunter)
 - Hunters must remove the stand from the tree by January 30th to prevent people from climbing the stand and place it on the ground or slightly elevated on debris to get it off the direct ground.
 - Tree stands must be maintained and inspected on an annual basis, and straps replaced as needed.
 - Hunters that harvest a deer from a permanent stand must indicate it was from a year-round stand when they report the deer to a hunt coordinator.

- Hunters that fail to follow state hunting regulations and The Trustees' rules will be prohibited from hunting on Trustees reservations.
- Hunters must report any kills to The Trustees staff or Volunteer Hunting Coordinator within 24 hours, or sooner depending upon property specific regulations.
- Care and discretion for other property users should be used when field dressing and/or removing deer from property.
- Hunters must be courteous to all property users and make a genuine effort to inform others about the hunting program when encountered. The Trustees must be notified of negative encounters with visitors as soon as possible.
- Hunters must look for injured deer and inform The Trustees as soon as possible about any injured deer that are not located.
- Hunters must report an accident or injury immediately and dial 911 in the event of an emergency.
- Hunters need to report approximate hours spent hunting at end of season to The Trustees staff or Volunteer Hunting Coordinator, submission of this report is contingent for permission the following year.
- Hunters are required to become Trustees members at a level they are financially capable of.
- Hunters who participate positively will have the opportunity to hunt the following year.