

Wildlife Management Update

Central Office
March 12, 2014



2014-15 DOW Regulation Proposals &
Constituent Feedback

2/17/2014 8:13 AM



WILDLIFE RULE CHANGES:

A SUMMARY OF PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS

**Division of Wildlife Open Houses
Saturday March 1, 12:00 – 3:00 PM**

Open House Locations

Attendees

District 1	45 (37)
District 2	54 (46)
District 3	90 (127)
District 4	67 (70)
District 5	71 (70)
Lake Erie S.I.R. Welcome Center	11 (24*)
Fairport F.U.	45 (25)
Total:	383 (399)

WILDLIFE RULE Proposals:

A SUMMARY OF PARTICIPATION & COMMENTS

**Division of Wildlife Open Houses
Saturday March 1, 12:00 – 3:00 PM**

Major Comment Areas

Totals

Deer Regulations	271 (329)
Furbearers & Trapping	20 (41)
Waterfowl	29 (29)
Wild Turkey	23 (27)
Upland Game Seasons	11 (21)

**Division of Wildlife Open Houses
Saturday March 1, 12:00 – 3:00 PM**

WRITTEN COMMENTS

DEER REGULATIONS

ISSUE: Allowing the Use of Rifles and/or Pistol-cartridge Long Guns.

69 – Support

6 – Oppose

**Division of Wildlife Open Houses
Saturday March 1, 12:00 – 3:00 PM**

WRITTEN COMMENTS

DEER REGULATIONS

**ISSUE: 2-day Statewide Antlerless-only
Muzzleloader Season on second weekend of
October**

11 – Support

9 – Support but want season to be either-sex

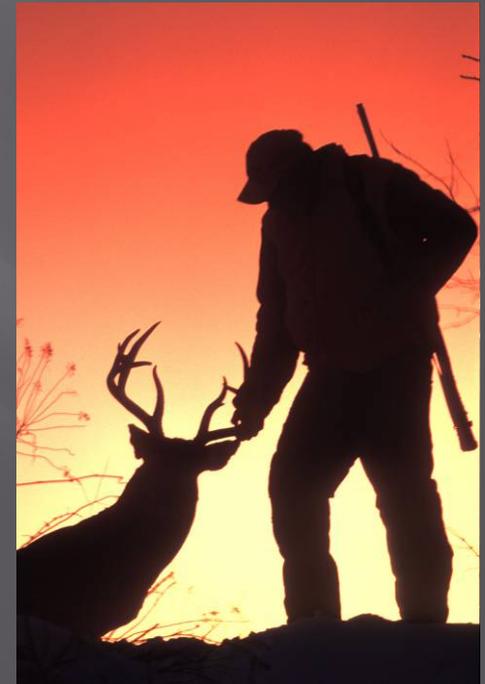
27 – Oppose

Website Comments – 877 (824) e-mails

**ISSUE: Allowing the Use of Rifles and/or
Pistol-cartridge Long Guns**

360 (577) – Support

65 (119) – Oppose



Website Comments

Early Antlerless Muzzleloader Season

- 10 (134) – Support Statewide Early Muzzleloader (EAMS)
- 92 (249) – Oppose Statewide Early Muzzleloader

Top reasons for opposition:

- Causes deer to become more nocturnal
- Lowers bow hunting success after EAMS
- Should be either sex for archers

Do Deer Become More Nocturnal?

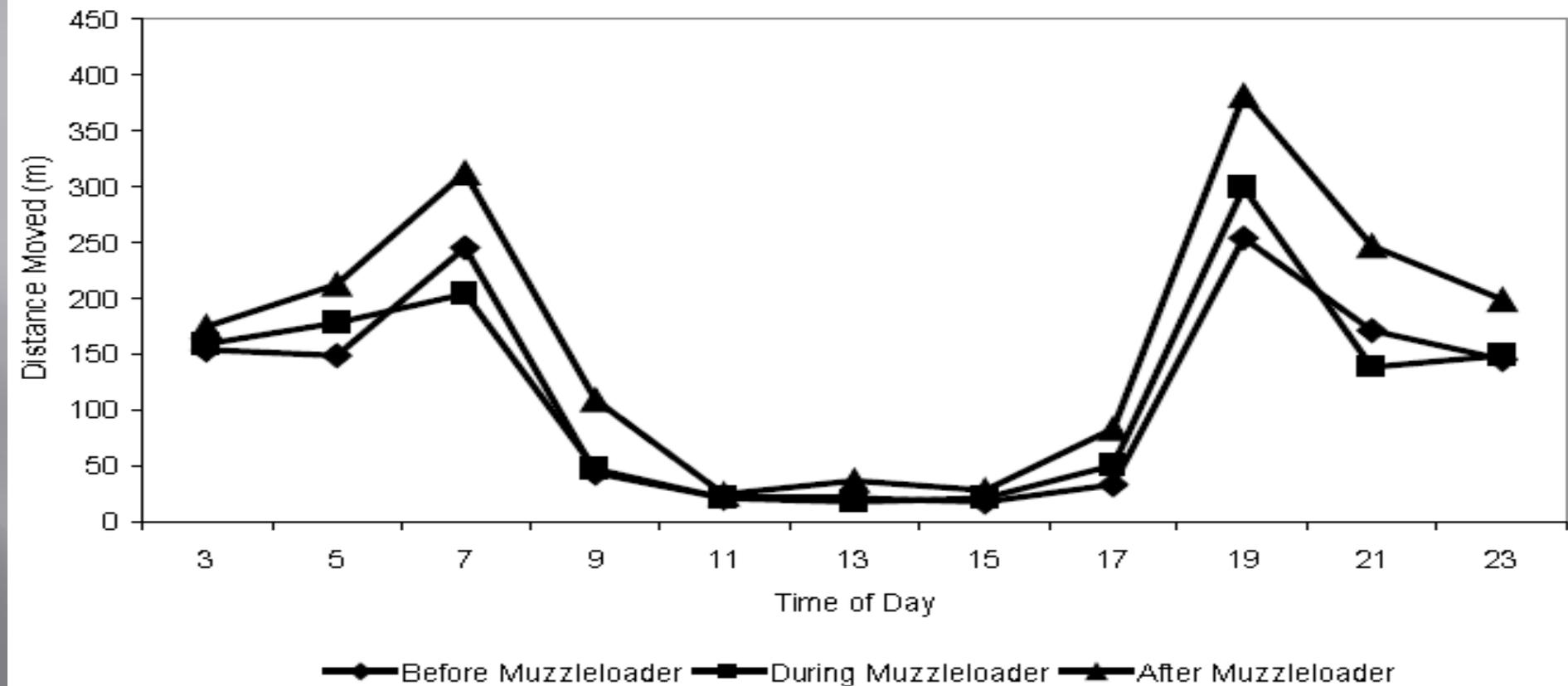
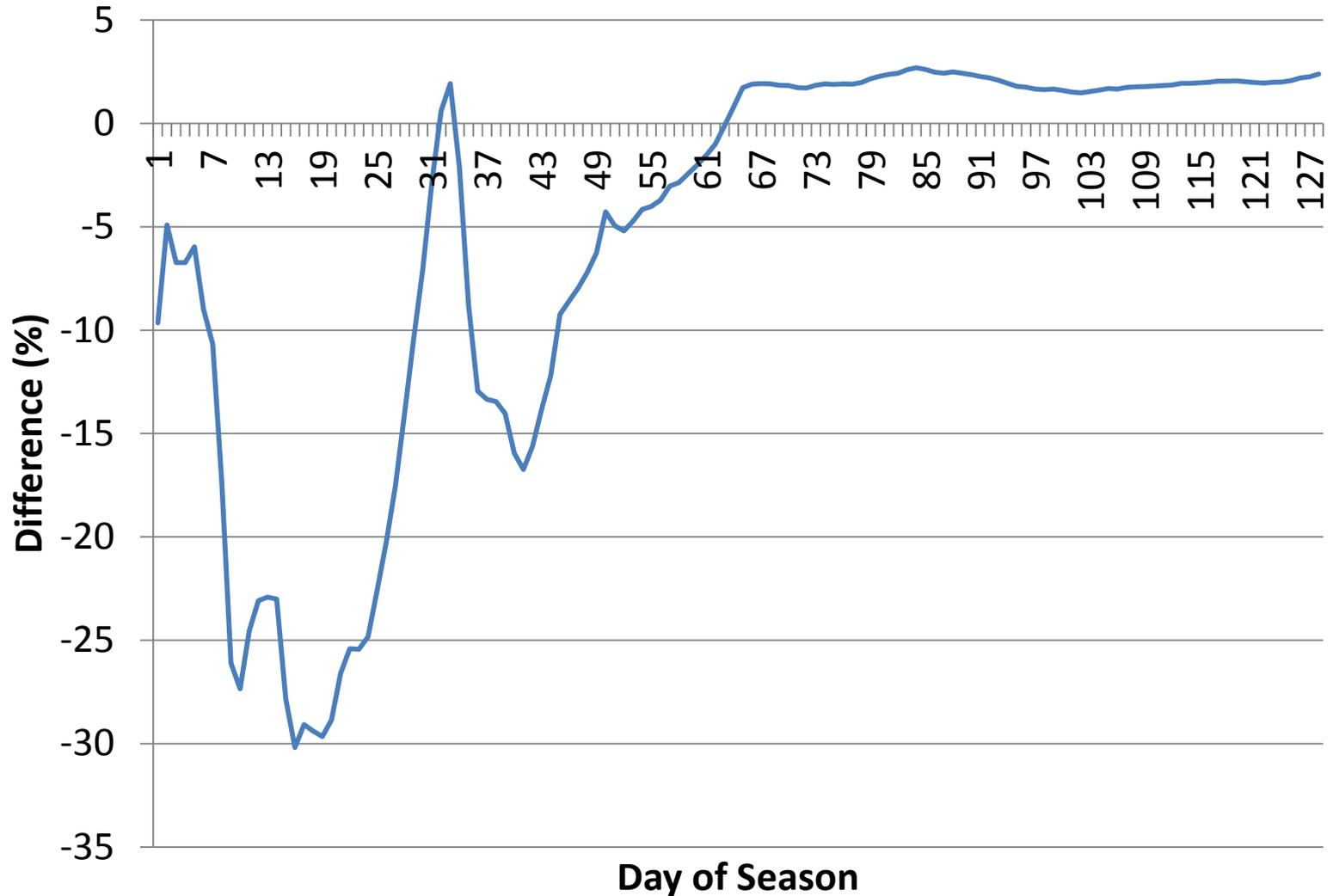


Figure 5. Median distances moved by antlered deer wearing GPS radio collars during 2-hour time intervals the week before, during, and after the October muzzleloader and firearms season. Sunrise occurred around 0730hrs and sunset occurred around 1830hrs. Pennsylvania, 2002-2004.

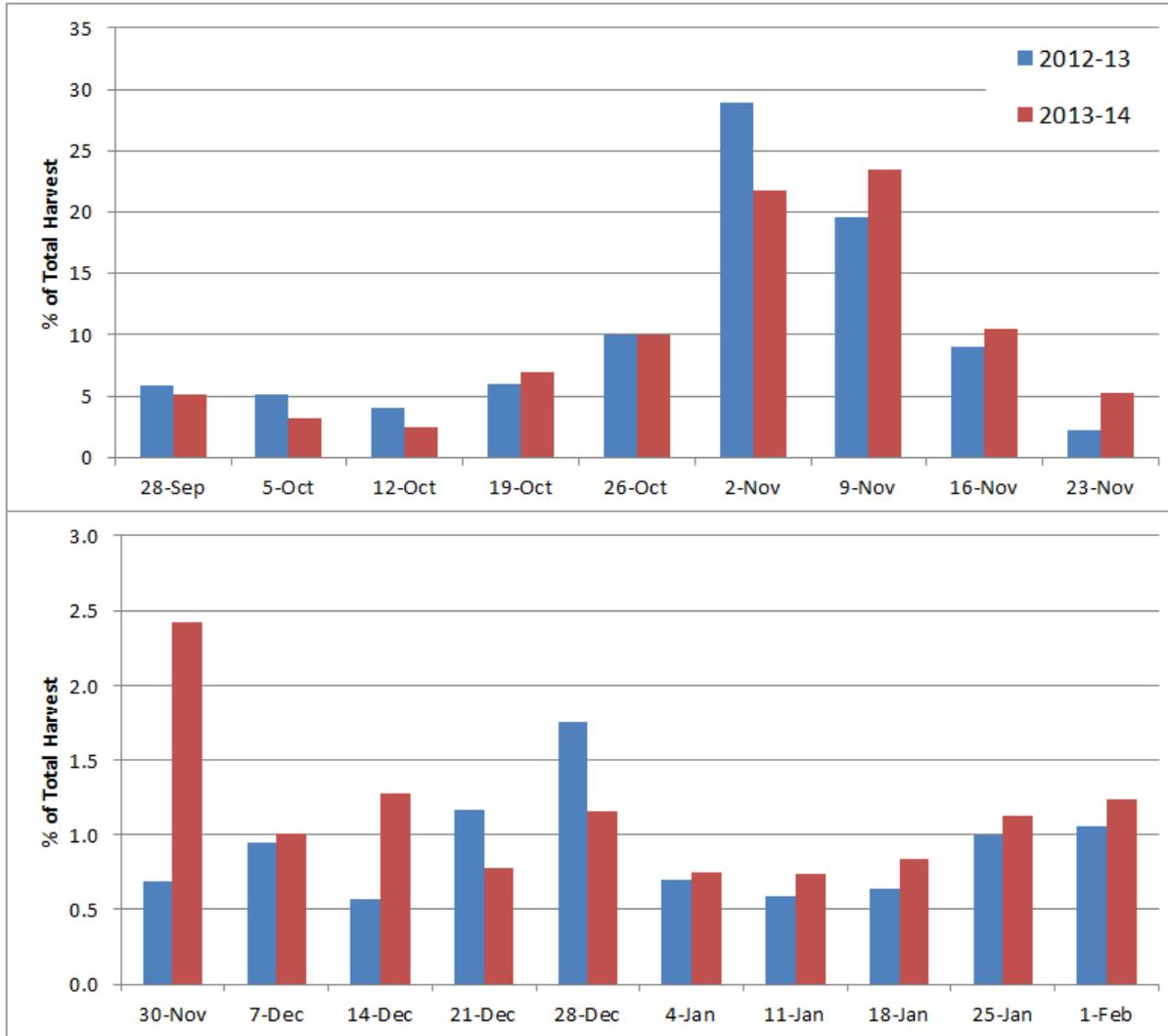
Was Bow Hunting Success Lower After EAMS?

- Archery Buck Harvest was up 2%
- Overall Archery Harvest was up 1%
- Archery Harvest was record 45% of total harvest
- Highest prior archery harvest was 38% of total

Was Bow Hunting Success Lower After EAMS?



Archery Antlered Buck Harvest by Week of Season, 2013-14 vs. 2012-13



Why Not Either-Sex For Archers?

- EAMS Designed As A Management Tool.
- Objective – Shift Doe Harvest Earlier In Season.
- Purposely in Weekend That Traditionally Had Low Buck Harvest.
- Allowing Either-Sex For Archers Would Diminish Success Of Tool.
- Inevitably Muzzleloader Hunters Would Want Either-Sex As Well Or Just Switch To Bow.
- Tool Becomes Considerably Less Effective.

Website Comments

Perception of Deer Population

- **137 Consider Deer Population Is Too Low.**
- **13 Consider Deer Population Is Too High.**
- **Several Suggestions To Raise/Lower Certain County Bag Limits.**
- **Website/Open House Summaries & Copies Of Letters And Petitions In Your packets.**

Any Questions?

