



Rhode Island  
Department of Environmental Management



Division of Fish and Wildlife

## Archery Hunter Wildlife Observation Survey

To better estimate deer hunter effort throughout Rhode Island the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) is asking you to complete this archery hunter wildlife observation survey through the course of the deer season. In addition to hunter effort, this will help DFW determine the distribution, abundance and trends over time for species other than deer. The DFW is asking that only archery hunters participate since they are typically stand hunting which makes them most likely to see other species that are not commonly observed. The DFW thanks you ahead of time for your participation.

- Record all archery deer hunting trips during the deer season in Rhode Island.
- Fill out a line with your hours for every hunt even if you did not see anything.
- Record only your individual totals, not those of your hunting partner(s).
- Record Yes or No for whether you hunted on public land (wildlife management areas, state forests, federal land, cooperative hunting areas).
- Use separate lines if you hunted on different properties in the same day.
- Record the number of hours you hunted to the nearest whole hour.
- Keep the log readily accessible (such as in your vehicle or in your hunting pack) so you can record your information immediately after each hunt.
- Mark total sightings during legal hunting hours. Do not try and count unique animals. We are calculating sightings per hour, not total animals.
- For instance, if you saw 3 does at 8:00 a.m., 1 buck at 10:00 a.m., and then 3 does at 11:00 a.m. at the same hunting area, you would put 1 antlered and 6 antlerless for sightings. If you saw an 8-point buck at 10:00 a.m. and then what you think was the same buck again at 1:00 p.m., you would put 2 for sightings. However, record as only 1 sighting if it was clearly the same animal or animals and it occurred in short period of time, such as within an hour.
- Zone 1 shall consist of the following towns: Barrington, Bristol, Central Falls, Charlestown, Cranston, Cumberland, East Greenwich, East Providence, Jamestown, Johnston, Lincoln, Middletown, Narragansett, Newport, North Kingstown, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Providence, Smithfield, South Kingstown, Warren, Warwick, West Warwick, Westerly, and Woonsocket.
- Zone 2 shall consist of the following towns: Burrillville, Coventry, Exeter, Foster, Glocester, Hopkinton, Little Compton, Portsmouth (excluding Prudence and Patience Islands), Richmond, Scituate, Tiverton, and West Greenwich.
- Zone 3 shall consist of Patience and Prudence Islands.
- Zone 4 shall consist of New Shoreham (Block Island).

**Please return the survey to the Division of Fish and Wildlife by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

1. Mail or drop off at the Great Swamp Field Headquarters, 277 Great Neck Rd, West Kingston, RI 02892.
2. Email scan/photo to [Dylan.ferreira@dem.ri.gov](mailto:Dylan.ferreira@dem.ri.gov)

