



July 29, 2017

To: Landowners and Hunting Group Representatives – Vista Mountain WMA
Re: 2017 Deer Surveys

It's time to collect deer survey data in the Vista Mountain Wildlife Management Association. Any forms referenced below can soon be found at the revised Vista Mountain WMA website: <http://vistamountainwma.org/>

Daylight Deer Observations

The collection and submission of Daylight Deer Observations data **are required** for:

- Properties that desire to participate in the Managed Lands Deer Permits (MLDP) program, and/or
- Properties that lease and want to obtain the reduced-cost WMA Hunting Lease License.

The submission of survey data is voluntary for no--MLDP/non-leasing members; however, all members are highly encouraged to submit survey data to strengthen the quality of deer population data on which the harvest recommendation is based.

All members should use the Daylight Observations form to record random daylight deer observations to help estimate the composition (does per buck and fawns per doe ratios) of the deer population. These data may be collected at any location on your properties between now and September 10th. You only record deer that are positively identified as **antlered bucks, adult does, or (this year's) fawns**. Please be sure to provide your name, ranch name and county on the front of the form. Instructions are found on the back. Please make copies of the form and distribute to anyone who will be spending time on your place in August and early September.

Spotlight Surveys

Several spotlight survey routes have been established within the boundary of the WMA. The data from the spotlight surveys are used to estimate deer density. The routes and points of contact are:

- Arnold (4.4 miles) – Charles Sanders, 254-644-9864
- Bee House (10.9 miles) – Traci Barnard, 254-865-3563 or Phil Blais, 713-305-7787
- Bar-J (3.7 miles) – Bob Jolly, 254-206-0187
- Vernon (4 miles) – Leon Vernon, 254-471-5955
- Partridge Creek (9.5 miles) - Calvin Friedrich, 254-784-0318
- Schoolerville (5 miles) – Jason Signor, 214-923-2188 or Calvin Friedrich, 254-784-0318

A minimum of 3 folks are needed to conduct a spotlight survey, so please contact one of these individuals if you are willing to assist. Please use the **exact routes that have been established**,

conducting surveys for each route on at least 3 different nights between now and September 10th. If you have questions about a particular route, I can provide a route map.

A copy of the spotlight data form is attached. Instructions are on the back. Please provide the name of the line, the date, and the names of all participants on each survey form. Deer should be identified, if possible, as buck, adult doe, or fawn; however, it is also important to record "unidentified" deer on the form. The focus of spotlight surveys is to provide an accurate count of the total number of deer observed each night. It is important to note that **deer observed over 250 yards from the vehicle should not be included in the count.**

Data Submission

Please submit, via e-mail preferred, the completed survey forms (daylight and spotlight) to me (address on back of forms) by **September 10th**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" and last name "Miller" clearly distinguishable.

Mike Miller
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