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551 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

October 11, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Major O.G. Kelley, Manager, Everglades Region

FROM: Robert Ellis, Regional Wildlife Biologist *RE*

SUBJECT: Harvest report for 1983-84 Archery Season, Region 4

I have listed below the harvest and man-days of pressure for each management area during the 1983-84 archery season. I have also compared the harvest and man-days of pressure during 1983-84 with the 1982-83 figures showing the percent increase or decrease. Overall both harvest and hunter pressure were down from the 1982-83 season.

	<u>1982-83</u>			<u>1983-84 (difference from 1982-83)</u>		
	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Hog</u>	<u>Man-days</u>	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Hog</u>	<u>Man-days</u>
J.W. Corbett	11	36	2981	10(-9%)	23(-36%)	2426(-18.6%)
<u>Big Cypress</u>	20	6	1180	7(-65%)	10(+66%)	1560(+32%)
Rotenberger	41	0	1649	5(-88%)	0	932(-43%)
Holey Land	7	0	515	2(-71%)	0	796(+55%)
Brown's Farm	7	4	959	3(-57%)	0	855(-10.8%)
Everglades (no hunt)				8	8	424
	<u>1982-83</u>			<u>1983-84 (total excluding Everglades)</u>		
Total	86	46	7284	27(-69%)	33(-28%)	6569(-9.8%)

RWE:ckp

cc: Vic Heller
Lt. Lampton
Tim Breault
Mark Robson
Jim Schortemeyer
Bob Progulski
Div. of W/L ✓

Annual Deer Season Report
1983-84
Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide timely information and discuss the results of the 1983-84 deer hunting season on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area. This report includes information on hunting pressure, harvest and biological information from harvested deer.

Hunt Area

The hunt area surveyed in this report included all lands within the authorized boundaries of the Big Cypress National Preserve. These lands are divided into 5 units separated by graded or paved roads, (Fig. 1). A sixth area, consisting of Dade County Jetport lands, was included in the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area for the first time this year. It is presently not part of the Big Cypress National Preserve. It is discussed as a separate area.

METHODS

The following information was collected by operating check stations at selected locations and times, by area surveillance by Division of Wildlife, Division of Law Enforcement and National Park Service personnel and by conducting weekly surveys to determine user pressure and distribution within the area.

Prior to this hunting season, check stations were operated by Division of Wildlife personnel assigned to the Big Cypress. Since their goal was to collect biological data on harvested animals, these personnel ran check stations at the two most used access points, Bear Island and Forty-mile bend, and during the times of highest harvest, that is, weekends and the 9-day quota hunt.

This year, two additional goals were established. One was to determine how many deer were harvested and the other was to gain more information on all users of the Big Cypress. To accomplish these goals, management area rule #30 required that "All deer, turkey and wild hogs must be checked and tagged at a designated check station prior to removal from the area." In order to accommodate the hunters, check stations were operated at six locations (Fig. 1).

Check Stations

Each check station was operated differently based on manpower, budget and other restrictions. To insure that biological and user information was collected in a uniform manner several workshops were conducted to train check station operators. Experienced personnel also accompanied new check station operators during their initial work. This report covers check station operations during the established deer seasons which were: archery, Sept. 17 through Oct. 9, muzzleloading gun, Oct. 22 through Nov. 6, and general gun, Nov. 12 through Jan. 8. As in the past 2 years, only antlered deer with one or more antlers at least an inch in length visible above the hairline were legal game.

Forty Mile Bend

This check station is located on State Road 94 just south of U.S. 41. It provided coverage for hunters utilizing the eastern portion of the Stairsteps Unit and the Loop Road Unit. It also offered a convenient location for all hunters returning to Dade County via U.S. 41. In the past it was operated primarily in daylight hours during peak use periods which included weekends and the 9-day quota hunt. This year it was operated by Division of Wildlife personnel for 4 days, 17, 18, 24 Sept. and 8 Oct., during archery season and the first weekend of the muzzleloading gun hunt, Oct. 22 and 23. After that, 2 seasonal OPS employees operated it on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 29 and 30, and on a daily basis starting Nov. 2. The station opened between 5:30 and 7:30 A.M. and an operator would remain on duty until the traffic leaving the area was reduced indicating that most users had departed which usually occurred between 6:00 and 9:00 P.M. Persons entering the area were interviewed about their intended recreational use, possession of regulations, city of residence, off-road vehicle use and type of camping (Fig. 2). Those leaving the area were checked for harvested game. Information on each deer was recorded on data forms (Figures 3 & 4).

Bear Island

This check station is located at the junction of Turner River Road north of Alligator Alley and the Main Campground Road. Legal access to the Bear Island Unit is restricted to this entrance. The Bear Island check station was operated daily by OPS personnel during the 1982-83 season and again this year, for 10 to 14 hours per day depending upon anticipated and observed use. Persons using the area were interviewed and harvested game was examined using the data forms mentioned above.

Monroe Station

This check station was located on State Road 94 approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of U.S. 41 at Monroe Station. The check station was not operated during archery season. Beginning with muzzleloading season it was operated by one OPS employee who lived at the Everglades Sportsmen and Conservation Club and also served as their caretaker. On weekends and during other peak use periods this check station was operated in a manner similar to Bear Island and Forty Mile Bend. This check station provided information regarding hunters in the western portion of the Loop Road Unit and the east-central portions of the Stairsteps Unit. During non-peak use times, generally Monday through Thursday during daylight hours, a sign telling hunters to check game there was placed on the adjacent road.

Jetport

For the first time this hunting season the Jetport area was included in the Wildlife Management Area Program under an agreement with the Dade County Aviation Authority. A check station was operated on the Jetport Road approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of U.S. 41 by commission personnel and reservists. It was operated on Nov. 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20 and 26, 10-14 hours per day in the manner previously described.

Oasis Ranger Station

During all three hunts the Oasis Ranger Station served as a passive check station. This station was open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM except on Christmas and Thanksgiving. Successful hunters could bring harvested game to this check station during these hours for tagging and biological analysis. This check station was convenient for hunters leaving the Monument and Loop Road Units via Highway 41.

Ochopee

This check station is located at the Division of Wildlife field station on the north side of U.S. 41 approximately 3 miles west of Turner River Road. It was operated on a passive basis by a neighbor who volunteered his services. He spent considerable time at home and therefore could check game brought there. This check station was convenient for hunters leaving the Deep Lake Unit or the western portion of the Stairsteps Unit via Highway 41.

Area Surveillance

Division of Wildlife personnel would check for game brought out from access points other than the check station sites. These were referred to as "roving" check stations. Biological data was collected and the game was tagged at the site.

Division of Law Enforcement personnel, Reservists, and National Park Service personnel would check for game while doing routine field work. They were supplied with "Harvest cards" which requested information on the game and type of hunt. They then instructed the hunter to carry his game to a check station where biological data would be collected and the game tagged.

Recreational Use Study

In order to more accurately assess current public use of the Big Cypress area a comprehensive recreational use study was implemented in 1983. This study has been designed to document present use levels and to provide a sound knowledge base for future decisions. An integral feature of this use study is a weekly survey of the Big Cypress to document weekend pressure on the area. Vehicles are counted along established roads and at major access points (Figures 5 & 6).

Biological Information

As much biological information as possible was collected from each deer. This included date and unit of harvest, weight, antler measurements and hind foot length. A lower jaw was collected in order to determine age. Deer were aged using standard tables on tooth wear, eruption and replacement by the Regional Biologist.

RESULTS

Number and Site of Deer Checked

Table 1 contains a summary of deer checked by unit and season for the Big Cypress. In the Bear Island Unit a total of 29 deer were checked during all three seasons. Bear Island is the only unit with restricted access requiring most hunters to pass through the check station when entering and leaving the area. Since OPS operators were on duty daily throughout all seasons we believe

that most of the deer harvested on Bear Island were checked.

In the Stairsteps Unit, a total of 80 deer were harvested during all seasons combined. For the first time this year, archery and muzzleloading equipment was prohibited on airboats during these seasons. The low number of deer checked during these seasons is primarily attributed to this change. In addition, the two check stations for this area were not in full operation during the early seasons and this reduced surveillance would lower the number of deer checked. Unlike Bear Island, a significant number of hunters could enter the Stairsteps Unit without passing a check station. These users could simply enter and leave the unit at any point along Tamiami Trail (Hwy. 41) west of Monroe Station. The check stations at Forty Mile Bend and Monroe Station were reasonably effective for checking airboat hunters who use the eastern portions of the Stairsteps and other hunters utilizing the areas adjacent to the Loop Road. Therefore, we believe that the low number of deer checked during archery and muzzleloading reflects a lower harvest due primarily to restrictions placed on airboats. The 80 deer checked out of the Stairsteps Unit represent 57 percent of all deer checked on Big Cypress during the 1983-84 hunting season.

In the Loop Road Unit a total of 13 deer were checked for all seasons combined. The check stations at Monroe Station and Forty Mile Bend constitute excellent check points for users entering the unit from Loop Road. However, legal access to the Loop Road Unit is available along the entire length of U.S. 41 between Forty Mile Bend and Monroe Station. Based on the above plus incomplete operation of check stations especially during archery and muzzleloading seasons we believe that the 13 deer checked represent a significant but incomplete portion of the harvest.

No deer were checked from the Deep Lake Unit during the 1983-84 seasons. While we suspect that deer densities may be low, the fact that no deer were checked is due primarily to three reasons: 1) access to the unit is unlimited including portions of Alligator Alley, Tamiami Trail and Turner River Road which form the north, south and east boundaries respectively. Additional access was possible along Birdon and Wagon Wheel Road, 2) all users of the area enter and leave the area without passing through a check station and 3) successful hunters did not comply with the new rule requiring them to check all deer at an established check station.

In the Monument Unit and the Jetport area a total of 18 deer were checked. Ten of these deer were checked either by field personnel or at the Jetport check station where each vehicle leaving the area was checked. Eight deer were voluntarily brought to Oasis (4), Forty Mile Bend (3), or Monroe Station (1). We believe that this number represents a small portion of all deer harvested in the Jetport and Monument areas. Again, several factors would contribute to this, including: 1) unlimited access to the area 2) no check station provided a consistent routine check of persons leaving the area 3) a high percentage of the users utilize established camps in the area and may stay in the area for extended periods making it difficult to check game 4) many of the access points to the Monument Unit are not conveniently located near an established check station and 5) the law requiring game to be checked at a check station is new and some hunters are probably unfamiliar with it.

Table 2 is a summary of deer checked by unit and by method. These results indicate that most of the deer checked were at locations where all or most users

leaving the area were checked. Bear Island and Forty Mile Bend combined accounted for 114 checked deer or 81 percent of all deer during 1983-84. The two check stations which relied on successful hunters to voluntarily bring in game checked 6 deer or 4 percent of the observed harvest. Some additional animals were voluntarily brought to the four "mandatory" check stations, but the total would still be below 10 percent. We must assume that the new regulations requiring all animals to be checked was not widely observed during the first year it was in force.

Since the other units have virtually unlimited access we do not believe it would be feasible to simply increase the number of check stations in order to check more hunters in a mandatory fashion. The best methods to check a greater percentage of deer appear to be increased emphasis on field checking deer hunters, increased surveillance at major access points and encouraging compliance with the law requiring all game to be checked at established check stations.

Biological Data

Historically, deer in the Big Cypress area could be considered a single population even though they were unevenly distributed over the entire area. Under present conditions we have chosen to treat deer in each of the units as a discrete herd even though the units are divided strictly by arbitrary man-made boundaries. We do this because the two areas with a significant sample size have distinct hunting methods. The remaining areas are also different, but the sample size is too small to analyze.

Figure 7 shows the age structure of the hunted male segment of the Bear Island population. The one deer taken in the $\frac{1}{2}$ year age class was an illegal deer. Thirteen deer or 72 percent were in the 1.5 year age class, four or 22 percent were in the 2.5 year age class. These figures show a substantially larger percentage in the 1.5 year class over previous years. In order to properly evaluate this a more detailed analysis of data collected in earlier years is needed.

Figure 8 shows the age structure of 57 bucks killed in the Stairsteps Unit. Again, a substantial portion (60%) of the harvested deer are in the 1.5 year age class. The 2.5 year age class accounts for 19% of all checked deer while older deer account for 11%. One of the six deer in the $\frac{1}{2}$ year age class was determined to be illegal. One of the deer appeared to be legal while the remaining four appeared to be marginal based on antler measurements.

Figure 9 depicts the age class structure of 90 deer harvested on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area during the 1983-84 hunting season. Again, approximately 60% of all animals were in the 1.5 year age class. This figure is approximately 20% higher than the prior year. With this exception the age class structure appears both normal and comparable to previous seasons. A more detailed comparison to previous data is beyond the scope of this report.

Table 3 summarizes antler measurements and computed live weights of deer by unit of harvest. Sample sizes of Bear Island and Stairsteps were sufficient while the other units were combined to form a reasonable sample unit.

These results seem to be typical for South Florida deer although adult deer in the Stairsteps seem to rank consistently lower than adults from the other units both in antler measurements and computed live weight. These differences could be caused by habitat differences or hunting pressure or some combination of these.

Harvest by Season and Day of the Week

During the 1983-84 hunt season check stations were operated on a daily basis in order to gain a better understanding of how many deer are harvested in the Big Cypress and peak times of harvest. The Bear Island check station was operated every day except Christmas of the 1983-84 hunt season. Table 4 summarizes the checked harvest on Bear Island for the last two years. During the 1983-84 season, most of the deer (79%) were checked out either on weekends or during the 9-day quota hunt. During the previous year, 1982-83, the check station was not run on weekdays during archery and muzzleloader season, but was run daily except for Christmas during the general gun season. Most of the deer (84%) were checked out on weekends or during the quota hunt.

The Forty Mile Bend check station was operated everyday of the 1983-84 general gun season. Most of the deer (84%) were checked out either on weekends or during the 9-day quota hunt (Table 5). During the previous year, 1982-83, the check station was not run on weekdays. Under these conditions 96% of the deer were checked out either on weekends or during the 9-day quota hunt.

These data indicate that peak harvest times coincide with peak use times and that approximately 80% of the harvest occurs on weekends and during the 9-day quota hunt.

Six-year Summary

For the past 6 years, 1978 to 1984, the GFC has monitored hunting in the Big Cypress and compiled harvest reports at the end of each season. Due to changes in analysis procedures, late reporting of harvested game, and changes in regulation, discrepancies occur among these reports. Appendix A provides a copy of annual regulations for the Big Cypress and a summary of hunting seasons for the past 6 years. In addition to rule changes the actual method of estimating the harvest has changed. For instance, for the first several years, the number of deer and hog harvested included both those checked by GFC personnel and check station operators and those estimated to have been killed but not seen. For the past 2 years, however, the annual reports have included only game checked by official personnel.

Table 6 summarizes the number of deer and hog checked by official personnel each year for the past 6 years. These numbers, therefore, represent the minimum number of deer and hogs harvested in the Big Cypress.

Man-days of hunter pressure were also estimated on a weekly basis over the past 6 years. For the first 5 years, these numbers were determined by random checks of vehicles along roads and at key parking areas. During the 1983-84 hunting season, a vehicle survey was conducted every Saturday, and from that information, pressure on the other days of the week was extrapolated. In addition, the number of hunters checked in via the check stations was used to adjust the weekly hunter pressure figures. The hunter pressure figures for this year, therefore, represent an improved estimate.

When examining this Table one must keep in mind that,

1. Check station operations have increased and improved since 1978, enabling personnel to report more harvested game.
2. For the first time this year, hunters were required to check game and have it tagged.
3. Hunter pressure figures are only estimates, however, the technique has been improved in the past year.

SUMMARY

During 1983-84, 140 deer were checked by all methods on Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area. Most of the deer (80) checked were harvested in the Stairsteps Unit. Bear Island accounted for 29 deer and together these 2 units account for 78% of all deer checked. Most of the deer were checked at "mandatory" check stations where all users were surveyed as they left a particular area. Although it was mandatory to check deer at a check station, we believe that only a small percentage of the harvest was checked in both the Monument and Deep Lake Units.

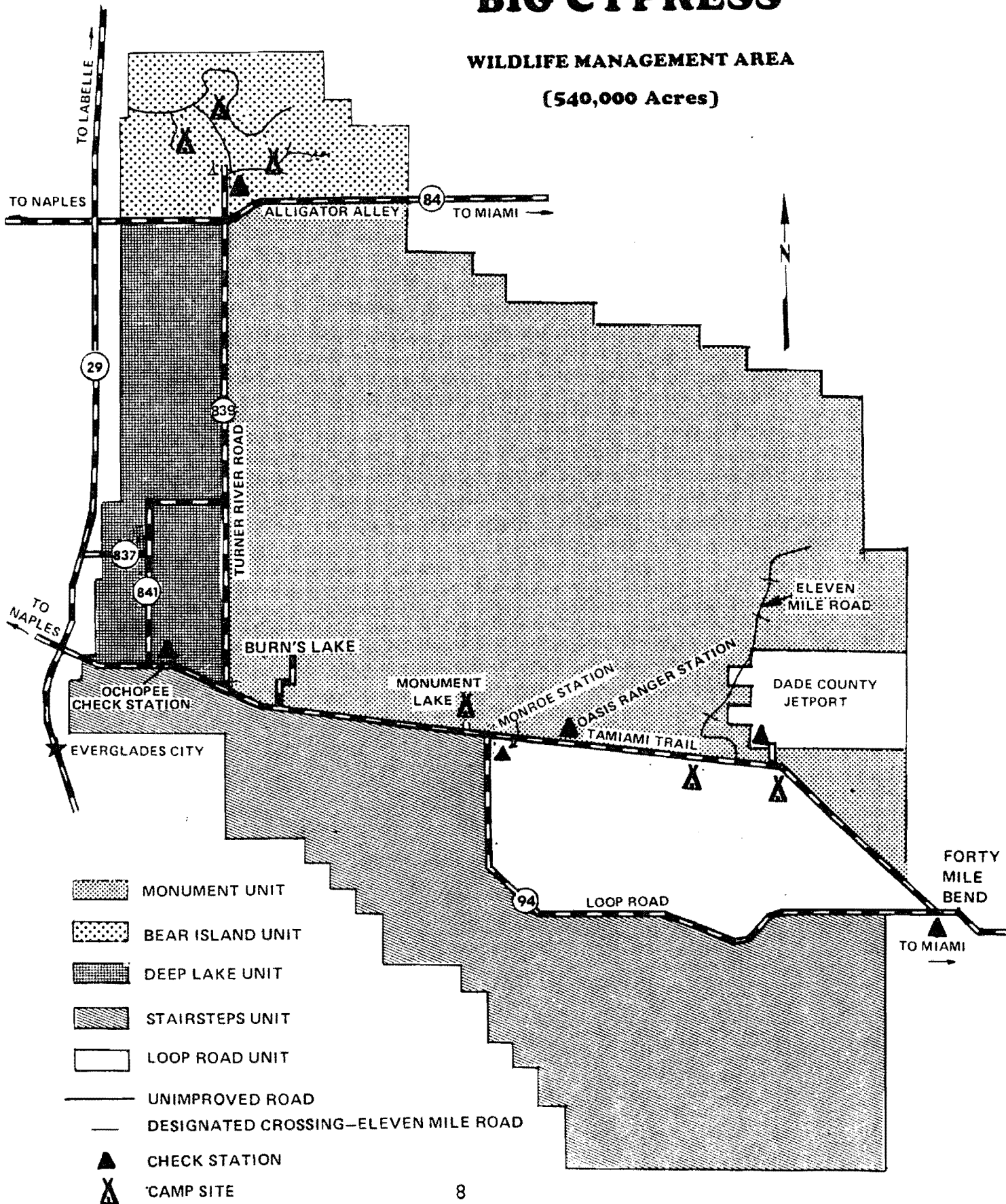
Age ratios of the hunted portion of the herd showed an increase in the 1.5 year age class. This difference may be due to changes in aging techniques, especially when aging deer 20-24 months old or the result of environmental influences, including hunting, on the deer herd. Regardless of the exact cause for the change, the age ratios reported for 1983-84 are comparable to those reported for other Wildlife Management Areas in South Florida.

Figure 1. Locations of six check stations operated on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area - 1983-84.

BIG CYPRESS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(540,000 Acres)



DEER BIOLOGICAL VTA SHEET--BIG CYPRESS- 1983-84

LEFT ANTLE

RIGHT ANTLE3

JAW

KILL	DEER	% GUTTED	HIND	MAIN	MAIN	INSIDE	TAKEN	LICENSE	GAME					
DATE	#	WEIGHT (see below)	FCOT	POINTS	CIRC*	BEAM	POINTS	CIRC*	BEAM	SPREAD	yes/no	SIGNED/	TAG #	COMMENTS

[illegible]

Area, 1983-84.

8 GUTTED

live = no organs or extremities removed
20% = guts and paunch removed

ALL MEASUREMENTS IN CENTIMETERS.
CIRCUMFERENCE = Measure 1 inch above base.

[illegible]

PE OF HUNT: 1 = walk 2 = tree stand 3 = from vehicle

uz = rabbit, racoon, armadillo, opossum, snake, dove, antelope, fish, bear, etc.

DATE _____

WEATHER _____

F = Fishing
C = Camping
P = Picnicing

TIME START _____

OBSERVOR _____

If unknown,
assume hunting

TIME FINISH _____

DAY OF WEEK _____

	VEHICLE ONLY	ATC	SWAMP BUGGY	AIRBOAT	TRAVEL TRAILERS
Alligator Alley- Twin Lakes					
Alligator Alley-west boundary to Turner River Road					
Alligator Alley-Turner River Road to east boundary					
Milemarker 31 Rd.-south off Alley					
Bear Island-main camp, check station, and entrance road					
Bear Island-other sites					
Turner River Road, excluding milemarker 6.5 trail entrance					
Milemarker 6.5 trail entrance					
County roads 837 and 841					
Hwy. 41-west boundary to Turner River Road					
Dona Drive landing					
Turner River landing and picnic site					
Hwy. 41-Turner River Road to Monroe Station					
Burns Lake					
Monument Lake and tower					
Monroe Station parking lot					
Hwy. 41-Monroe Station to 40-mile bend					
Jetport road and 50-mile bend campsite					
Midway Lake					
Loop Rd-40-mile bend to Pinecrest					
Loop Rd-Pinecrest to Monroe Station					

Figure 5. Recreational Use Vehicle
Survey Form for Big Cypress
Wildlife Management Area, 1983-84.

Figure 6. Survey Route For Big Cypress Recreational Use Vehicle Survey, 1983-84

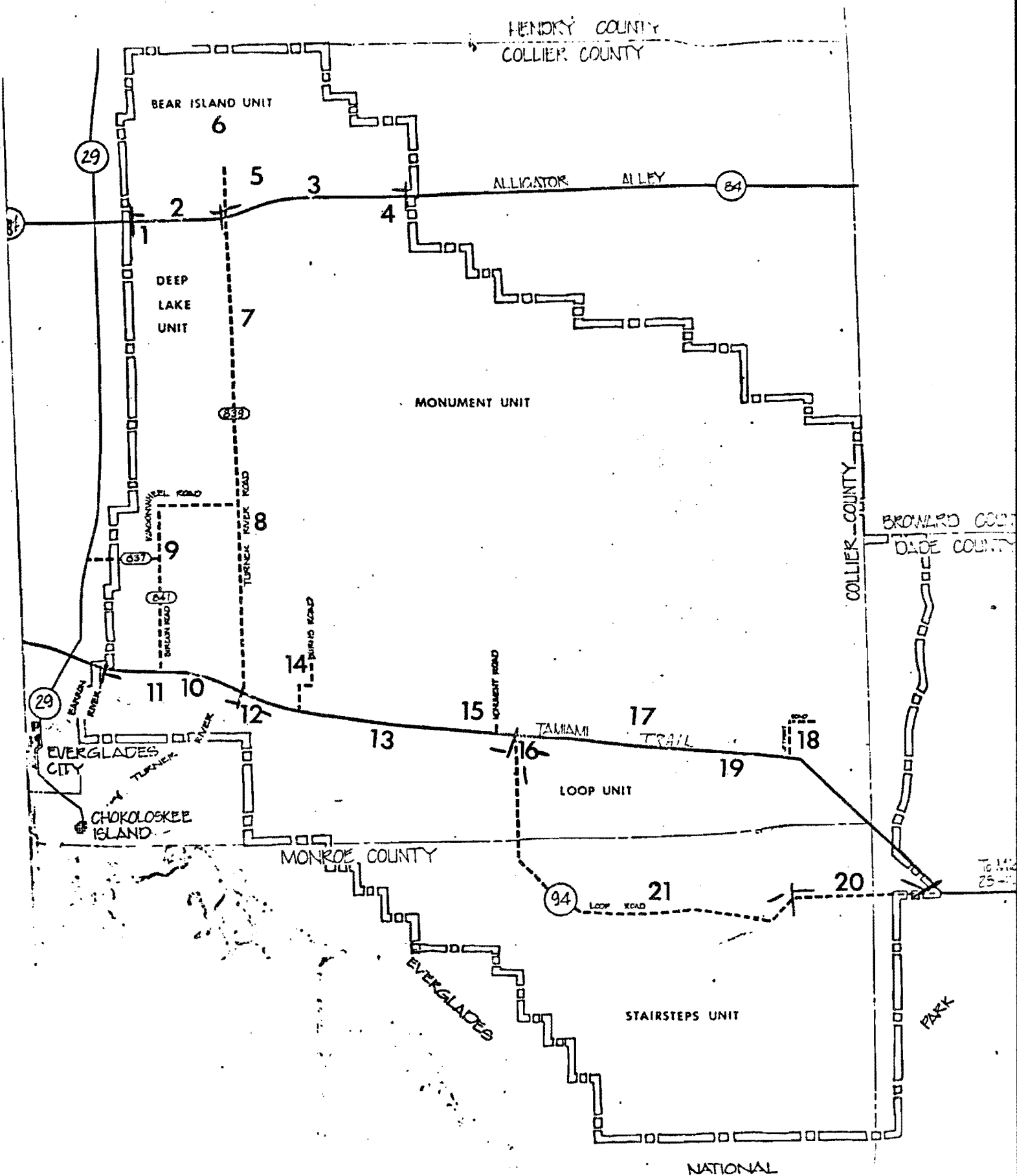


Table 1. Number of deer checked by season and unit for the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area, 1983-84.

Season/Unit	Bear Island	Stairsteps	Loop Road	Deep Lake	Monument	Jetport	All Units
Archery	4	1	2	0	0	0	7
Muzzleloading	9	3	3	0	0	0	15
General Gun	16	76	8	0	14	4	118
All Seasons	29	80	13	0	14	4	140

Table 2. Summary of deer checked by unit and by method.

Method/Unit	Bear Island	Stairsteps	Loop Road	Deep Lake	Monument	Jetport	All Units
Bear Island Check station	28	0	0	0	0	0	28
Forty Mile Bend Check station	0	73	11	0	0	2	86
Monroe Station Check station	0	6	0	0	1	0	7
Oasis Check station	0	0	1	0	5	0	6
Jetport Check station	0	0	1	0	1	2	4
Ochopee Check station	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Division of Wildlife Field checked	1	1	0	0	5	0	7
Other Personnel Field check	0	0	0	0	2	0	2

Figure 7. Age Structure of male white-tailed deer harvested from the Bear Island unit, Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area during 1983-84.

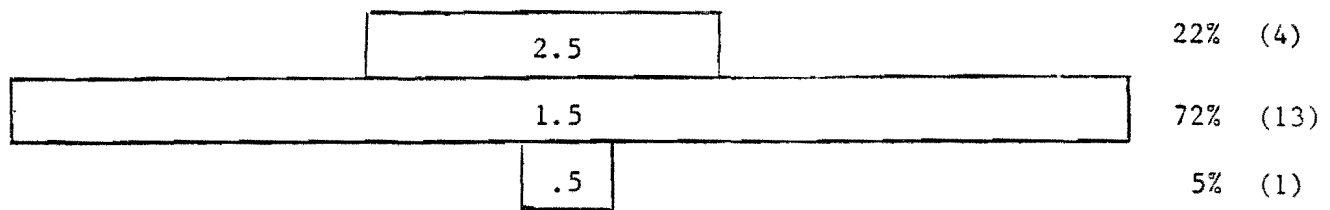


Figure 8. Age structure of male white-tailed deer harvested from the Stairsteps unit, Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area during 1983-84.

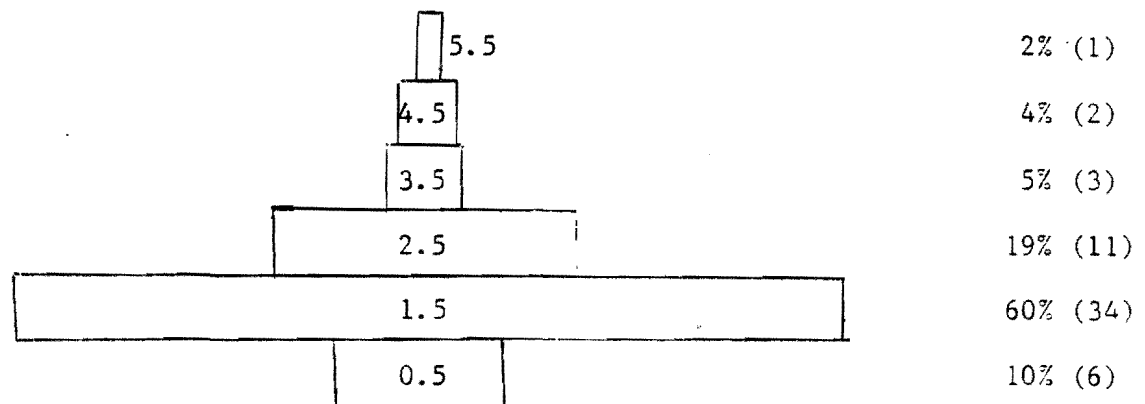


Figure 9. Age structure of white-tailed deer harvested on Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area, 1983-84.

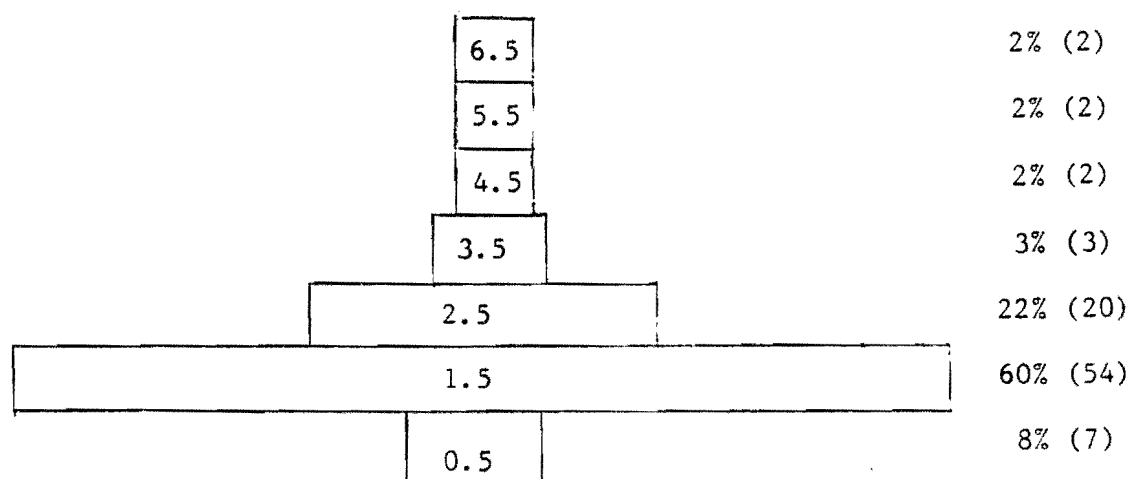


Table 3. Comparison of various antler measurements and wieghts of adult and yearling deer from the Stairsteps, Bear Island and other Units of the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area, 1983-84.

	Bear Island		Stairsteps		Other Units	
	Yearling	Adult	Yearling	Adult	Yearling	Adult
Antler Circumference	5.5(10)	8.0 (3)	4.4 (28)	6.2 (17)	4.9 (9)	8.1 (4)
Right (cm)	[3.0-7.5]	[7.0-10.0]	[2.5-7.0]	[4.0-9.0]	[3.5-6.0]	[6.5-9.5]
Antler Circumference	5.3 (13)	8.0 (4)	4.7 (29)	6.2 (17)	4.9 (8)	8.0 (4)
Left (cm)	[3.5-8.0]	[6.5-10.5]	[3.5-6.5]	[3.5-10.0]	[3.5-6.0]	[6.0-9.5]
Main Beam	18.0 (10)	41.0 (3)	12.9 (28)	21.8 (17)	13.5 (10)	32.0 (4)
Right (cm)	[5.0-29.0]	[36.0-50.0]	[2.5-26.0]	[7.5-37.5]	[4.5-22.0]	[23.0-41.0]
Main Beam	17.6 (12)	37.4 (4)	14.3 (29)	22.3 (17)	15.3 (8)	30.6 (4)
Left (cm)	[3.0-30.0]	[27.0-49.0]	[3.0-26.0]	[7.5-37.0]	[4.5-23.0]	[22.0-36.0]
Spread	14.9 (8)	30 (3)	14.1 (26)	22.7 (16)	17.5 (7)	26.7 (3)
(cm)	[8.0-21.0]	[22.0-36.0]	[7.5-26.5]	[7.0-37.0]	[7.0-25.0]	[21.0-34.0]
Number of Points	4.3 (13)	8 (4)	2.6 (30)	3.9 (18)	2.6 (10)	6.0 (4)
	[1-10]	[3-10]	[1-6]	[2-8]	[1-5]	[4-8]
Computed	98.6 (11)	135 (4)	98.7 (13)	113.5 (8)	92.3 (6)	122.8 (4)
Live Weight (lbs.)	[81-114]	[114-157]	[69-111]	[86-140]	[69-119]	[111-149]

Table Comparison of Deer Checked on Weekends/Quota k with Weekdays during 1982-83 and 1983-84
Deer Seasons at Bear Island Check Station.

<u>1982-83</u>	<u>Weekends/Quota Hunt</u>		<u>Weekdays</u>	
	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>
Archery	2 (50%)	8 of 8	2 (50%)	0 of 15
Muzzleloader	19 (90%)	8 of 8	2 (10%)	0 of 15
General Gun	22 (85%) (6 during quota hunt (24%)).	22 of 23	4 (15%)	35 of 35
<u>1983-84</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>
Archery	3 (75%)	8 of 8	1 (25%)	15 of 15
Muzzleloader	7 (78%)	6 of 6	2 (22%)	10 of 10
General Gun	12 (80%)	22 of 23	3 (20%)	35 of 35

Table 5. Comparison of Deer Checked on Weekends/Quota Week with Weekdays during 1982-83 and 1983-84 Deer Seasons at Forty Mile Bend check station.

<u>1982-83</u>	<u>Weekends/Quota Hunt</u>		<u>Weekdays</u>	
	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Day Check Sta. Open</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>
Archery	15 (94%)	6 of 8	1 (6%)	0 of 15
Muzzleloader	1 (50%)	8 of 8	1 (50%)	0 of 15
General Gun	39 (100%) (29 during quota hunt, 74%).	16 of 23	0 (0%)	0 of 35
<u>1983-84</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Day Check Sta. Open</u>	<u># Deer Checked (%)</u>	<u># Days Check Sta. Open</u>
Archery	1 (100%)	4 of 8	0 (0%)	0 of 15
Muzzleloader	4 (100%)	6 of 6	0 (0%)	0 of 10
General Gun	63 (83%) (49 during quota hunt - 64%)	23 of 23	13 (17%)	35 of 35

Table 6. Comparison between number of deer and hog checked and man-days of pressure for 6 hunting seasons (1978-79 through 1983-84) on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

	78-79			79-80			80-81		
Season/Unit	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure
<u>Archery</u>									
Bear Island	1	1	167	0	0	125	2	2	160
Deep Lake	0	0	128	0	0	45	0	0	120
Monument	no unit			no unit			0	0	305
Stairsteps	5	0	400	closed			2	0	275
Loop Road	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>120</u>
Total	6	1	828	0	0	232	4	2	980
<u>Muzzleloader</u>									
Bear Island	no season			closed			5	2	385
Deep Lake	no season			closed			0	0	180
Monument	no season			no unit			2	0	350
Stairsteps	no season			closed			0	4	320
Loop Road	no season			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>150</u>
Total				0	0	54	7	6	1385
<u>General Gun</u>									
Bear Island	17	11	1100	10	27	2405	32	23	2055
Deep Lake	0	0	750	0	2	1380	1	1	735
Monument	no unit			no unit			3	4	4130
Stairsteps	31	10	4384	25	20	4627	50	35	3750
Loop Road	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1015</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1205</u>
Total	52	23	7249	35	53	9300	92	73	11875
Annual Total	58	24	8077	35	53	9586	103	81	14240

Table 6. Comparison between number of deer and hog checked and man-days of pressure for hunting seasons (1978-79 through 1983-84) on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

	81-82			82-83			83-84		
Season/Unit	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure	# deer checked	# hogs checked	hunter pressure
<u>Archery</u>									
Bear Island	2	1	220	3	2	405	4	9	625
Deep Lake	0	0	70	0	0	70	0	0	55
Monument	0	0	180	0	0	320	0	0	445
Stairsteps	2	0	385	16	1	280	1	1	190
Loop Road	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>170</u>
Total	4	1	911	19	6	1180	7	10	1485
<u>Muzzleloader</u>									
Bear Island	6	6	580	21	21	880	9	39	890
Deep Lake	0	0	85	0	0	150	0	0	150
Monument	1	1	310	0	1	795	0	0	820
Stairsteps	1	1	455	4	3	720	3	7	250
Loop Road	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>160</u>
Total	10	11	1565	25	30	2715	15	51	2270
<u>General Gun</u>									
Bear Island	24	6	2550	26	50	3165	16	42	2975
Deep Lake	1	2	1193	2	2	940	0	1	830
Monument	19	2	5340	27	2	5255	18	16	8075
Stairsteps	44	15	3835	42	42	4195	76	64	5800
Loop Road	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1145</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1175</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>1580</u>
Total	90	32	14063	101	105	14730	118	140	19260
Annual Total	104	44	16539	145	141	18625	140	201	23015

Appendix A. Summary of number of hunting days per season for 6 years, (1978-79 through 1983-84)
on the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

Season	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Archery	23-day	23-day no Stairsteps Unit hunt	23-day	23-day	23-day	23-day
Muzzlelaoder	no hunt	9-day (Loop Rd. Unit only)	23-day	23-day	23-day	16-day
General Gun	58-day	58-day	58-day	58-day	58-day	58-day
Spring Turkey	23-day	23-day	23-day	23-day	37-day	37-day
Fall Turkey	58-day in Deep Lake, Stairsteps and Loop Road Units	58-day in Deep Lake, Stairsteps and Loop Road Units	no fall hunt	58-day in Monument and Loop Road Units	58-day in Monument and Loop Road Units	58-day in Monument and Loop Road Units
Units Open	no Monument Unit	no Monument Unit	All 5 Units Open	All 5 Units Open	All 5 Units Open	Jetport is part of WMA Monument Unit