

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
2014 Inland Harvest Summary



Inland Fish and Wildlife Department

In 2014, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians issued 52,246 individual permits for hunting, fishing, gathering, and trapping within the 1836 Ceded Territory to 4,075 tribal members. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians maintains mandatory harvest reporting requirements for all members who exercise the Tribe's treaty rights. At the time when this report was in development, the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) had received and processed 2,366 harvest reports. Throughout this report, uncertainty in estimated harvest is quantified by bootstrap resampling of the observed data 5000 times.

2014 Inland Waters Fish Harvest

In 2014, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians issued 4,075 Inland Fishing Licenses. IFWD has received harvest reports from 57.7% (2,351) of those license holders. Approximately 36.8% of those reported fishing effort in 2014. When developing harvest estimates IFWD assumed the entire 36.8% who reported effort had equal effort for each individual species. It is also likely that some of the reported harvest was actually Great Lakes harvest. Although smelt is reported here in gallons, given high variation in reported harvest (wide confidence interval) it is possible that some reports listed the raw number of smelt caught.

Table 1. 2014 Inland Fish Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Brook Trout	3,720	4.06	6078.7	[4334.9, 7981.9]
Brown Trout	302	0.34	514.8	[261.7, 838.4]
Rainbow Trout	904	0.98	1466.4	[1052, 1948.2]
Chinook Salmon	731	0.82	1223.7	[672.5, 1981.9]
Coho Salmon	199	0.23	339.7	[183.6, 525.7]
Pink Salmon	186	0.21	308.5	[108.4, 583.6]
Northern Pike	2,505	2.8	4187.7	[3330.1, 5138.1]
Muskellunge	55	0.06	93.6	[13.3, 205.4]
Walleye	5,801	6.38	9554.0	[7856.5, 11440.8]
Perch	33,512	37.68	56426.0	[44798.9, 70222.2]
Bluegill	16,669	18.29	27393.2	[21299.5, 34259.4]
Sucker	398	0.4	598.0	[330.2, 922.7]
Smallmouth Bass	1605	1.8	2690.1	[2059.2, 3392]
Largemouth Bass	912	1	1492.4	[1071.8, 1994.4]
Smelt*	1187	1.37	2047.0	[626.6, 3993]

*Smelt is reported in gallons

Table 2. 2014 Black Lake Sturgeon Harvest

Date	Length (in)	Weight (lbs)	Harvest Method
5/25/2014	67	83	Spear

2014 Furbearer Harvest

In 2014, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe members had relatively low participation (8%) in furbearer harvest compared to other areas such as small game hunting or deer hunting. When developing these estimates, IFWD assumed that the 8% of members who reporting trapping expended equal effort for all listed species.

Table 3. 2014 Sault Tribe Furbearer Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Beaver	226	1.21	395.4	[235.2, 589.4]
Muskrat	977	5.22	1709.4	[1030.3, 2475.2]
Mink	82	0.44	143.5	[71.4, 234.5]
Red Fox	35	0.19	61.2	[32.3, 96.5]
Gray Fox	2	0.01	3.5	[0, 11.5]
Coyote	442	2.34	764.6	[277.1, 1567.9]
Skunk	65	0.34	112	[55.9, 177.9]
Raccoon	245	1.29	423.4	[232.2, 698.4]

In addition to this estimated furbearer harvest, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe members harvested and registered 98 American marten, 49 fisher, 17 river otter and 15 bobcats.

2014 Small Game Harvest

In 2014, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians issued 4,075 small game licenses with 57.3% percent of those license holders reporting. Hunter participation rates varied widely between target species. Approximately 31.7% of license holders reported hunting ruffed grouse, 10.5% reported hunting squirrel, 7.8% reported hunting snowshoe hare, 7% reported hunting cottontail rabbit, 1.9% reported hunting sharp-tailed grouse, 1.3% reported hunting pheasant, and 0.9% reported hunting quail.

Table 4. 2014 Small Game Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Ruffed Grouse	3348	4.52	5837.6	[5183.9, 6520.1]
Sharp-tailed Grouse	42	0.93	73.3	[41.8, 111.4]
Pheasant	142	4.73	247.8	[98.1, 438.3]
Quail	32	1.52	55.8	[24, 96.9]
Squirrel	1763	7.17	3076.8	[2431.7, 3887.5]
Cottontail Rabbit	469	2.88	818.5	[601.1, 1091.3]
Snowshoe Hare	647	3.55	1129.1	[822.2, 1537.2]

2014 Migratory Bird Harvest

Approximately 4.8% of hunters reported pursuing migratory birds during the 2014 season. Table 5 summarizes the reported and estimated harvest for migratory bird species.

Table 5. 2014 Sault Tribe Migratory Bird Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Virginia Rail	49	6.43	78	[19.2, 164.3]
Sora Rail	0	-	-	-
Woodcock	314	3.08	544.5	[398.7, 715.7]
Snipe	0	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	66	6.6	114.4	[50.4, 204]
Moorhen	0	-	-	-
Coot	5	1.67	8.7	[0, 28]

2014 Waterfowl Harvest

Approximately 6.6% of hunters reported pursuing waterfowl during the 2014 season. When developing harvest estimates for waterfowl, IFWD assumed the entire 6.6% who reported effort had equal effort across species. Table 6 summarizes the reported and estimated harvest for major waterfowl species.

Table 6. 2014 Sault Tribe Waterfowl Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Mallard	631	4.06	1095.9	[744.5, 1578.2]
Black Duck	80	0.51	137.6	[73, 218.5]
Gadwall	10	0.06	17.4	[3.7, 36.4]
Blue-winged Teal	59	0.37	99.3	[60.9, 143.4]
Green-winged Teal	86	0.55	149.8	[93.7, 218.1]
Canvasback	4	0.03	7	[0, 16.7]
Redhead	57	0.37	100	[42, 171.7]
Wood Duck	184	1.17	317.1	[208.1, 440.7]
Lesser Scaup	62	0.40	108	[37.5, 207]
Bufflehead	87	0.56	152.6	[75.8, 244.5]
Pintail	4	0.03	7	[0, 19.9]
Canada Goose	634	4.01	1083.6	[725.9, 1525.5]
Snow Goose	16	0.10	27.9	[1.6, 74.1]

2014 Turkey Harvest

In 2014 the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians issued 1,658 spring turkey and 2,800 fall turkey licenses. Hunters in the spring season had a limit of two bearded-only birds, and hunters in the fall season had a limit of two either-sex birds. Approximately 14.3% of those reporting hunted spring turkey and 11.4% hunted fall turkey.

Table 7. 2014 spring and fall turkey harvest

Season	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Estimated Harvest	95% Confidence Interval
Spring	110	0.33	189.5	[151.6, 230.8]
Fall	83	0.3	143	[108.5, 179.1]

2014 Big Game Harvest

Bear

Table 8. 2014 Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Bear Permits Issued and Bear Harvest by Management Unit

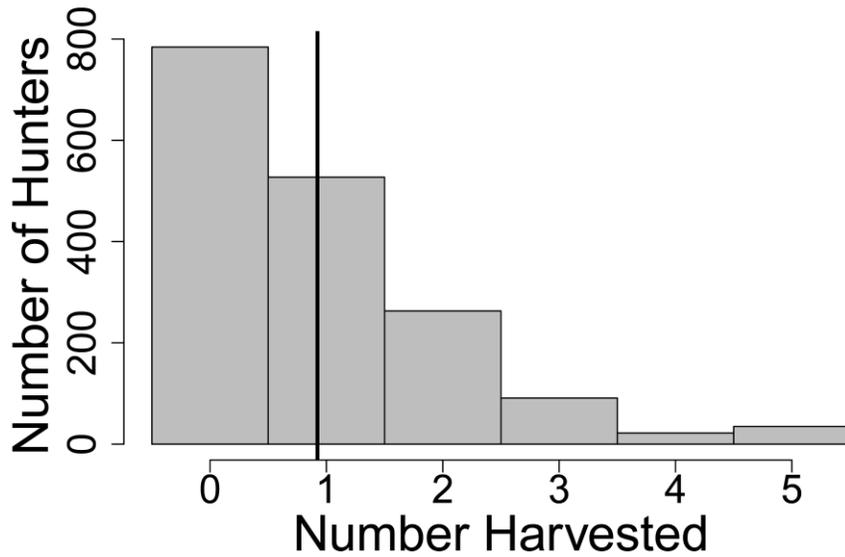
BMU	Permits Issued	Total Harvest
Baraga	15	2
Drummond	1	1
Gwinn	30	2
Newberry	104	19
Baldwin	9	3
Gladwin	2	0
Red Oak	60	7

Whitetail Deer

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians issued 4,079 deer licenses in 2014. At the time that this report was developed, IFWD had received 2,366 harvest reports back or about 58%. Approximately 73.2% (1,722) of those reporting actually hunted deer. The total estimated harvest for 2014 is 2,756.9 deer (95% confidence interval from 2,589.3 to 2,926.0 deer).

This estimate is based on a mean harvest per hunter of 0.92 deer. Actual harvest per hunter varies from 0 to 5 deer. Approximately 26.8% of our reporting hunters did not hunt deer in 2014. Many hunters (approximately 45.5%, or 1360.2) that pursued deer in 2014 were unsuccessful in their efforts (Figure 1). Approximately 31.7% (947.3 hunters) of hunters harvested 1 deer, 16.1% (480.6 hunters) harvested 2 deer, and 5.3% (159.6 hunters) harvested 3 deer (Figure 1). Therefore, although all hunters can receive 5 harvest tags, very few members who hunted deer actually harvested 5 (2.0% or 60.7 hunters), or even 4 (1.3% or 39.9 hunters), deer (Figure 1).

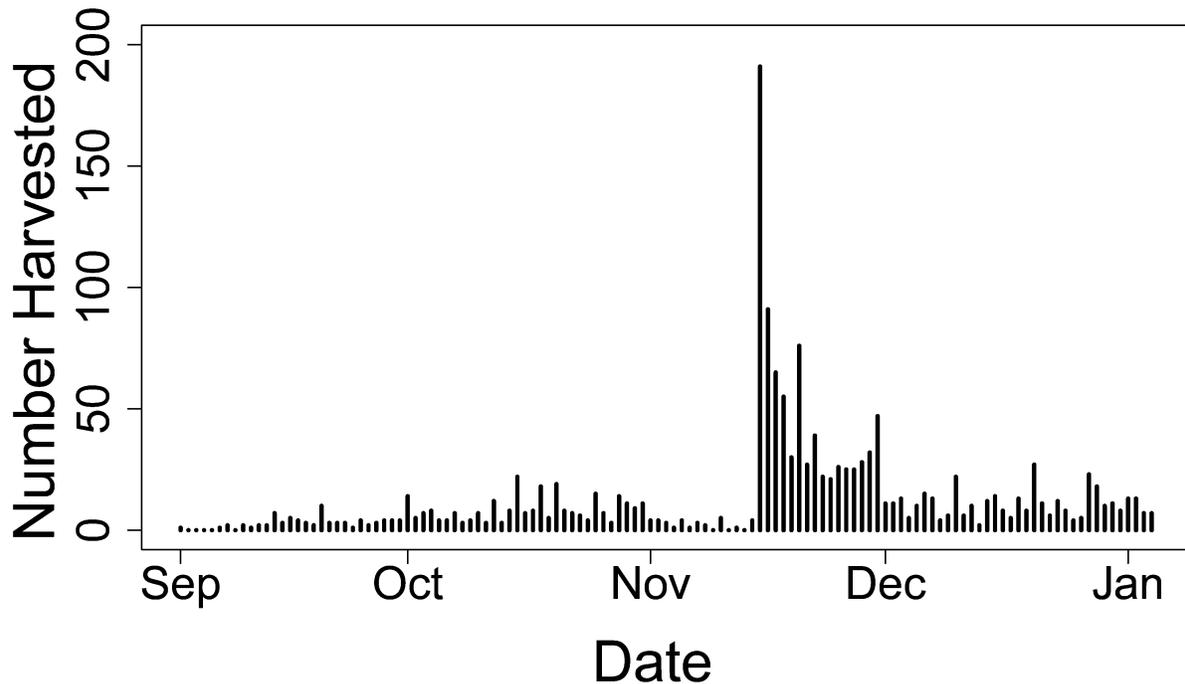
Figure 1. The number of hunters harvesting a given number of deer in 2014. The mean harvest per hunter is plotted as a vertical line for reference.



In 2014, an estimated 43.0% (95% confidence interval from 40.7% to 45.4%) of harvested deer were bucks.

Approximately 54% of the 2014 deer harvest took place in the month of November. Harvest in October and December accounted for 17.1% and 21.5% respectively. September and January harvest accounted for another 4.9% and 2.6% respectively. Most of the deer harvest took place in the first two weeks after the quiet period (51.8%, Figure 2).

Figure 2. The number of deer harvested by day throughout the 2014 season



The geographic distribution of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' 2014 harvest by county is listed in Table 9.

Table 9. 2014 Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Deer Harvest by County

County	Reported Harvest	Percent of Harvest	Estimated Harvest
Alger	50	3.1	85.2
Alpena	1	0.1	1.7
Antrim	9	0.6	15.3
Benzie	12	0.7	20.4
Charlevoix	14	0.9	23.9
Cheboygan	124	7.7	211.3
Chippewa	219	13.5	373.2
Clare	8	0.5	13.6
Crawford	7	0.4	11.9
Delta	193	11.9	328.9
Emmet	61	3.8	103.9
Grand Traverse	9	0.6	15.3
Ionia	4	0.2	6.8
Isabella	2	0.1	3.4
Kalkaska	15	0.9	25.6
Kent	4	0.2	6.8
Lake	8	0.5	13.6
Leelanau	7	0.4	11.9
Luce	73	4.5	124.4
Mackinac	383	23.7	652.6
Manistee	18	1.1	30.7
Marquette	15	0.9	25.6
Mason	19	1.2	32.4
Mecosta	14	0.9	23.9
Missaukee	13	0.8	22.2
Montcalm	8	0.5	13.6
Montmorency	1	0.1	1.7
Muskegon	5	0.3	8.5
Newaygo	29	1.8	49.4
Oceana	12	0.7	20.4
Osceola	8	0.5	13.6
Oscoda	0	-	-
Otsego	9	0.6	15.3
Ottawa	4	0.2	6.8
Presque Isle	25	1.5	42.6
Roscommon	7	0.4	11.9
Schoolcraft	215	13.3	366.3
Wexford	13	0.8	22.2