

Representative Policy Board
Land Use Committee
90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT

***Join by Teams**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21651828986541?p=fb0OZi9qzfh0MDzzAF>

Meeting ID: 216 518 289 865 41

Passcode: Yv2Yu7MZ

Or

Dial in by phone

[+1 469-965-2517,46326030#](tel:+1469965251746326030) United States, Northlake

Phone conference ID: 463 260 30#

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

1. Safety Moment
2. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2026 meeting
3. Deer Hunt Update – Nicole Smith
4. Updates on land and RWA properties, including invasive species update
5. Other land items
6. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. Monday, April 13, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (*Finance Committee regular meeting - review of FY 2027 Budget*)
 - b. Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (*Jt. Special meeting LUC/Consumer Affairs Committee - review FY 2027 Budget*)
 - c. Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. (*LUC regular meeting*)
7. Adjourn

*Members of the public may attend the meeting in person or via remote access using instructions at the top of the agenda. To view meeting documents, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/3u3h9n3x>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or by email to jslubowski@rwater.com.

SAFETY MOMENT

FLOODED BASEMENTS

Flooded basements pose a severe hazard from electrocution, falling into depressions, open pits, sewage, gasoline spillage, fuel oil spills, chemicals and exposure to other unseen trip hazards.

- **If a Service Line Breaks/Leaks:**
- Never step into a flooded basement or other room if water may be in contact with electrical outlets, appliances or cords. The water could be energized and could shock or electrocute you.
- Never attempt to turn off power at the panel board if you must stand in water to do so. If you can't reach your breaker box safely, call the electric utility to shut off power at the meter
- If water is spraying on to the electrical panel – shut the cellar wall valve and get out. Make one attempt to shut the cellar wall valve, if unsuccessful, get out.
- **Standing water is considered anything other than a wet floor with a few puddles. This includes standing water surrounding a water meter and wet carpets.**
- Never go into a flood-damaged basement or a flooded basement until the utility company, fire department, or a licensed electrician has cut the power to the house or the effected unit.
- Even after the power is confirmed de-energized one should never enter the flooded basement along.

Tap Into
Safety



Regional Water Authority



Service – Teamwork – Accountability – Respect – Safety

 Regional Water Authority

**Presentation to the RWA Authority
&
Land Use Committee**

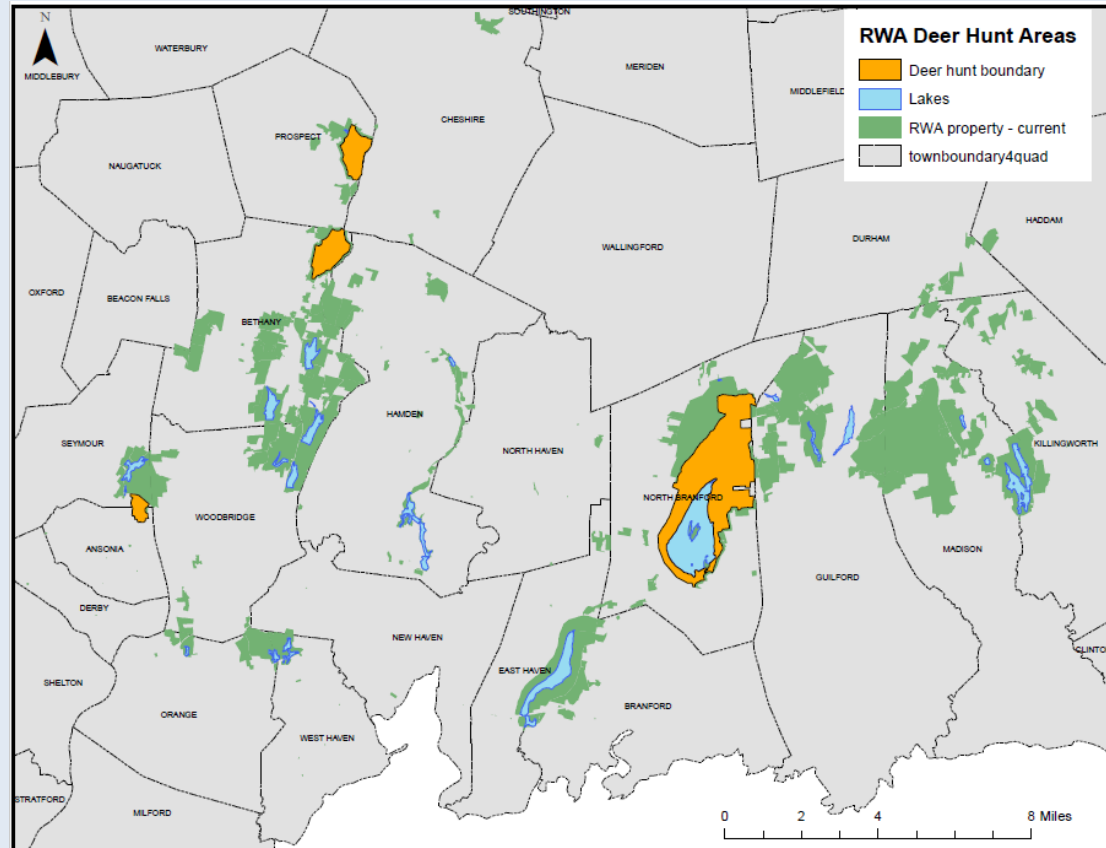
Review & Summary of the 2025 Controlled Archery Hunt



**Nicole Smith
Natural Resources Analyst**

Deer Hunting on 4,327 Acres

Property	Acres	Start
Lake Gaillard (NB)	3233	2009
Ansonia/Seymour	154	2014
Bethany	520	2015
Prospect	420	2015



Reducing Deer Density

- Enhances forest regeneration
- Controls erosion and locks up nutrients that can fuel algal blooms in reservoirs



Hunting Season Estimated Effort Brief Summary 2025

Surveys due Friday, February 6, 2026

Results - 88% return rate of surveys Total Hunting Effort – 5616.25 total hours

Properties	Surveys Returned	Total Hunting Hours
North Branford - Gaillard	113	4203
Bethany	21	505.5
Prospect	19	697.75
Ansonia/Seymour	7	210

Photo courtesy of John Jillson Gaillard 11/4/2024



RWA 2025 Deer Hunt

Permits and Harvest Amounts

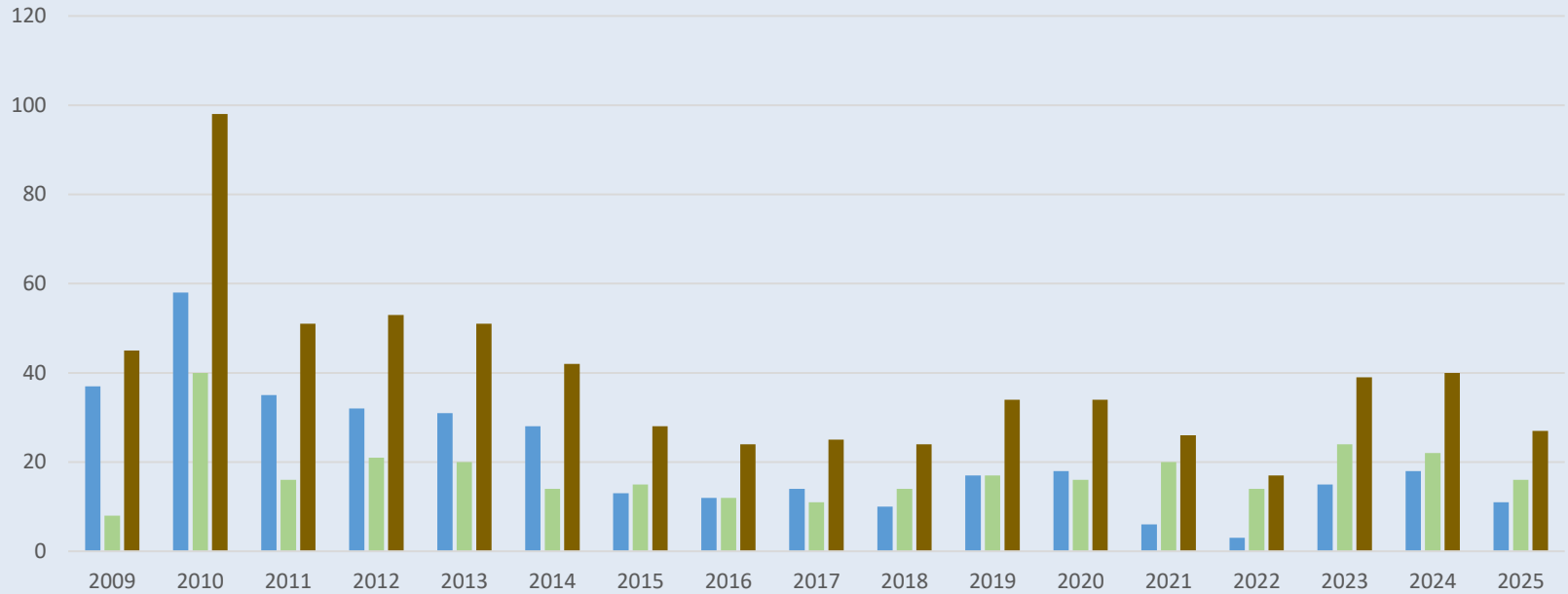
2025 Deer Harvest by Area				
Location	Permits	Doe	Buck	Total
North Branford	131	9	10	19
Prospect	20	2	4	6
Bethany	23	0	1	1
Seymour/Ansonia	8	0	1	1
Totals	182	11	16	27

2025 Harvest Totals

2025 Deer Harvest by Area				
Location	Permits	Doe	Buck	Total
North Branford	131	9	10	19
Prospect	20	2	4	6
Bethany	23	0	1	1
Seymour/Ansonia	8	0	1	1
Totals	182	11	16	27

Total Deer by Sex Harvested Past 6 Hunts				
Year	Permits	Doe	Buck	Total
2025	182	11	16	27
2024	188	18	22	40
2023	164	21	33	54
2022	182	4	20	24
2021	205	9	25	34
2020	180	26	19	45

Total Deer Harvested Since 2009



Year	Doe	Bucks	Total
2009	37	8	45
2010	58	40	98
2011	35	16	51
2012	32	21	53
2013	31	20	51
2014	28	14	42
2015	13	15	28
2016	12	12	24
2017	14	11	25
2018	10	14	24
2019	17	17	34
2020	18	16	34
2021	6	20	26
2022	3	14	17
2023	15	24	39
2024	18	22	40
2025	11	16	27

■ Doe ■ Bucks ■ Total



Final Thoughts

We have reached the 17th year mark for collecting and analyzing data

- **Hunt Impacts**

- More localized deer sightings overall in Bethany, Prospect, and Gaillard this year
- Many more deer observed this season in all locations but harder to take ethical shot with bows – deer seem more cautious and just out of reach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcvRGb0Tylw>

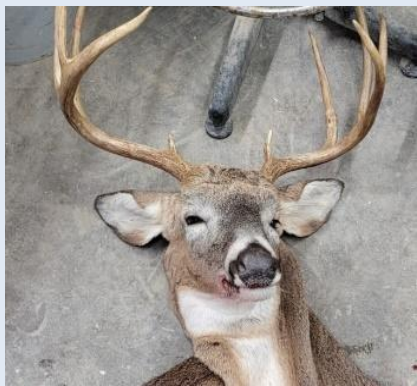
- **RWA Forestry and CT DEEP each have established research plots**

- RWA Forester is comparing data collected. Analysis of results was done in March 2020.

- **Annual DPH reporting requirement**

- DPH Recreational Activity Permits has been renewed and expires Dec. 2, 2031.
- Report on hunter effort and amount of deer harvested sent to DPH on Friday Feb 6, 2026. Report due to DPH February 15 each year

- Hunters are grateful for the opportunity. Appreciate our efforts toward conservation and stewardship of the land. No negative publicity this season.



Questions?



Photo courtesy of Connor Gasparini Gaillard 2023