

LARAMIE RIVER VALLEY PRONGHORN HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN

Data Analysis Unit PH-36
Game Management Units 7 & 8



2020

Created for



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Laramie River Valley Pronghorn Herd (DAU PH-36)

GMUs: 7 & 8

Post-hunt Population:

Previous objective: 550-650 2019 Estimate: 623

CPW Preferred Alternative: 550-650

Post-hunt Sex Ratio (Bucks: 100 Does):

Previous post-hunt Objective: 20 -25 2019 Post-hunt Modeled: 48.8

CPW Preferred Alternative: 30-35

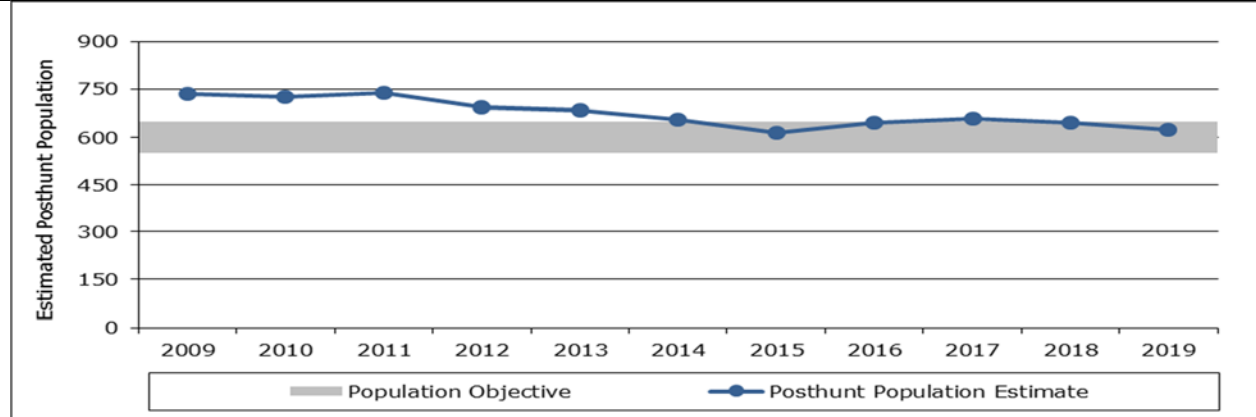


Figure 1. Laramie River Valley DAU modeled post-hunt population and objective 2009-2019.

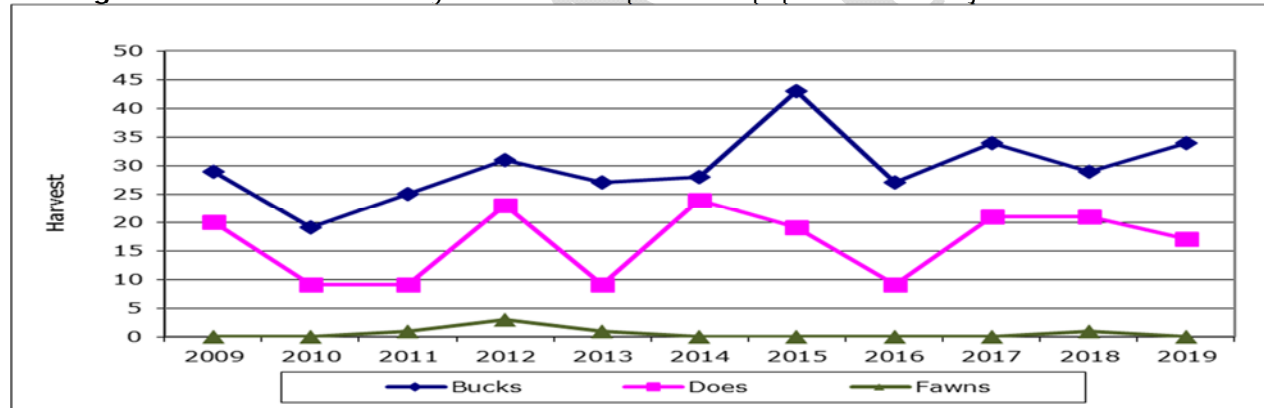


Figure 2. Laramie River Valley DAU buck, doe, and fawn harvest estimates from 2009-2019.

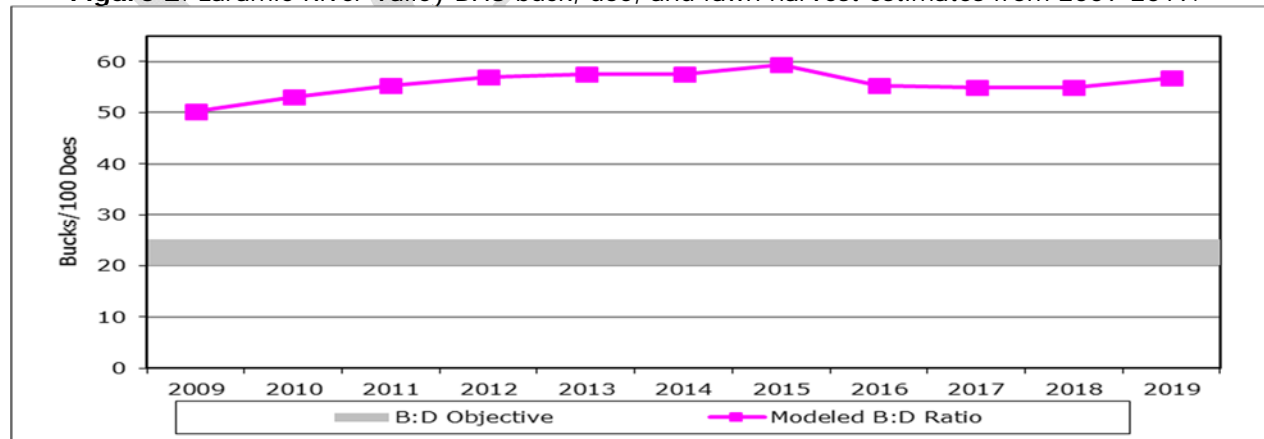


Figure 3. Laramie River Valley DAU buck:doe ratio from 2009-2019.

Background and Management Information

The Laramie River pronghorn herd is a small state line herd that occupies primarily private land in the Laramie River Valley and Sand Creek area. There are yearly migrations between the border of Colorado and Wyoming. The herd has been managed with a consistent level of buck and doe licenses over the past decade due to the small population size and the absence of conflicts

There are no significant management issues for this herd. Game damage is not a concern.

CPW Recommendation to the Wildlife Commission:

Population Objective: The CPW recommendation is to extend the current PH-33 post-hunt population objectives of 550-650 pronghorn for the life of this plan.

Herd Composition-sex ratio Objective: The two alternatives for sex ratio objectives are independent of one another, and represent different biological issues, social aspects and hunting strategies in herd management.

Composition Alternative 1: Status Quo 20-25 bucks: 100 does

To manage for this objective there would be an increase in buck licenses. A majority of pronghorn are on private land during pronghorn season, which is not accessible to the public hunter. Increasing licenses may reduce hunter success and hunter satisfaction and the objective may never be met.

Composition Alternative 2 (preferred): 30-35 bucks: 100 does

This is an increase from the current objective. The increase allows for an attainable management objective based on large tracts of private lands within the DAU that act as a refuge for the pronghorn. This would maintain current level of buck hunting, buck maturity, and horn size.

***This plan was approved by the Colorado Wildlife Commission on
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