

# Proposed changes to pronghorn hunts in northeastern New Mexico

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# Pronghorn Biology

- **Pronghorn exhibit quick maturation**
  - Males can achieve maximum horn size by 3 years old
  - Females have high pregnancy rates by 1.5 years old
    - Twin fawns – Results in quicker population rebounds under favorable conditions
- **Male Harvest**
  - Can harvest at higher rates than other ungulates and still maintain high trophy quality (Tafelmeyer et al. 2024)
  - Does not impact populations unless B:D ratios decline enough to impact female pregnancy rates



# Demographic Ratios

Buck:Doe ratios from aerial surveys

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bucks per 100 does	38	26	30	34	24	36

Fawn:Doe ratios from aerial surveys

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Fawns per 100 does	33	20	17	13	25	22



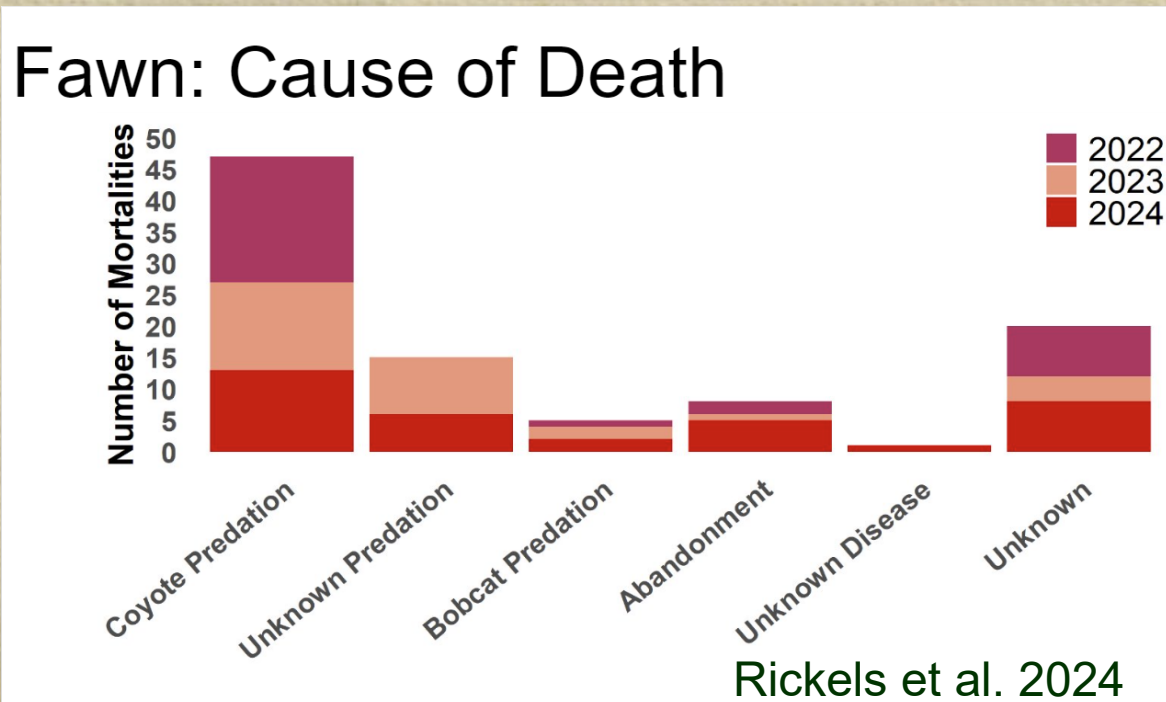
# Pronghorn population

- **Models based on survey data suggest that the population in the northeast is declining.**
  - **Density and group size have decreased on aerial surveys**
  - **Fawn:Doe Ratios are indicative of population decline**

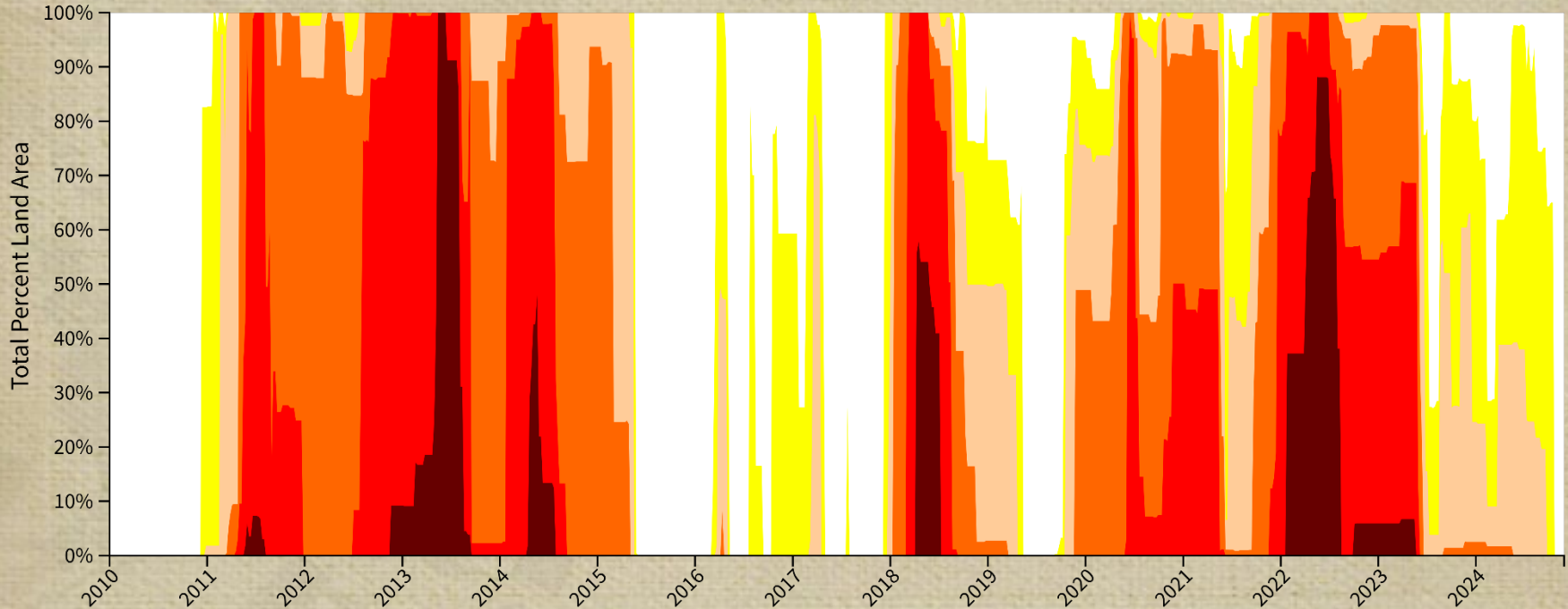


# Pronghorn in neighboring states

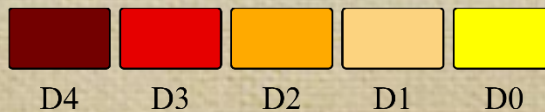
- Oklahoma pronghorn study (OSU)
  - Adult female survival: 78% (82% excluding hunting)
  - Adult male survival: 74% (87% excluding hunting)
  - Fawn survival: 2022 - 11%, 2023 - 12%



# Drought in Union County, NM



U.S. Drought Monitor  
Union County, NM



# Harvest, License sales, Success Rates

## MB/ES in GMUs 41, 42, 47, 56, 57, 58, 59

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
License sales	883	870	870	870	870	870
Public Hunts	61%	64%	60%	54%	60%	TBD
Public Success	537	554	523	468	521	
Estimated harvest						
Private land hunts	1492	1540	1583	1421	1390	1505
Private success	81%	79%	83%	88%	87%	TBD
Estimated Harvest	1209	1210	1309	1245	1214	

## F-IM in GMUs 41, 42, 47, 56, 57, 58, 59

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
License sales	150	150	150	150	150	150
Public Hunts	65%	70%	57%	61%	67%	TBD
Public success						
Private land hunts	(18*) 88	(12*) 92	(19*) 73	(17*) 74	(18*) 77	(11*) 0
Private success	82%	76%	49%	69%	90%	TBD



# License adjustment for female/immature pronghorn hunts

Hunt (GMU)	2024-2025 draw licenses	2024-2025 Private land cap	Proposed 2025-2026 draw licenses	Proposed 2025-2026 private land cap
ANT-1-218 (41)	10	Unlimited (0)	0	0
ANT-1-231 (47)	20	Unlimited (2)	0	0
ANT-1-242 (56)	40	Unlimited (6)	0	0
ANT-1-246 (57)	5	Unlimited (0)	0	0
ANT-1-253 (58)	35	Unlimited (0)	0	0
ANT-1-260 (59)	40	Unlimited (3)	0	0





# License adjustment for MB/ES pronghorn hunts

	2024-2025 draw licenses	Proposed 2025-2026 draw licenses	Average private land license sales (23 & 24 LY)	Proposed 2025-2026 private land cap
GMU 41	140	112	239	190
GMU 42	35	28	67	54
GMU 47	110	88	80	71
GMU 56	205	164	483	383
GMU 57	15	12	45	36
GMU 58	165	132	234	185
GMU 59	200	160	308	246
<b>Total</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>696 (-174)</b>	<b>1456</b>	<b>1165 (-291)</b>



# Questions?



S. Liley, January 10, 2025

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