

## 2009 Minnesota Elk Harvest Report

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### Introduction

A limited number of licenses are offered to Minnesota residents to hunt elk. Currently, there are 3 established zones; 2 in Kittson County, and 1 near Grygla, Minnesota (Figures 1 and 2). Within those 3 zones, there were 3 hunts each.

### Methods

All elk hunters are required to attend a mandatory orientation and if successful, they must register their animal through the local DNR office. Kill locations are mapped and various data are collected, including age/sex as well as biological samples for disease testing and other monitoring projects.

### Results

A total of 31 licenses were available and 2,072 individuals applied for the opportunity to hunt elk (Table 1). As the number of either-sex licenses is limited, DNR receives an application for the area only. After winners are selected, the time period and license type is distributed through a second random drawing. In 2009, a total of 28 elk were harvested in the three zones (Table 2). Overall, the harvest distribution in the Kittson-South zone was heavily skewed towards bulls, which is likely to do all the licenses being either-sex. Long-term elk harvest for the 2 zones is depicted in Table 3.

Table 1. License allocation and applications numbers for 3 Minnesota elk hunting zones, 2009.

Zone	Either-Sex	Antlerless	Total	Total Applicants
10 – Grygla	2	13	14	1,299
20 – Kittson, South	11	0	11	571
30 – Kittson, North	1	4	5	202
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2,072</b>

Table 2. Distribution of the 2009 Minnesota elk harvest. License allocation totals represent the actual number sold, not the number authorized through rule.

### Grygla Hunt Zone

Season	Either-Sex Licenses	Antlerless Licenses	Bull taken	Antlerless taken	Total elk taken
September 12 - 20	2	3	1 (6x7)	2	3
September 26 - October 4	0	5	0	2	2
November 21 - 29	0	4	0	3	3
January 2 - 10			2 (6x6, 1x1)	4	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>

### Kittson-South Hunt Zone (Lancaster)

Season	Either-Sex Licenses	Antlerless Licenses	Bulls taken	Antlerless taken	Total elk taken
September 12 - 20	2	0	1 (6x6)	1	2
September 26 - October 4	5	0	2 (6x7 5x5)	0	2
November 21 - 29	4	0	3 (8x6, 2-6x6)	1	4
January 2 - 10			1 (1x1)	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>

### Kittson-North Hunt Zone (Water Tower)

Season	Either-Sex Licenses	Antlerless Licenses	Bulls	Antlerless	Total elk taken
September 12 - 20	1	0	1 (6x6)	0	1
September 26 - October 4		1	0	1	1
November 21 - 29		3	0	1	1
January 2 - 10			0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5*</b>

\*One additional bull (6x7) was wounded but not retrieved. It was found dead later and is counted in the total.

Table 3. Grygla and Kittson County elk harvests, 1987-2009.

<b>Grygla</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Bulls (or Either-Sex)</b>		<b>Antlerless</b>	
	<b>Permits</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Permits</b>	<b>Harvest</b>
1987	2	1	2	1
1996	2	2	7 (1 alternate)	6
1997	5 (2 alternate)	1	5 (2 alternate)	2
1998	4 (2 alternate)	2	0	0
2004	1	1	4	2
2005	1	0	4	0
2006	2	2	6	2
2007	0	0	6	6
2008	2	2	10	6
2009	2	3*	12	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>36</b>

\*One bull was a sub-legal spike and was legally tagged as an antlerless animal.

<b>Kittson County (Combined)</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Bulls (or Either-Sex)</b>		<b>Antlerless</b>	
	<b>Permits</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Permits</b>	<b>Harvest</b>
2008	1	1	10	10
2009	12	9*	4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10*</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>

\*One additional bull (6x7) was wounded but not retrieved in 2009. It was found dead later and is counted in the total.

Figure 1. Kittson-North and Kittson-South Hunt Zones.

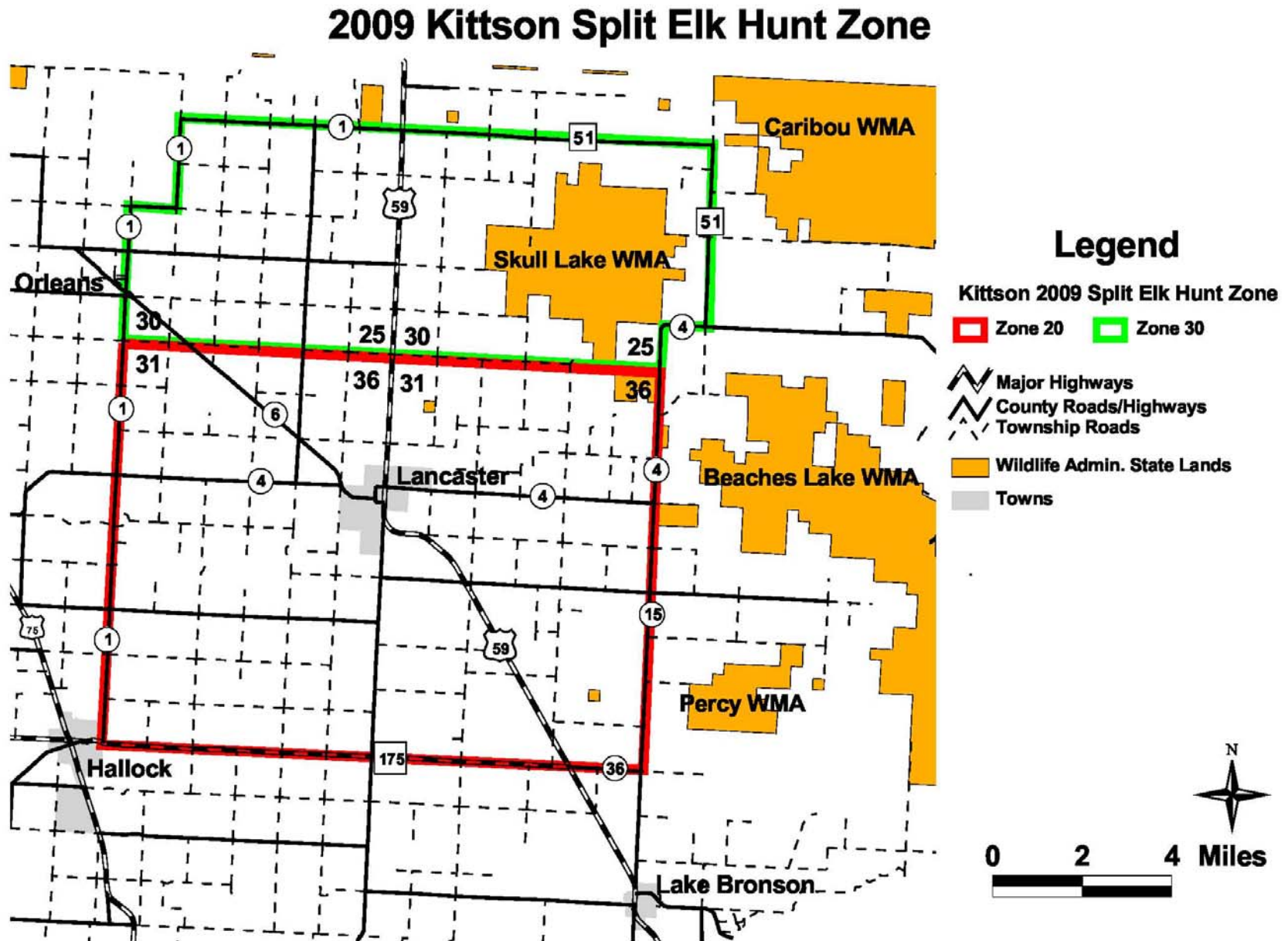


Figure 2. Grygla Hunt Zone.

