



# 2018 CWD SURVEY

BRIAN FRAWLEY, EMILY POMERANZ, AND DUSTIN ISENHOFF

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# 2018 CWD SURVEY OBJECTIVES

Describe hunters' current hunting practices that may impact CWD management

Determine hunters' opinions about CWD management options and possible outcomes

Determine whether hunters were confident in the MDNR's ability to manage CWD



# 2018 CWD SURVEY METHODS

620,933 people purchased a deer hunting license

527,296 adult resident license buyers (target population)

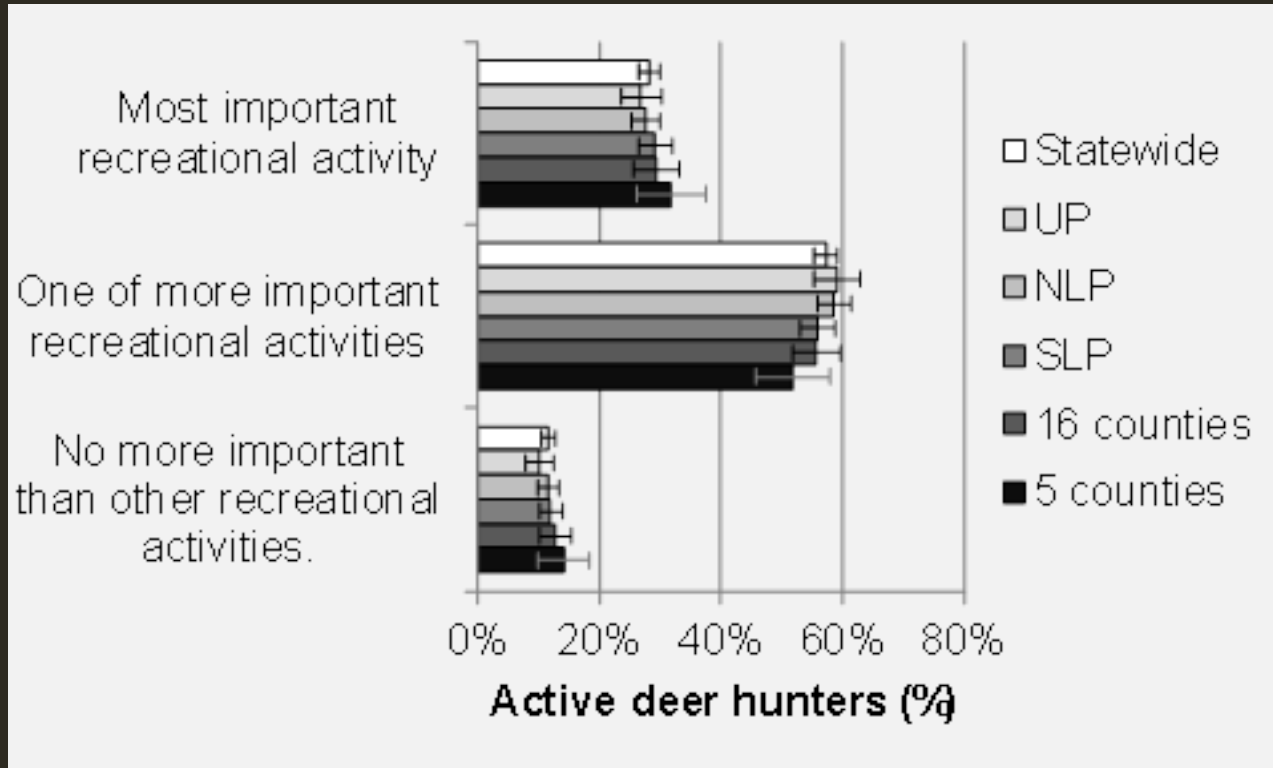
5,214 of 11,697 questionnaires included in analysis (45% response)

Estimates were calculated separately by the hunt region (UP, NLP, SLP, and CWD areas) and by hunter type (Avid and Generalist groups)

Also analyzed data collected by previous studies to examine the effects of baiting on hunter success and harvest.



# 2017 DEER HUNTER TYPES

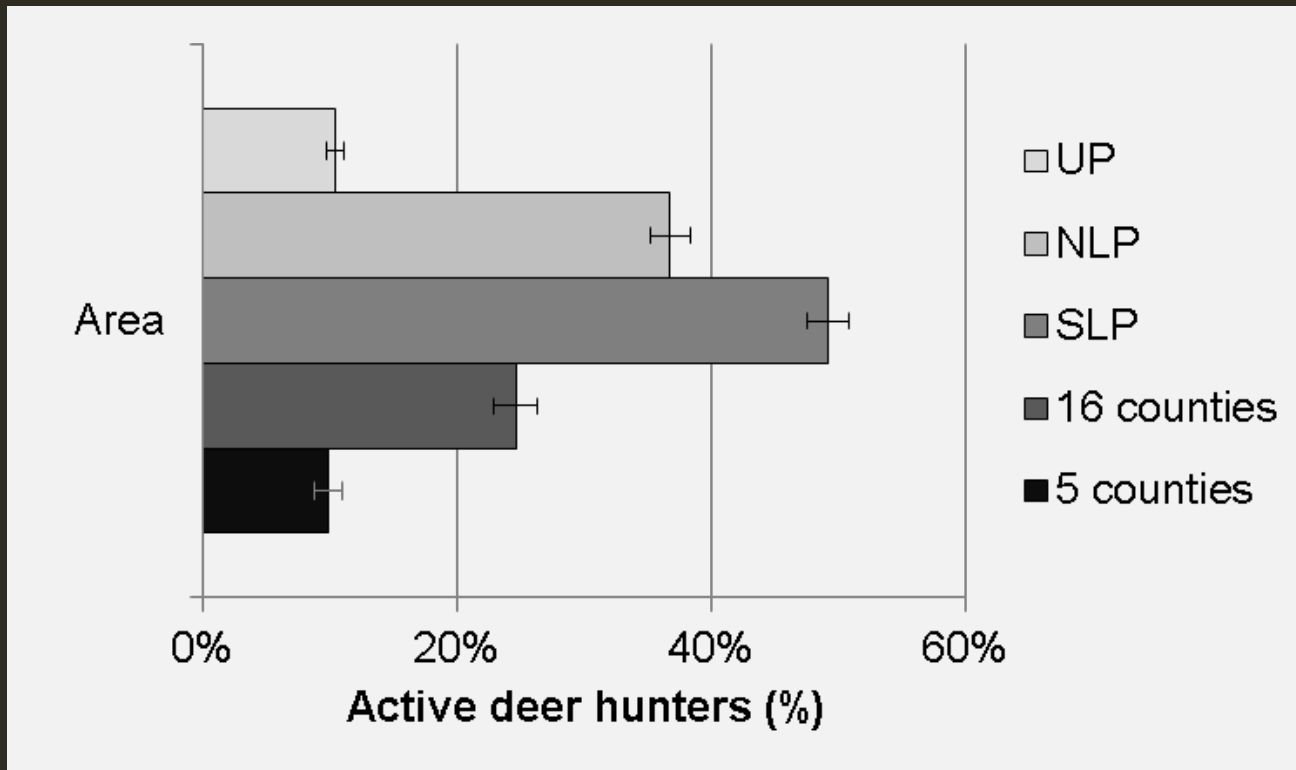


28% of the deer hunters reported deer hunting was their most important recreational activity (Avid Group)

57% reported deer hunting was among their most important recreational activities (Generalist Group)



# 2017 DEER HUNTER NUMBERS



97% of license buyers hunted deer (508,877)

10% in UP

37% in NLP

49% in SLP

25% in CWD Mgmt. Zone

10% in CWD Core Area



# 2017 DEER HUNTER SUCCESS

## Hunting success and number of deer harvested.

Group	Active hunters	Success	Harvest	Harvest per active hunter
Statewide	508,877	51%	363,372	0.71
UP	52,699	41%	24,959	0.47
NLP	187,063	51%	130,777	0.70
SLP	250,283	52%	194,825	0.78
16 counties	125,058	55%	98,990	0.79
5 counties	49,933	56%	41,460	0.83

51% of the hunters harvested at least one deer

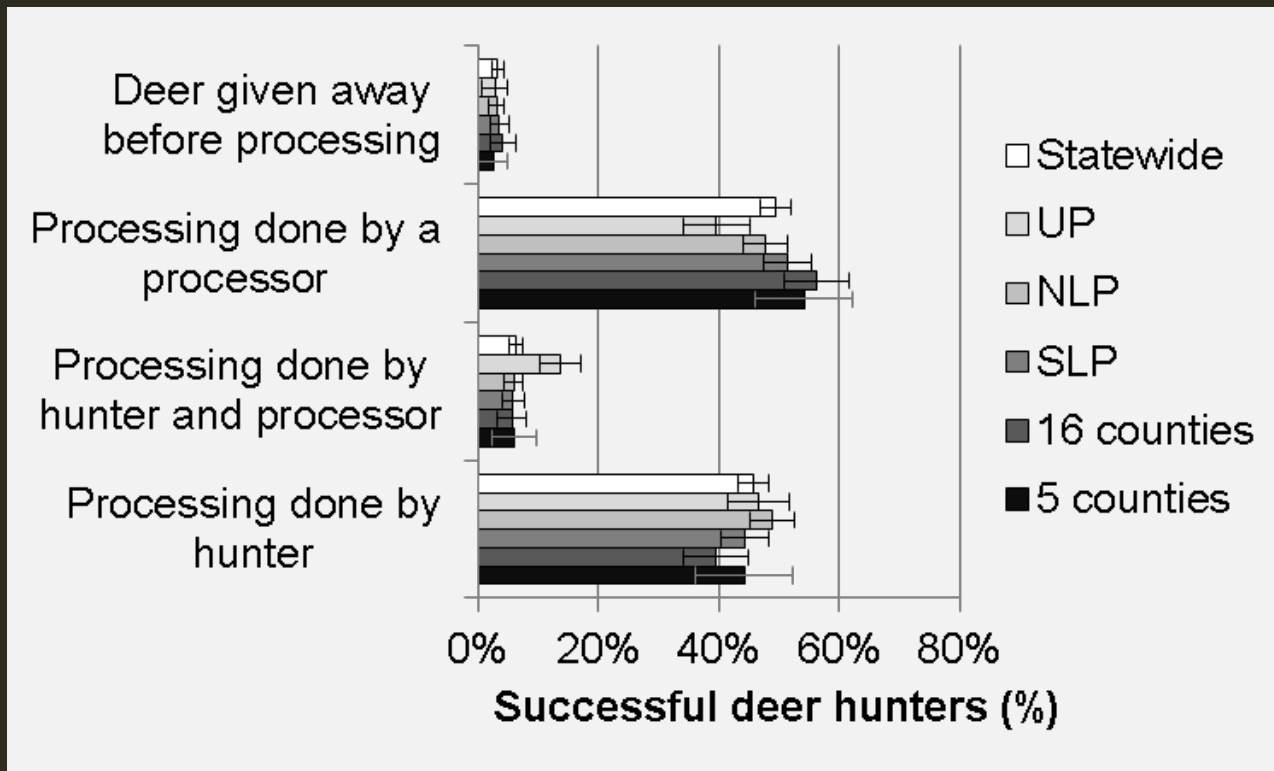
41% in UP

51% in NLP

52% in SLP



# 2017 DEER PROCESSING



49% of hunters paid a processor to butcher a deer

A lower proportion of UP hunters paid a processor (40%)

162,082 whole deer taken to a processor (45% of the harvest)

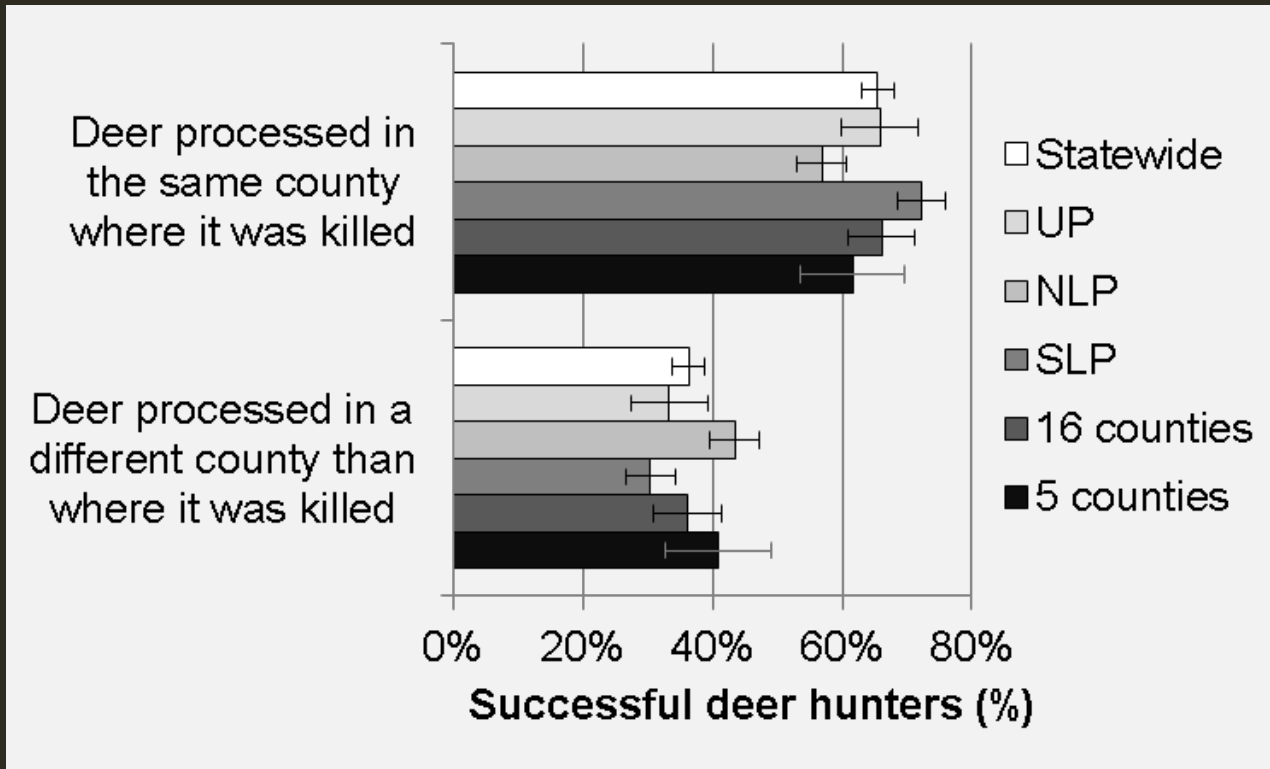
46% of hunters butchered a deer by themselves or with a friend's help

6% of hunters processed some of the deer themselves but also paid a processor to handle some tasks

3% of hunters gave a deer away



# DEER PROCESSING LOCATION



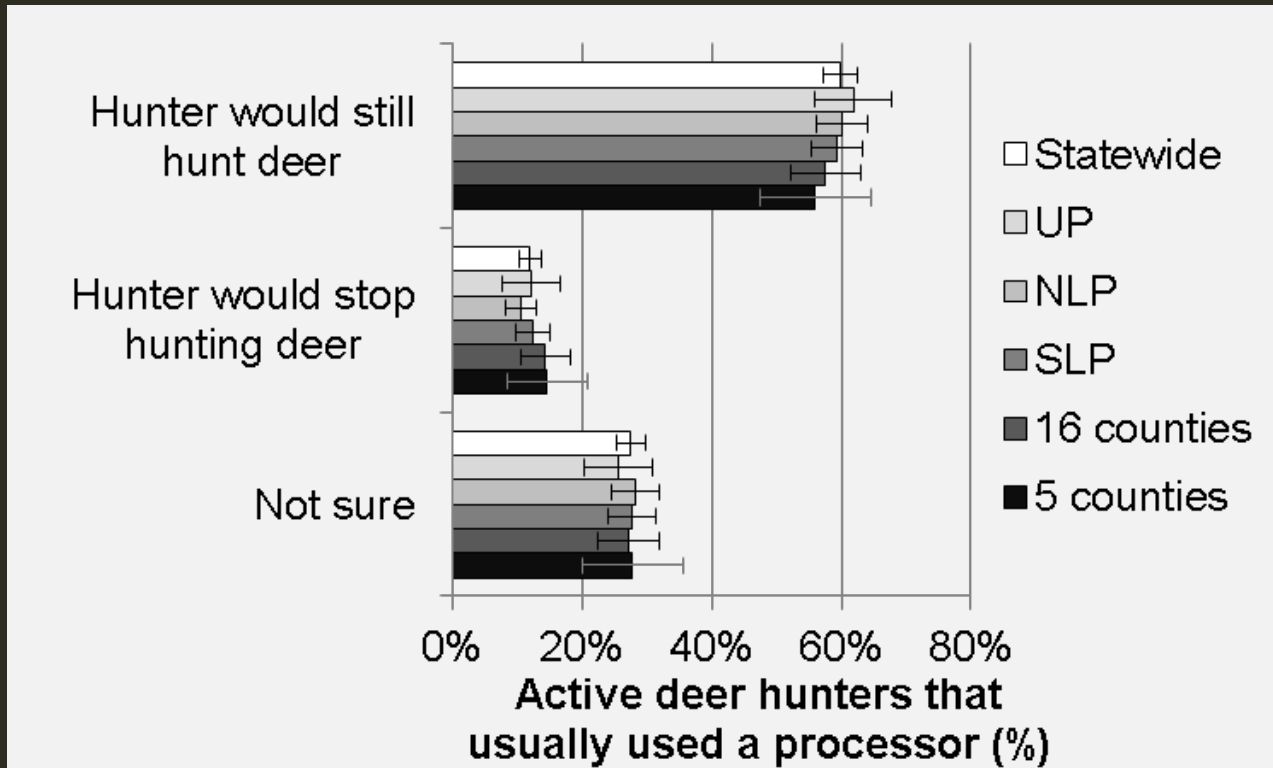
66% of the deer (239,195) were processed in the county of kill

33% of the deer (118,861) were processed outside the county where they had been killed





# FUTURE DEER HUNTING



1% of hunters (3,334) reported that their processor stopped accepting deer

60% of hunters (157,176) indicated that they would continue to hunt

12% of hunters (31,215) would stop hunting deer.

28% of hunters (72,307) were uncertain whether they would continue hunting



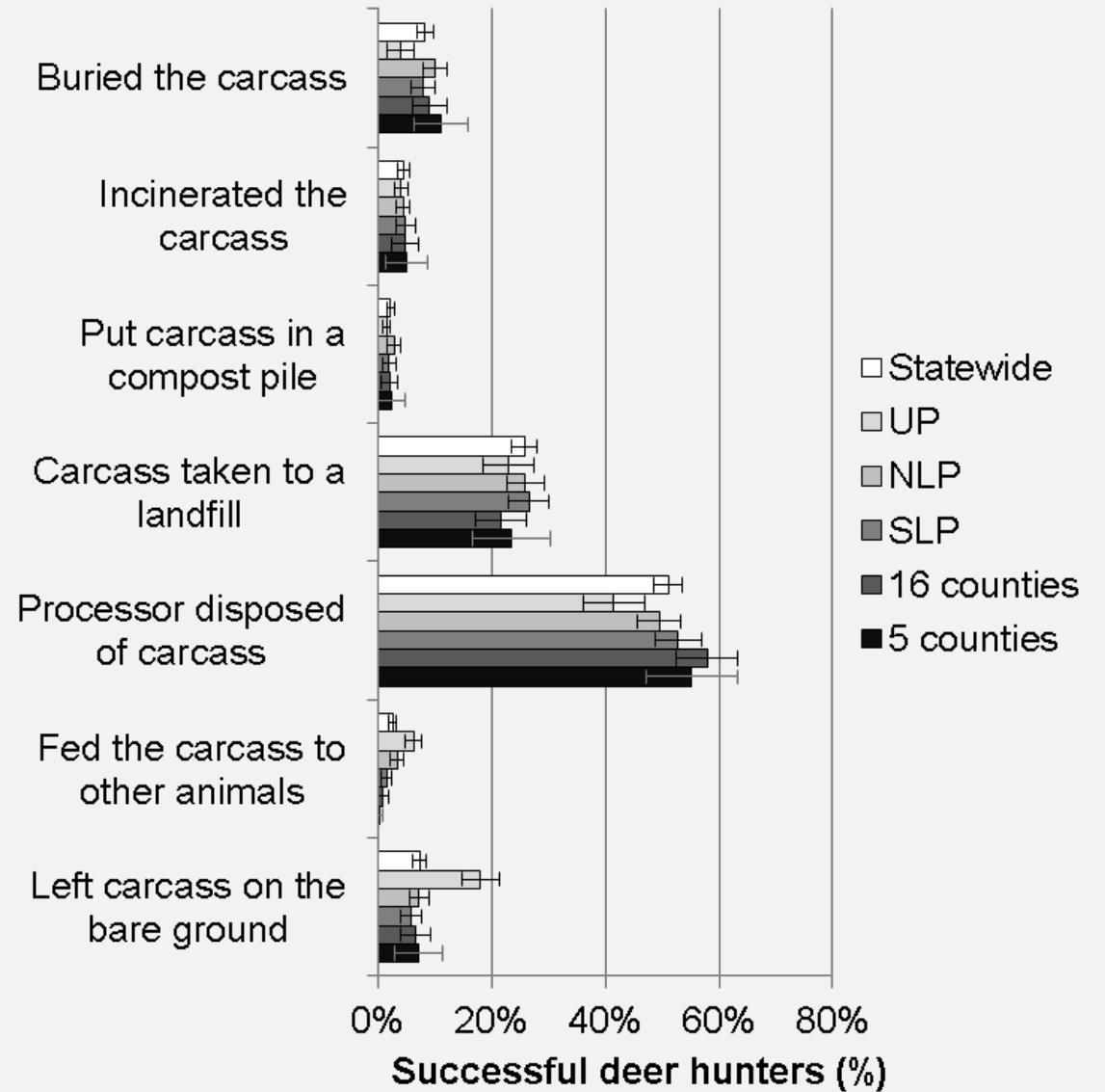
# CARCASS DISPOSAL

51% of hunters let a processor dispose of a deer carcass

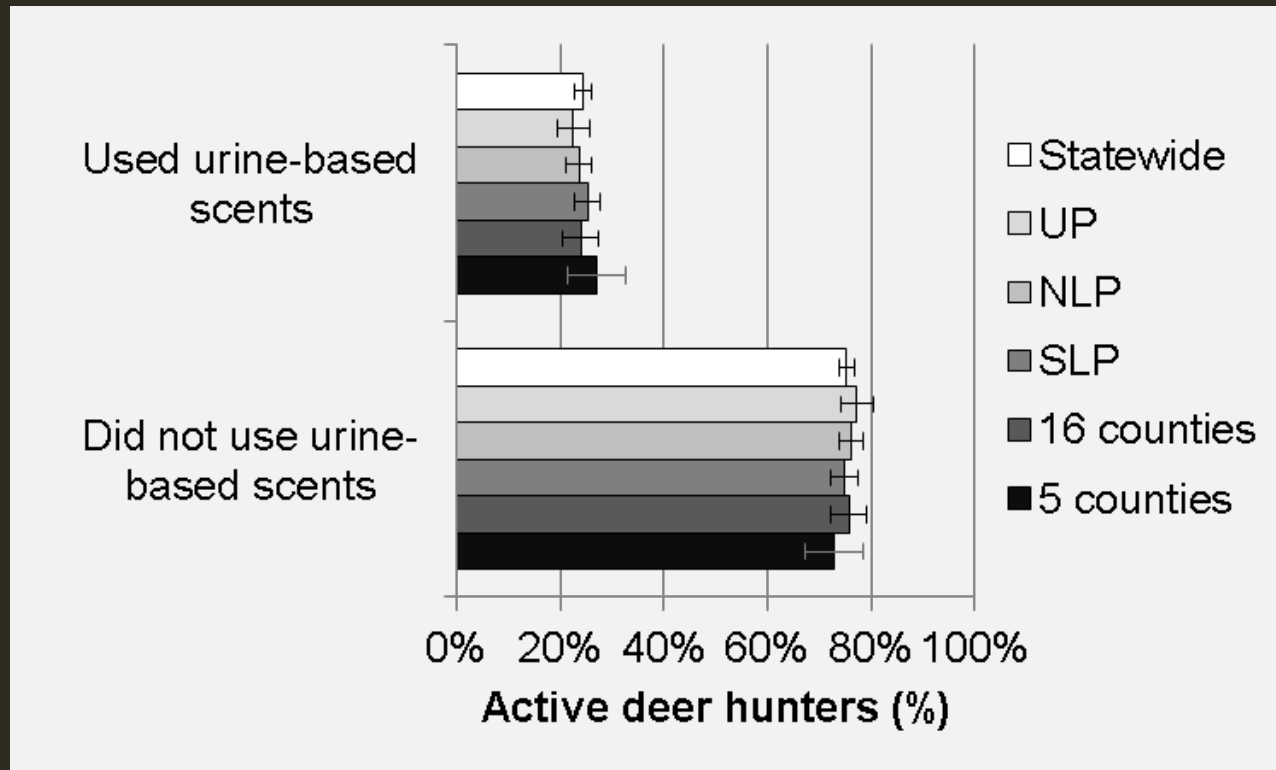
Processors disposed of 47% the deer carcasses (169,188)

26% of hunters disposed of 96,162 deer carcasses in a landfill

UP had the lowest proportion (41%) of processor disposal, but the highest proportion (18%) of hunters leaving a carcass on the bare ground



# USE OF URINE-BASED SCENTS



24% of active hunters used urine-based scents

35% used scents made from natural urine

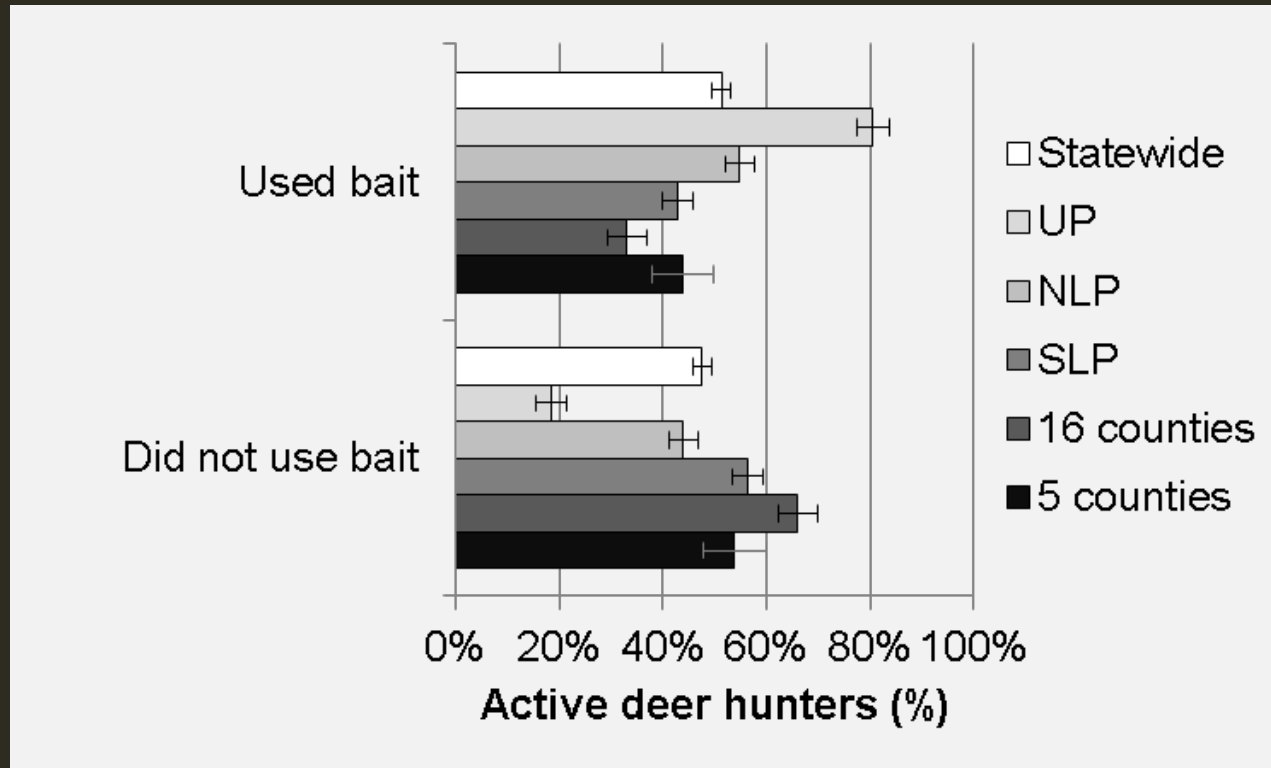
22% used a product made from both natural and synthetic urine

36% of hunters did not know urine type

6% of hunters used scents made exclusively from synthetic urine



# USE OF BAIT



52% of hunters used bait

Use of bait differed significantly among regions:

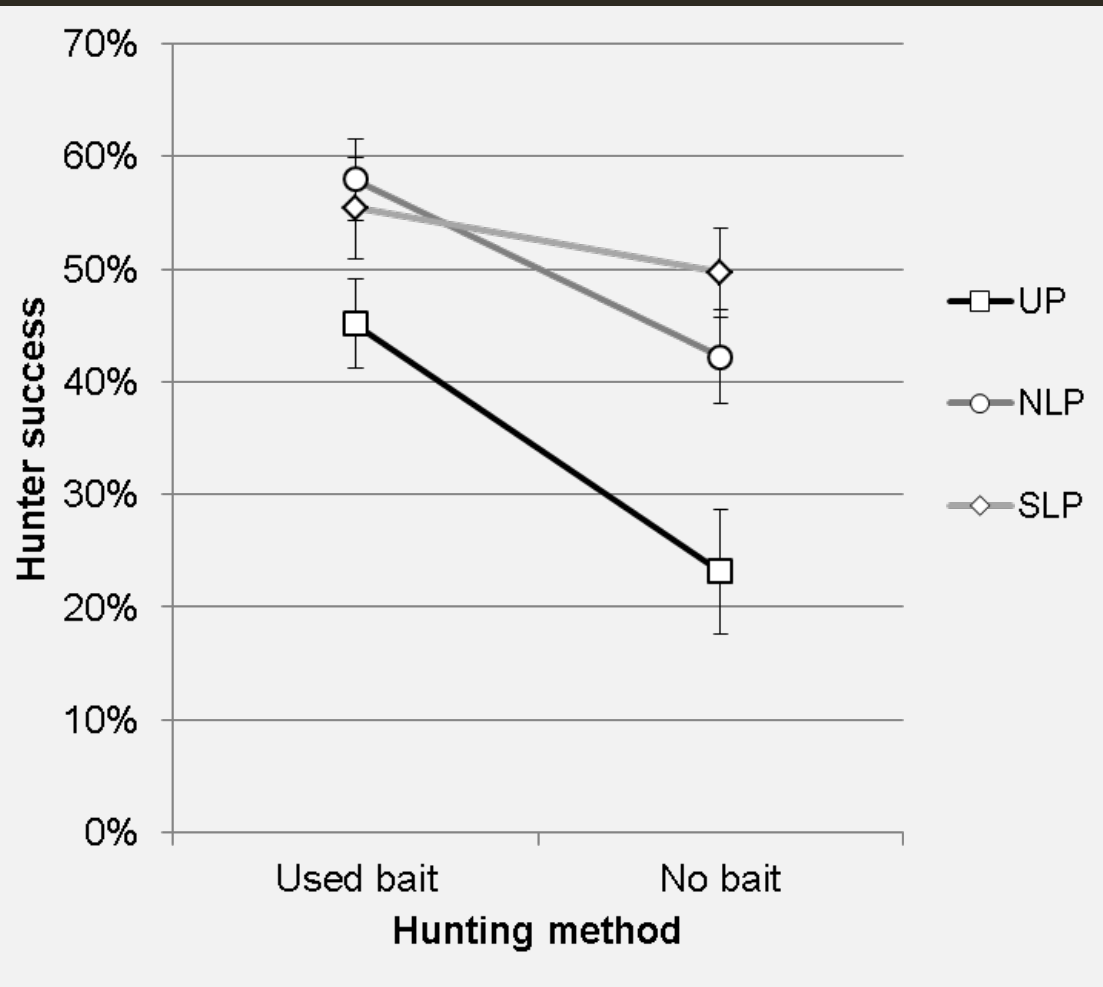
81% in the UP

55% in the NLP

43% in the SLP



# USE OF BAIT



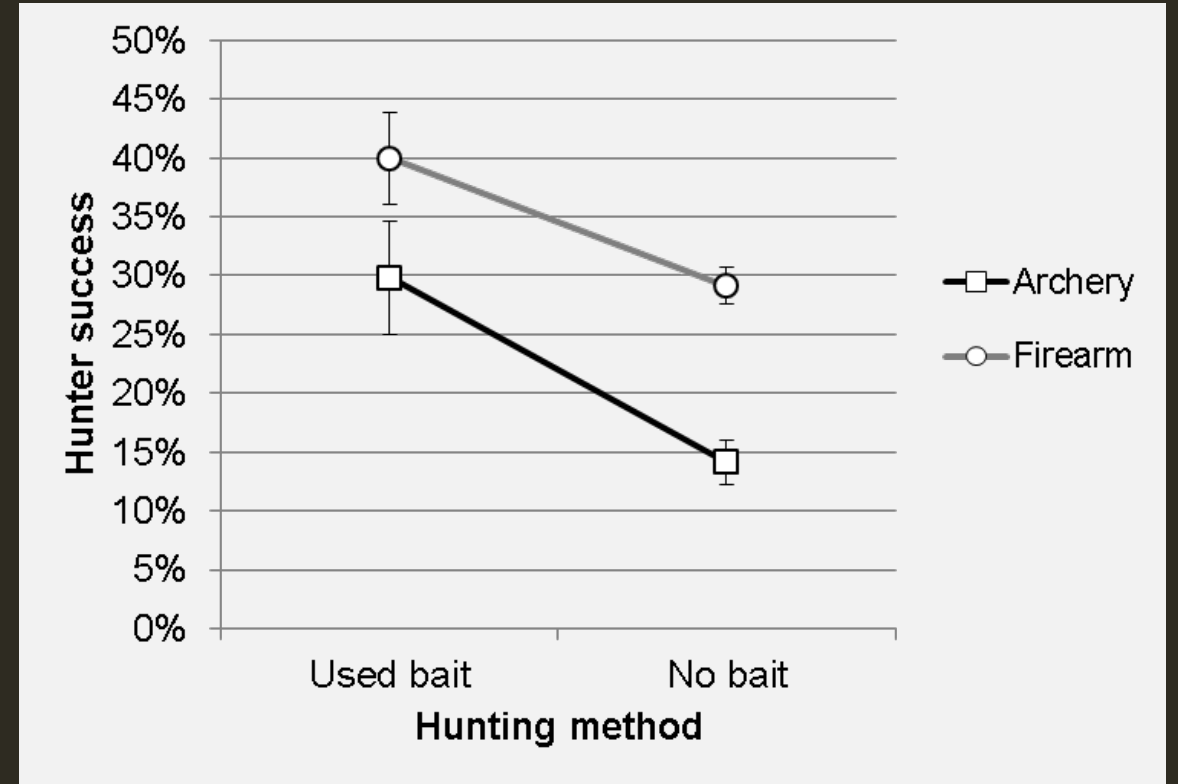
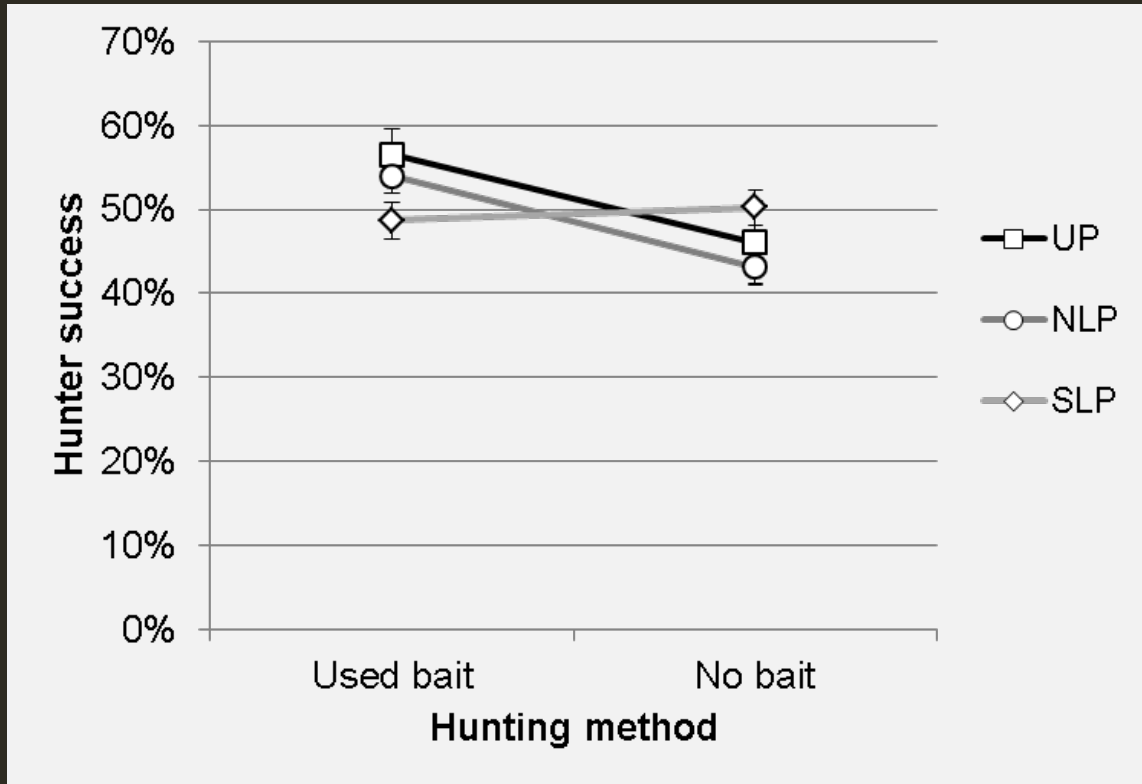
Success and mean harvest per hunter were significantly greater for hunters using bait in the UP and NLP

In the UP, 45% of baiters were successful and 23% of non-baiters were successful.

In the NLP, 58% of baiters were successful and 42% of non-baiters were successful



# USE OF BAIT - 1999 AND 2001 STUDIES

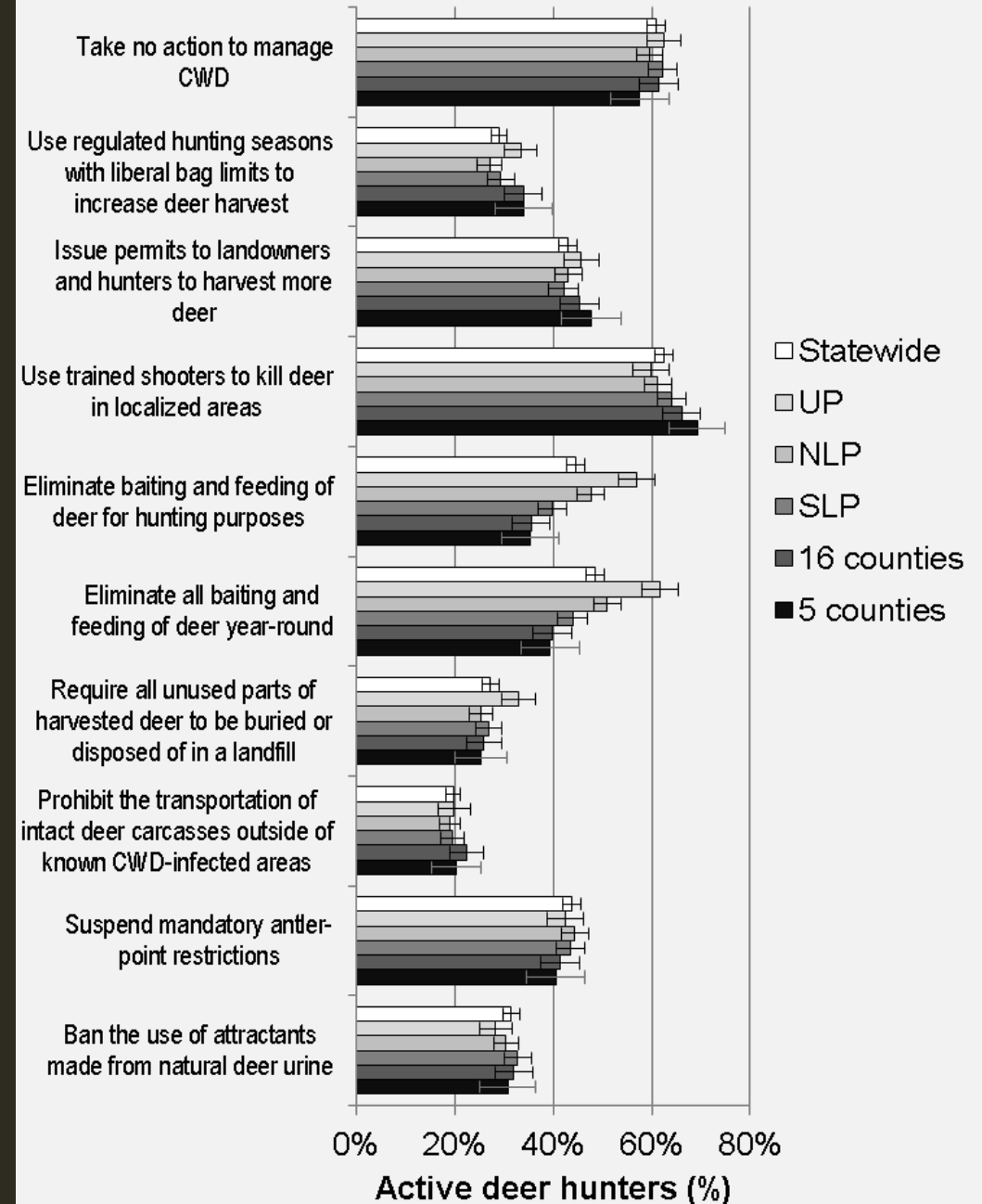


# UNACCEPTABLE MANAGEMENT

62% reported that using trained shooters to kill deer in localized areas was unacceptable.

61% of hunters indicated that attempting no management action was unacceptable

43-48% of hunters indicated that four other options were unacceptable

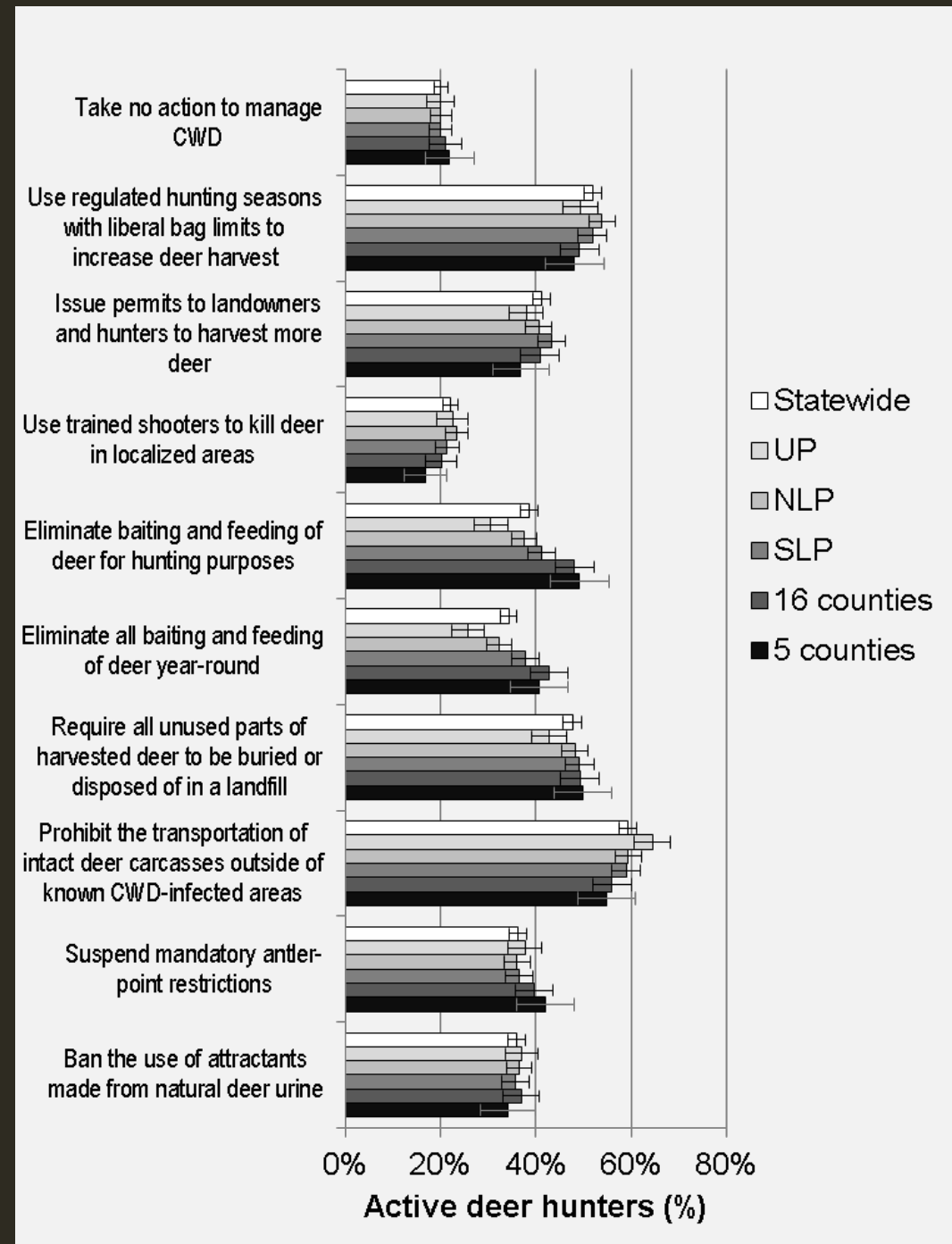


# ACCEPTABLE MANAGEMENT

59% of hunters indicated that prohibiting the transportation of intact deer carcasses outside CWD-infected areas was acceptable

52% of hunters reported that using regulated hunting seasons with liberal harvest limits was acceptable

39-48% of hunters indicated that three other options were acceptable





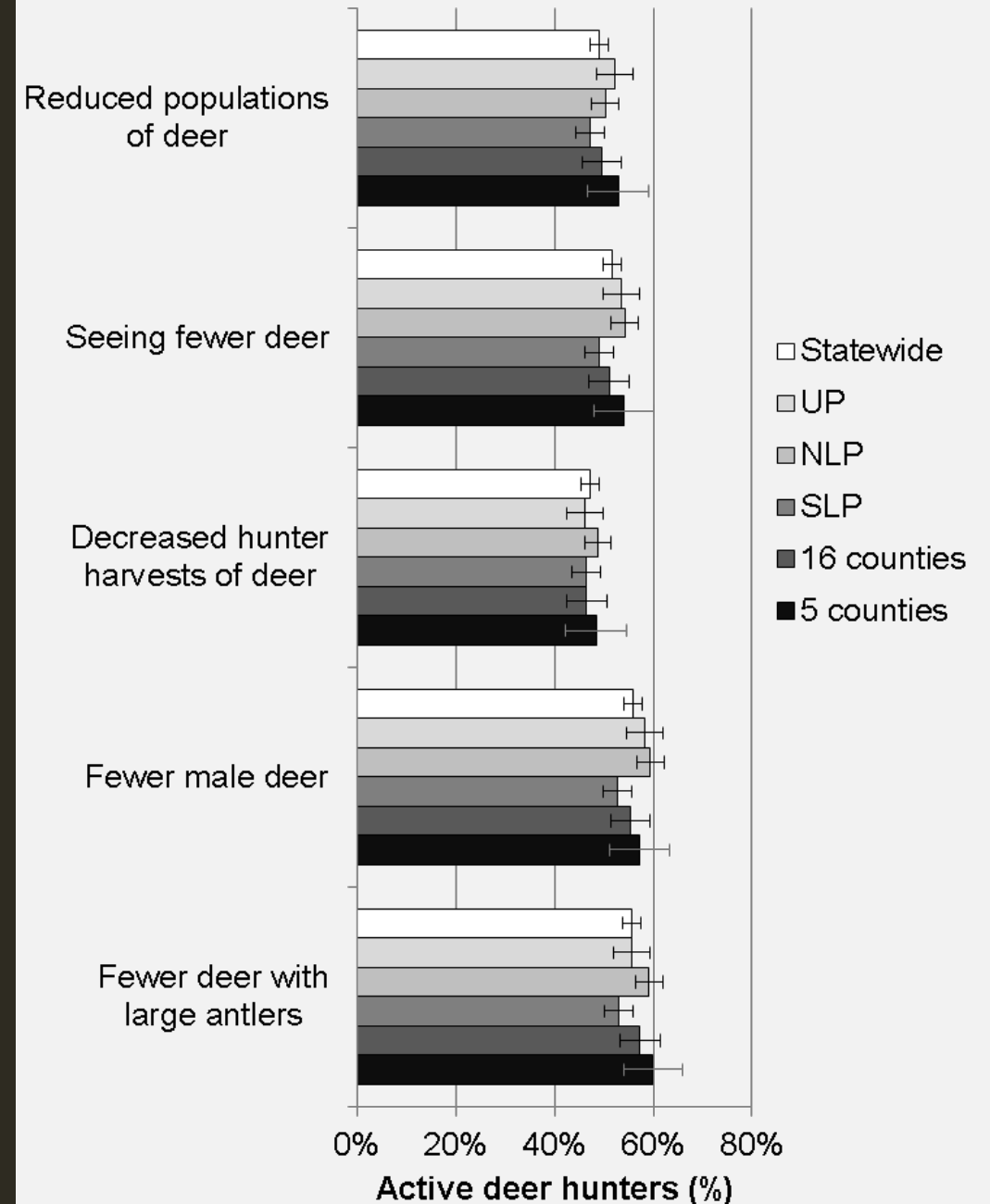
# UNACCEPTABLE OUTCOME

56% reported having fewer male deer was unacceptable

56% reported having fewer deer with large antlers was unacceptable

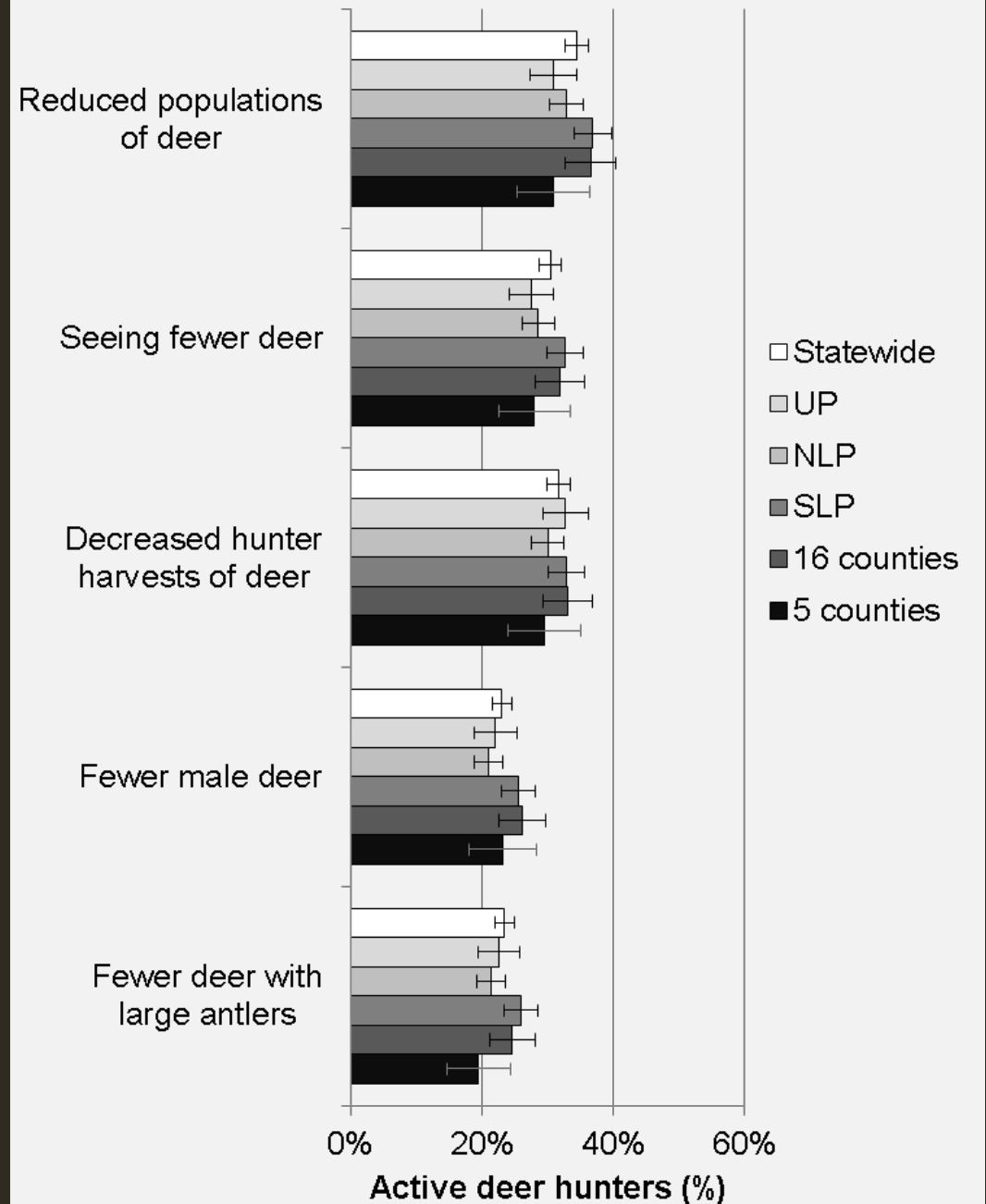
52% of hunters indicated that seeing fewer deer was unacceptable

Slightly less than 50% of hunters indicated that having a reduced deer population (49%) and harvesting fewer deer (47%) and were unacceptable



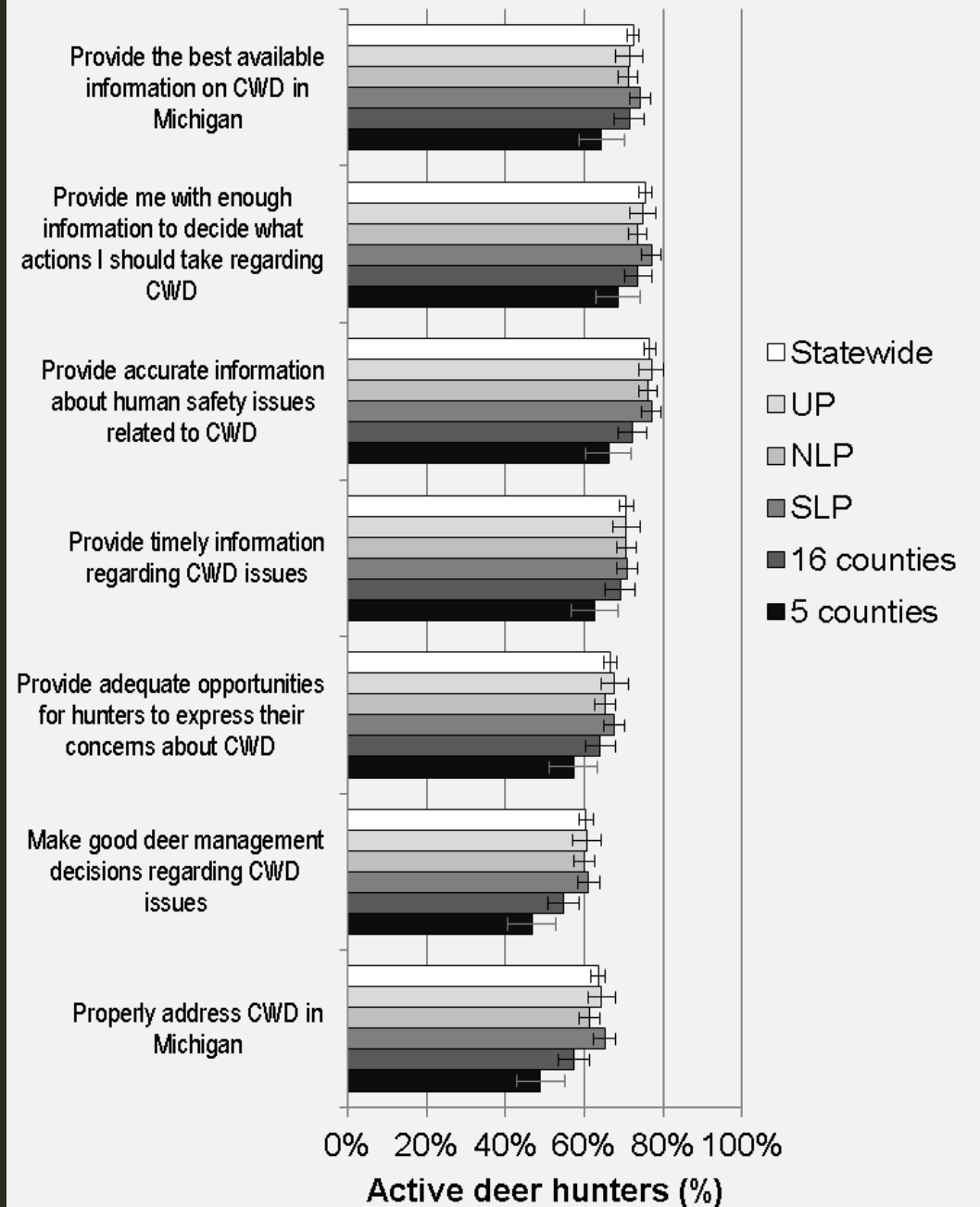
# ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME

None of the management outcomes were acceptable to most hunters



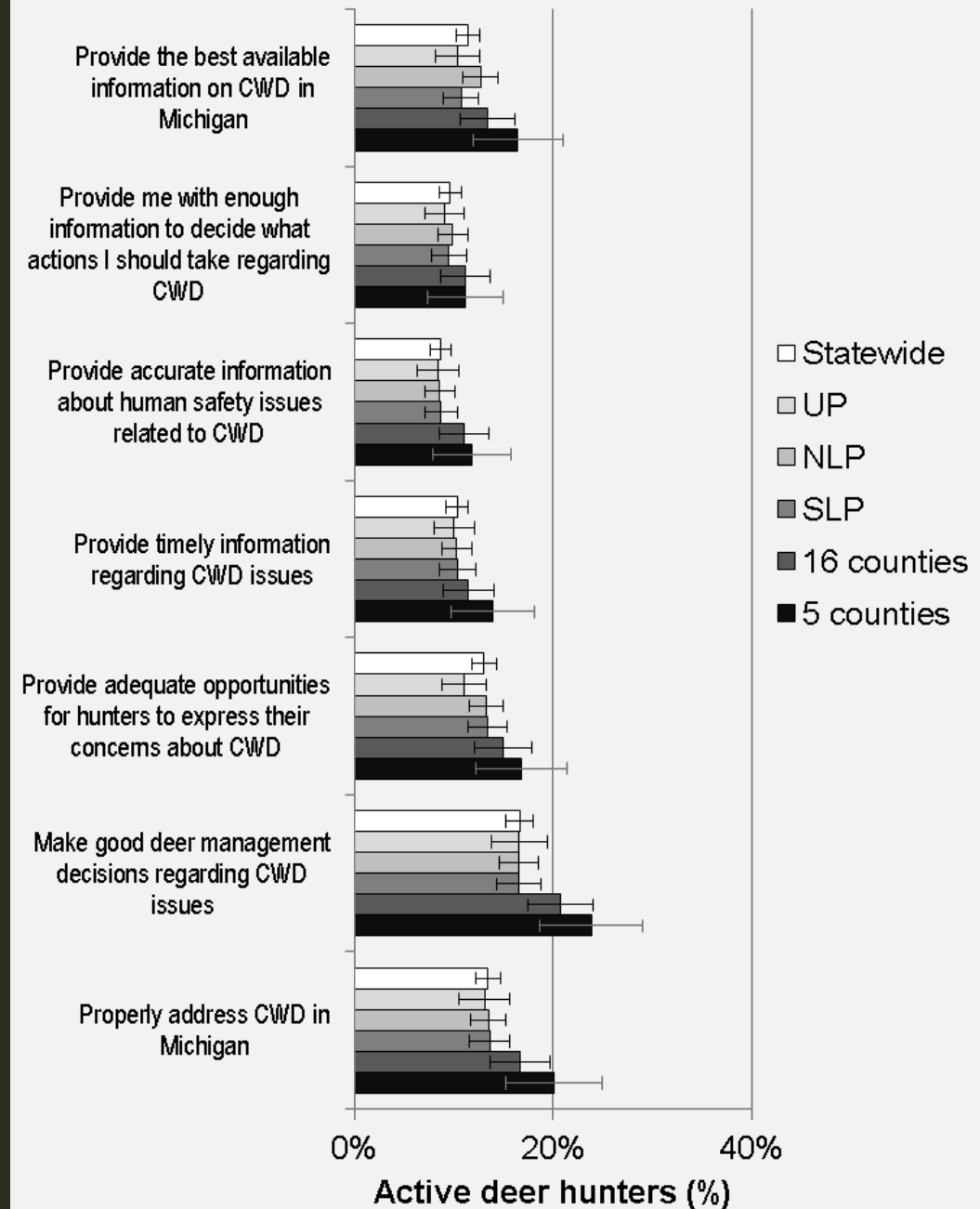
# MDNR CONFIDENCE - AGREE

Most hunters ( $\geq 60\%$ ) were confident that the MDNR would take the correct actions regarding CWD



# MDNR CONFIDENCE - DISAGREE

Confidence in the MDNR was generally similar among regions, except among hunters in the core CWD area and CWD management zone. Hunters in these areas were less confident that the MDNR would make good deer management decisions and were less confident that the MDNR would properly address CWD in Michigan.



# OUT-OF-STATE HUNTERS

31,856 adult Michigan deer hunters pursued deer, elk, or moose outside of Michigan in 2017

About 28% of these hunters harvested at least one animal, and they transported 10,711 animals back to Michigan



THANK YOU

