



Deer and Antelope Hunter Input Opportunity

Archery Stakeholder Meeting
October 2022



Archery Hunter Opportunities in South Dakota

1. Evaluate hunter opinions about archery hunters
2. Evaluate regulation options to reduce or increase opportunity



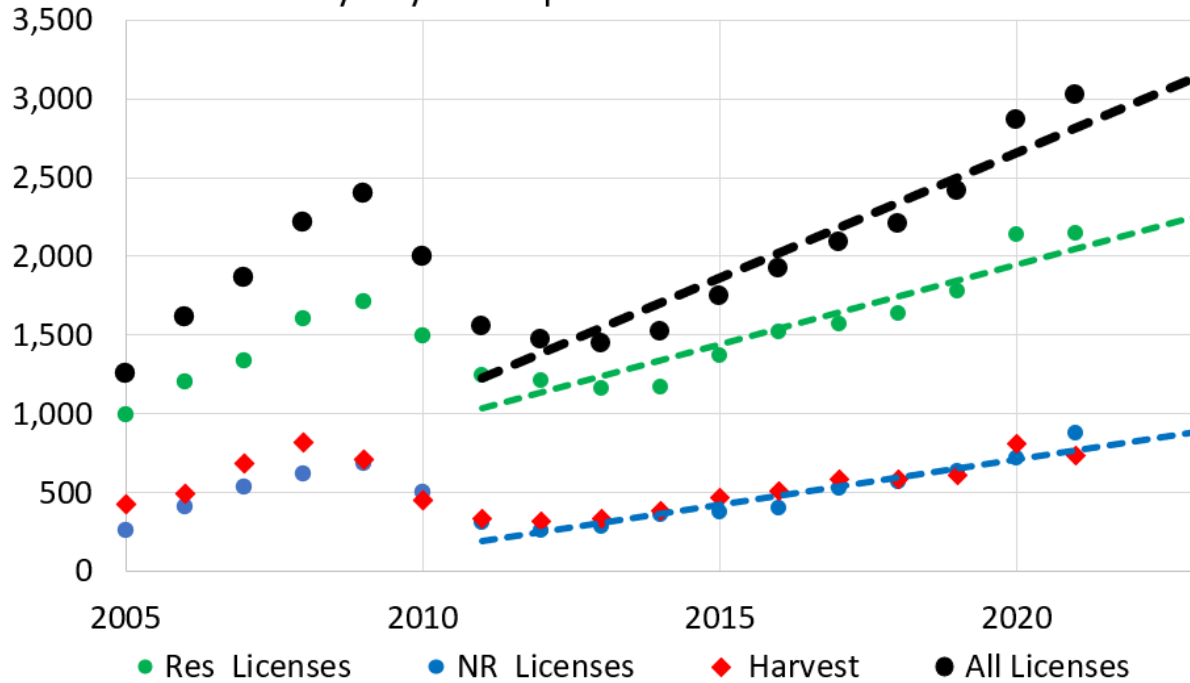


Background

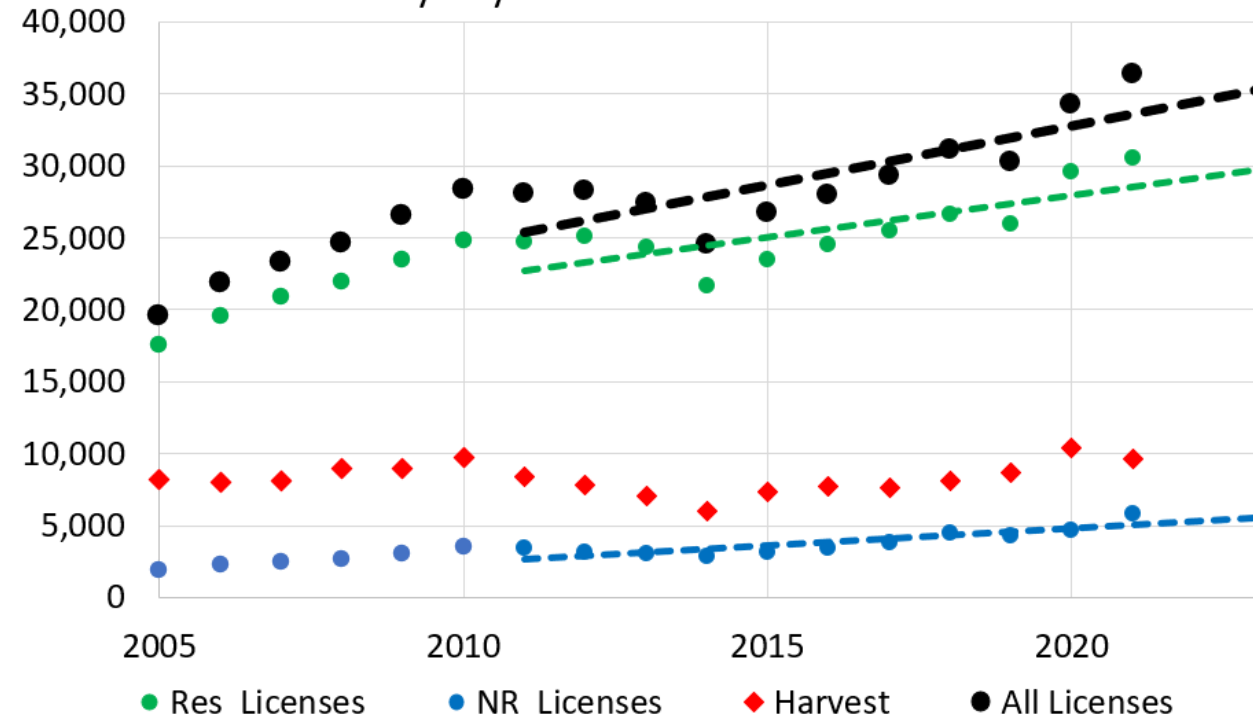
- Antelope archery hunters have more than doubled in 10 years
 - Residents: 1,212 to 2,142
 - Nonresidents: 255 to 877
 - Percent of archery licenses sold to nonresidents: 17% in 2012 to 29% in 2021

- Archery any deer licenses have increased nearly 30% in 10 years
 - Residents: 25,200 to 30,530
 - Nonresidents: 3,128 to 5,851
 - Percent of archery licenses sold to nonresidents: 11% in 2012 to 16% in 2021

Archery Any Antelope Licenses and Harvest

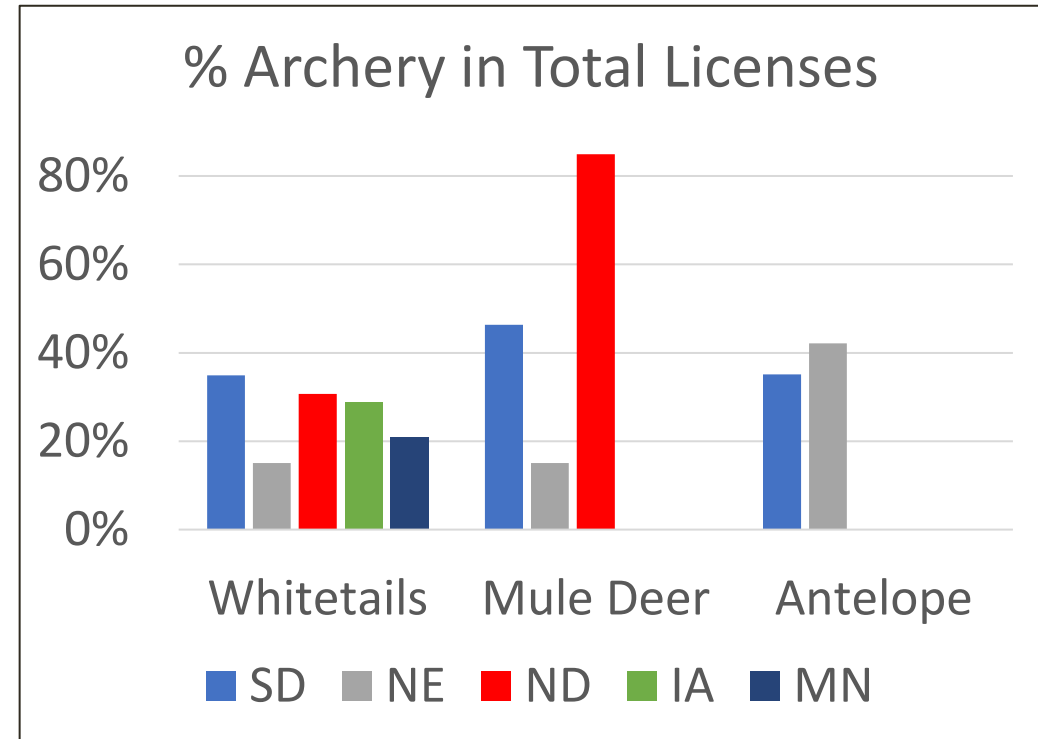
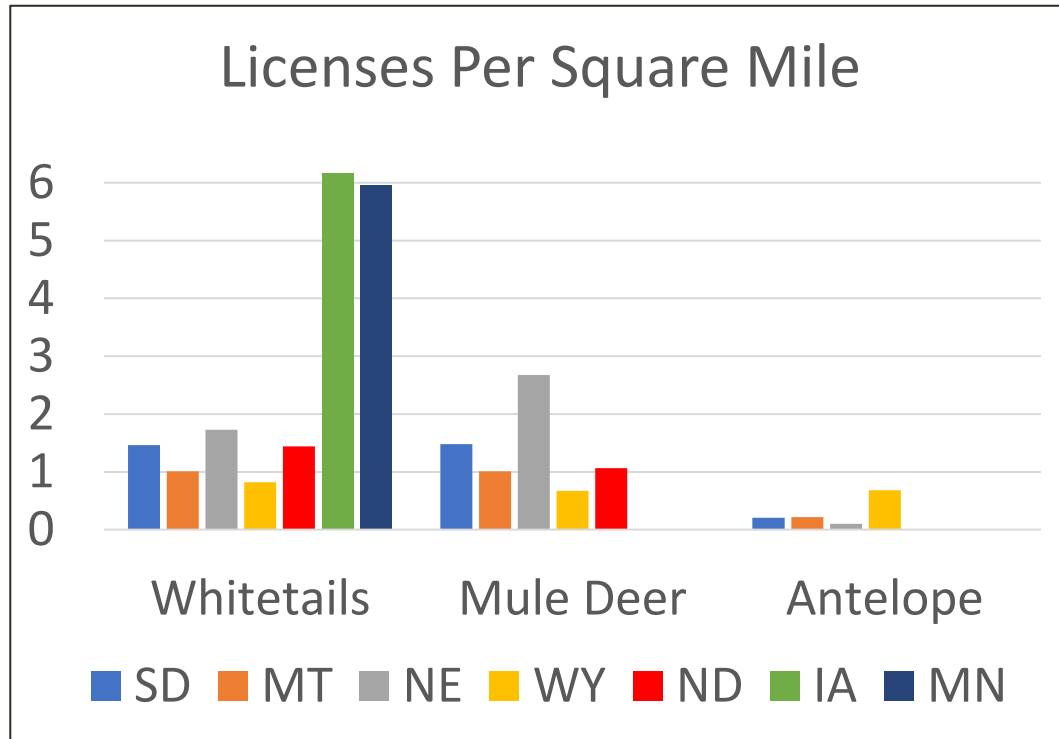


Archery Any Deer Licenses and Harvest



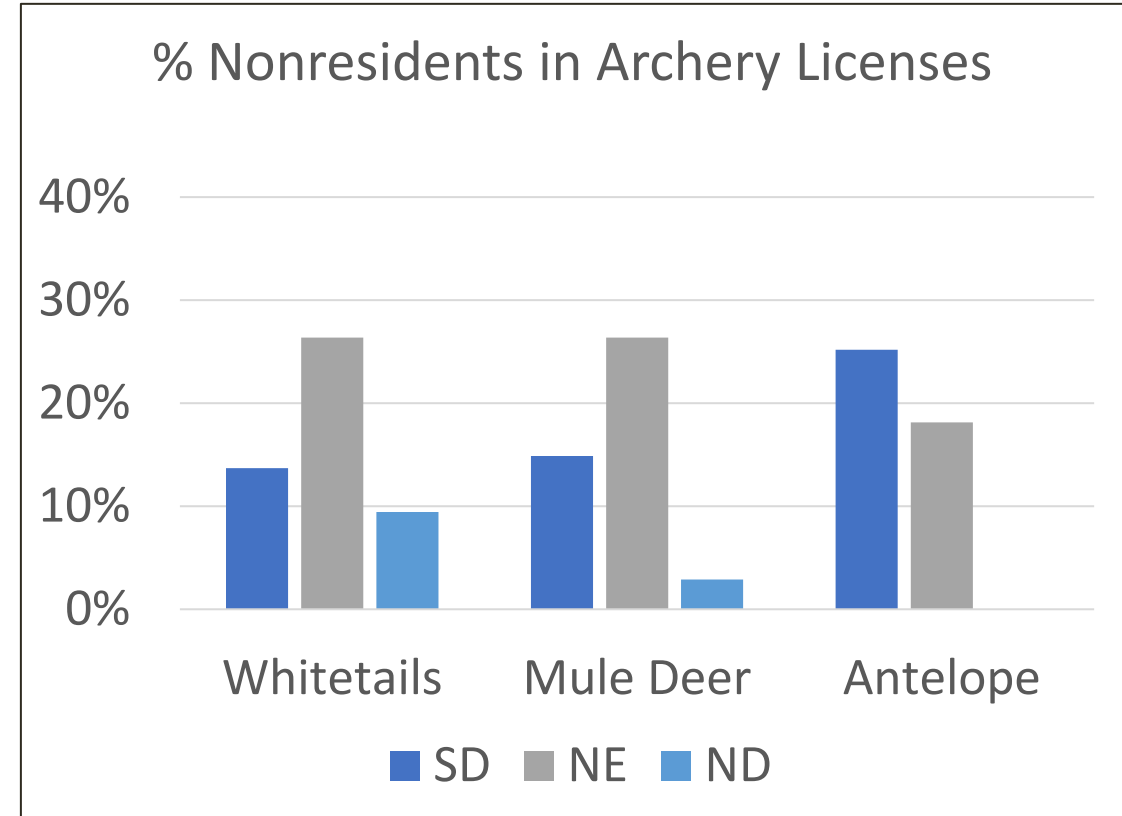
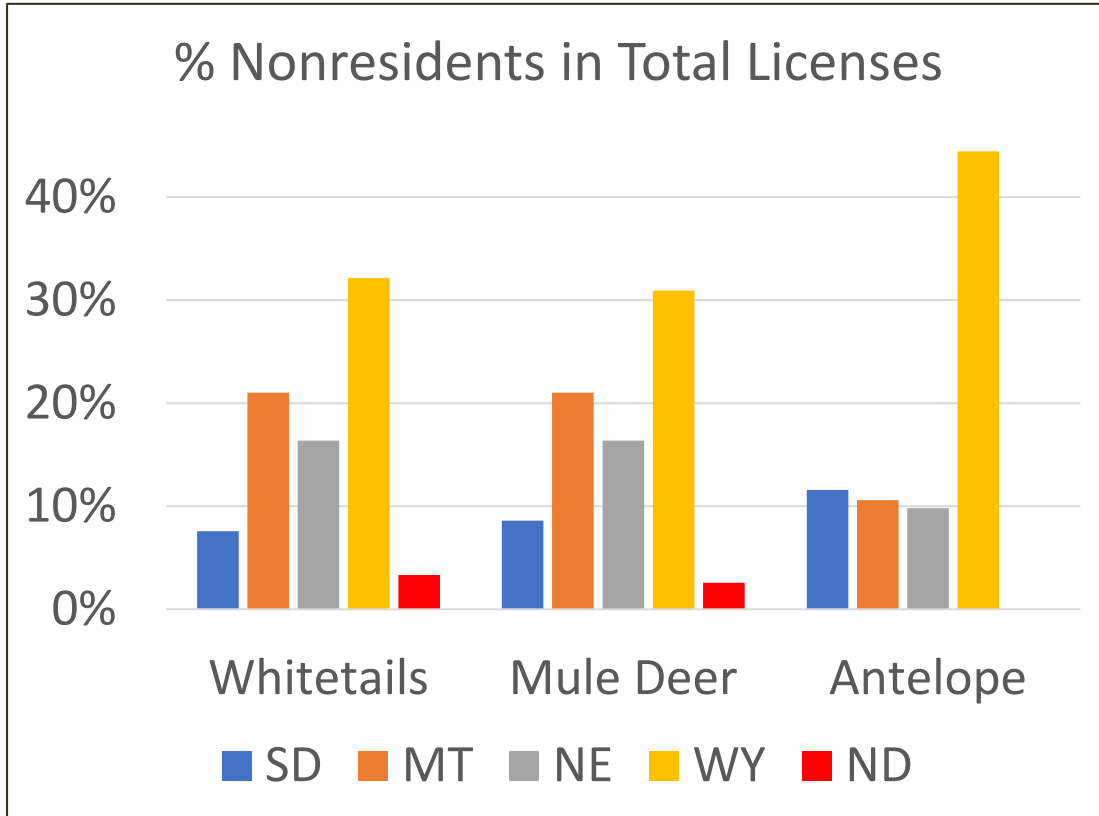
Other States

License Density and Archery Hunters



- 5 times as many deer hunters on public compared to private
- 11 times as many antelope hunters on public compared to private

Other States Nonresident Opportunity





Design

- Emailed to all antelope and deer hunters from past 3-years
 1. Proportion of time spent hunting public land
 2. Archery hunters on private and public land
 3. Resident and nonresident archery hunters
 4. Licenses available for archery hunters

Antelope

Hunter Group	Number of Responses	Number Surveyed	Response Rate
Resident archery	722	3,202	23%
Resident firearm only	703	10,844	6%
Nonresident archery	309	1,581	20%
Nonresident firearm only	134	1,742	8%
All hunters	1,868	17,369	11%

Deer

Hunter Group	Number of Responses	Number Surveyed	Response Rate
Resident archery	5,105	24,510	21%
Resident firearm only	1,319	47,618	3%
Nonresident archery	1,401	7,803	18%
Nonresident firearm only	358	8,741	4%
All hunters	8,183	88,672	9%

Results - Archery Hunter Numbers

Antelope archery hunters on public land

- All groups except nonresident archery hunters chose “too many”

Nonresident antelope archery hunters

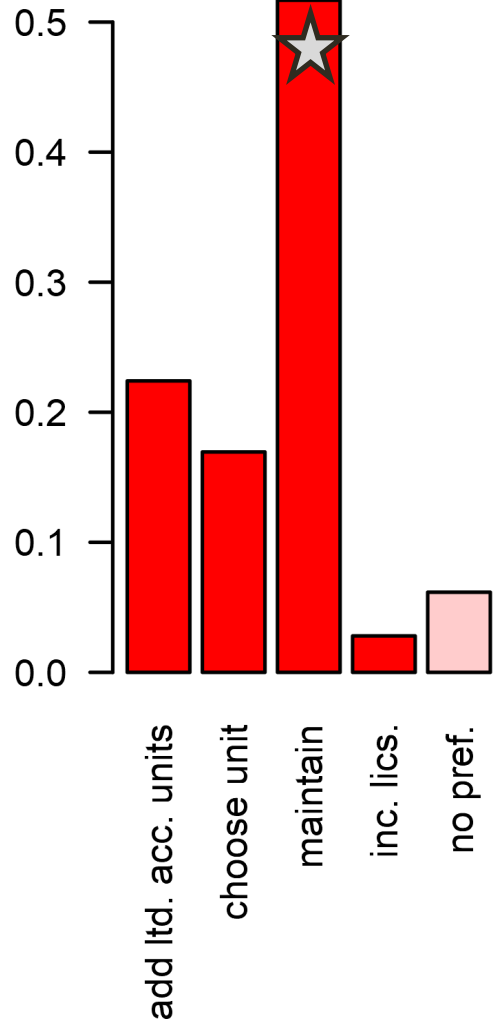
- Residents chose “too many” and nonresidents chose “about right”



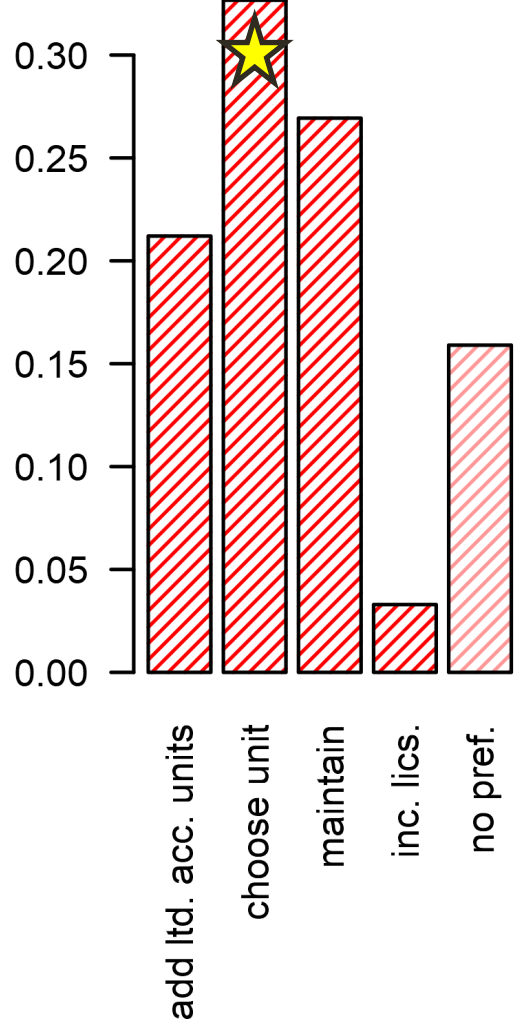


Results - Any Antelope Archery Licenses Per Hunter

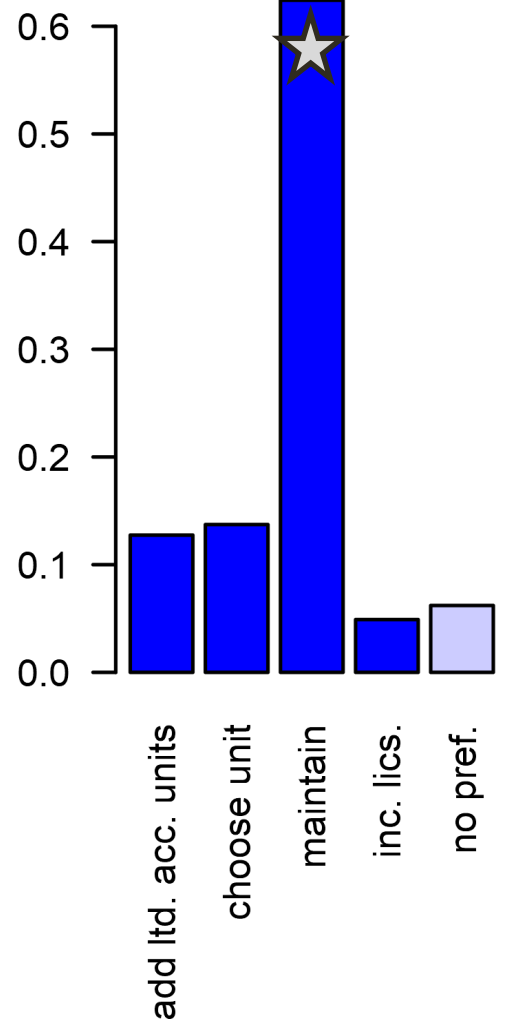
Res. Bowhunters
Resp. rate=22% (n=714)



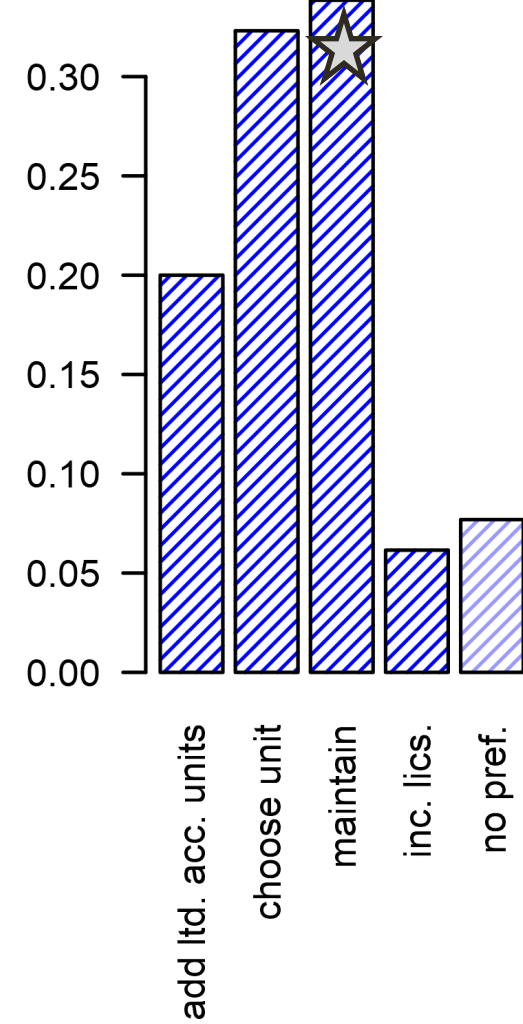
Res. Firearm Only
Resp. rate=6% (n=698)



Nonres. Bowhunters
Resp. rate=19% (n=306)

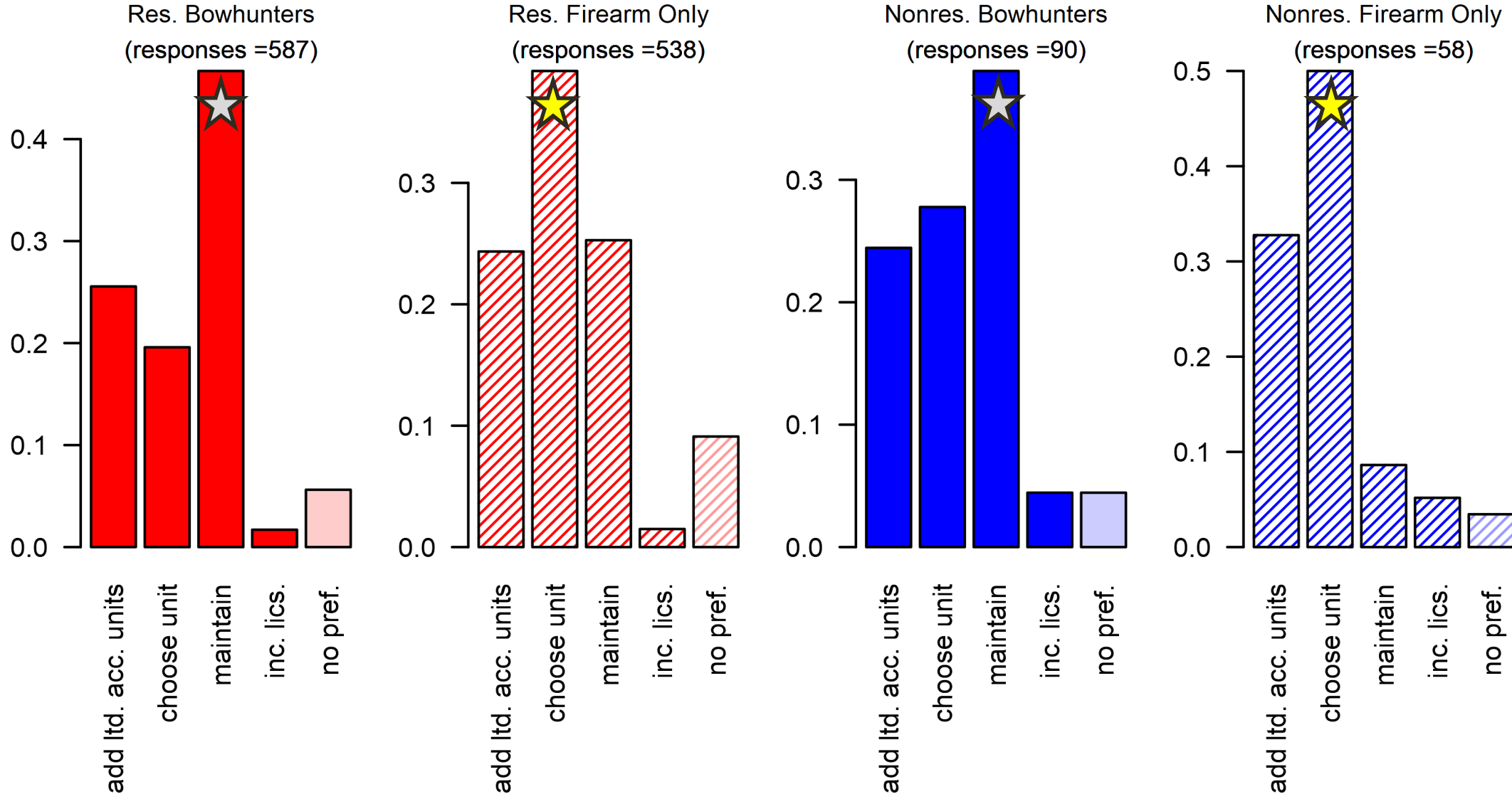


Nonres. Firearm Only
Resp. rate=7% (n=130)





Results - Any Antelope Archery Licenses Per Hunter



Changes to results using respondents that selected “too many” archery hunters for at least 1 of the previous questions

- Selected “choose unit” more
 - Biggest change in firearm hunters

Results - Archery Hunter Numbers

Deer archery hunters on public land

- Marginal support for too many, mostly from resident firearm hunters
 - More support for too many mule deer hunters compared to whitetail hunters

Nonresident deer archery hunters

- Residents chose “too many” and nonresidents chose “about right”

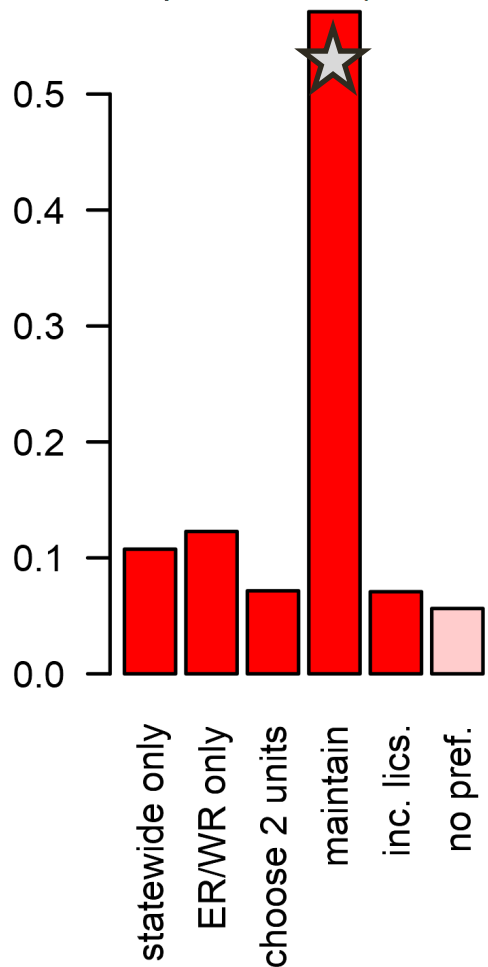


Results - Any Deer Archery Licenses Per Hunter



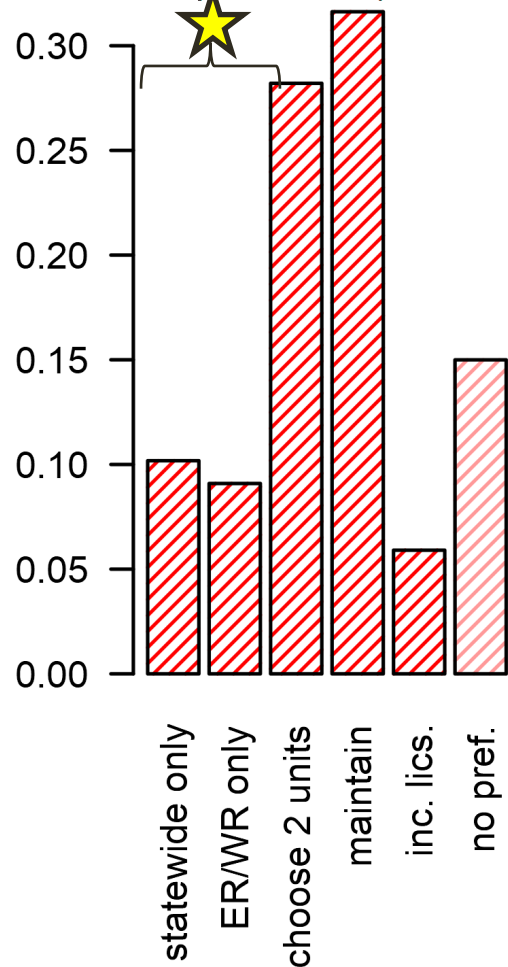
Res. Bowhunters

Resp. rate=21% (n=5,042)



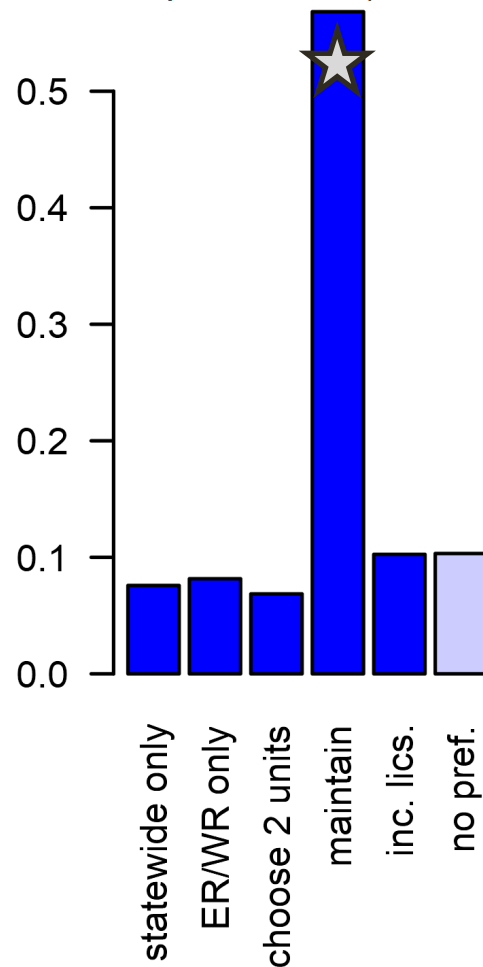
Res. Firearm Only

Resp. rate=3% (n=1,287)



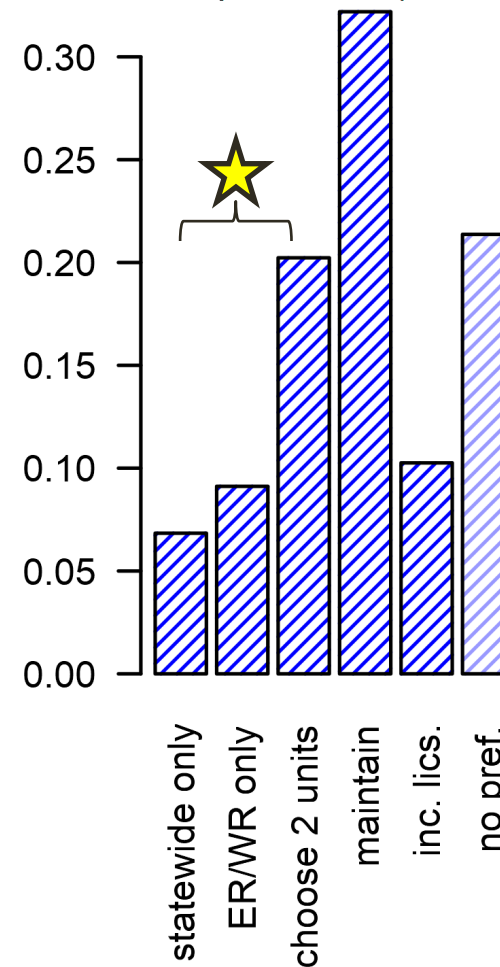
Nonres. Bowhunters

Resp. rate=18% (n=1,385)



Nonres. Firearm Only

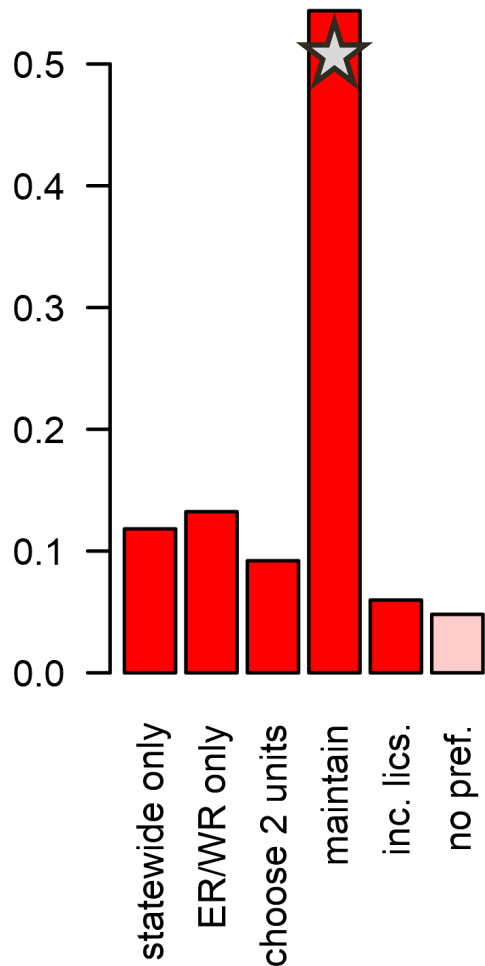
Resp. rate=4% (n=351)



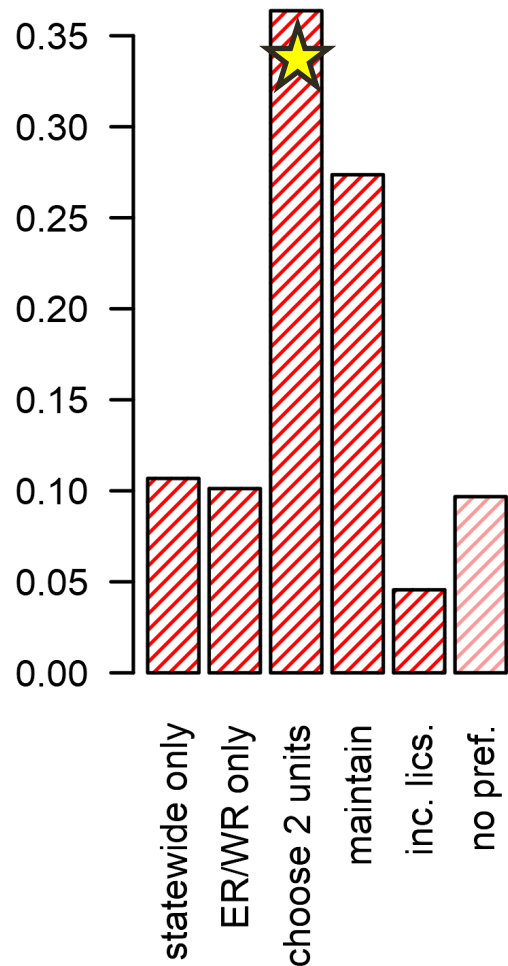
Results - Any Deer Archery Licenses Per Hunter



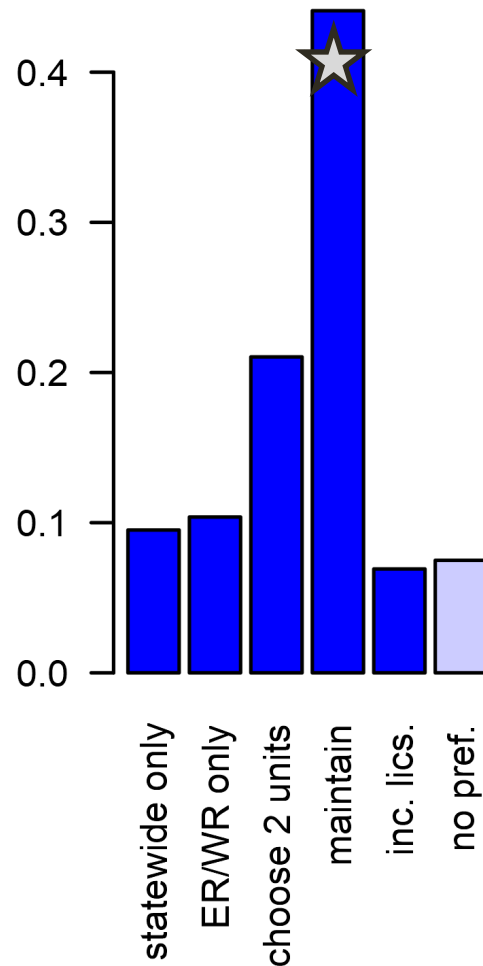
Res. Bowhunters
(responses =3,748)



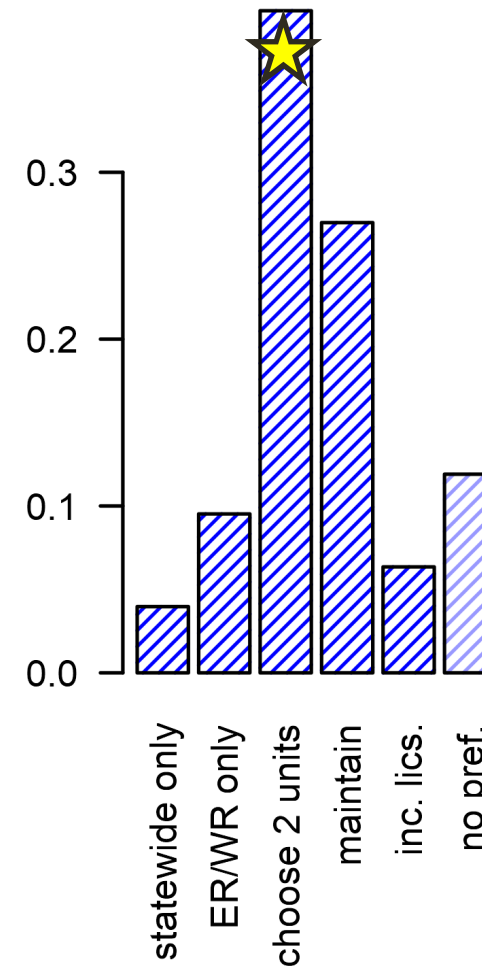
Res. Firearm Only
(responses =899)



Nonres. Bowhunters
(responses =347)



Nonres. Firearm Only
(responses =126)



Results from respondents that selected "too many" archery hunters for at least 1 of the previous questions

- Firearm hunters selected "choose 2 units" most
- Nonresidents selected "choose 2 units" at a slightly greater rate, but still chose "maintain"
- Resident archery hunter results changed very little



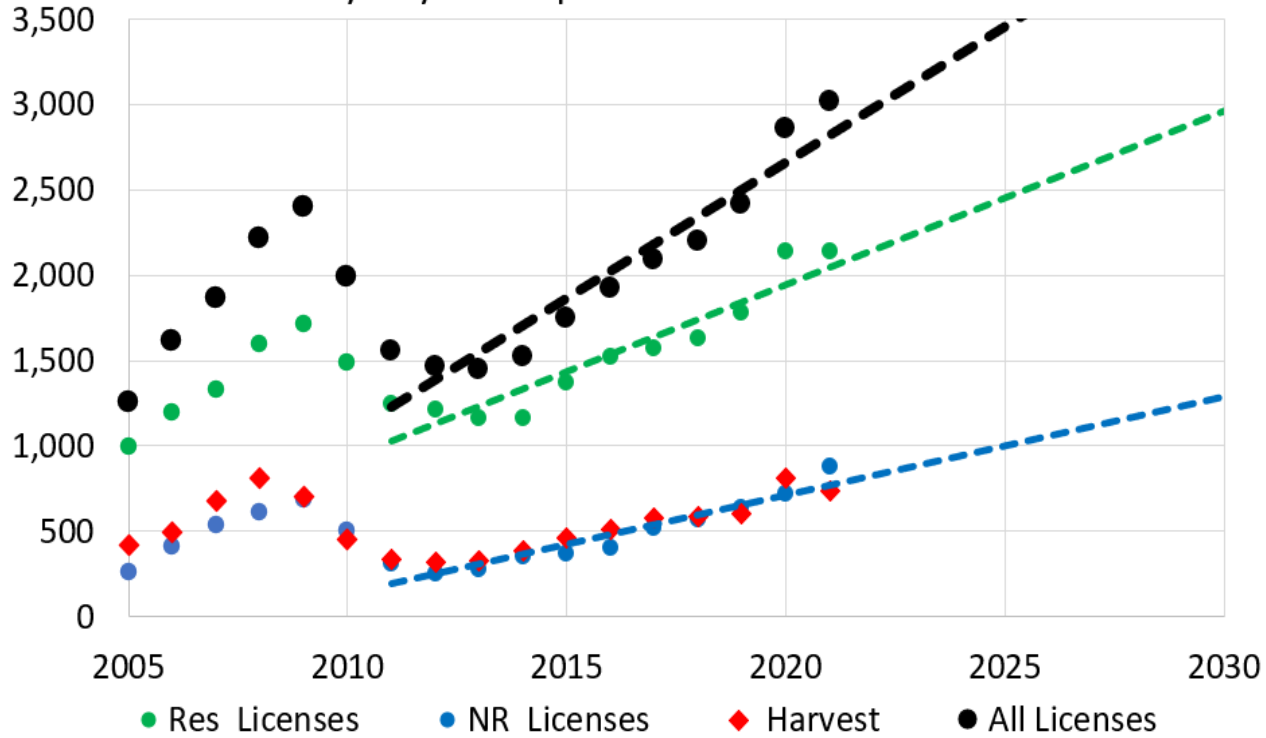
Summary

- Low response rate and a high number of respondents had no opinion or preference
- Mostly public land antelope hunters, resident deer hunters mostly private, nonresident deer hunters were split between public and private
- Too many archery hunters on public
 - most support for antelope and marginal support for deer
 - resident firearm hunters felt too many mule deer archery hunters on public
- Residents felt there were too many nonresident archery hunters and nonresidents felt they were about right
- Archery hunters did not want to limit archery hunting opportunity and firearm hunters felt archery hunters should be required to choose regional units

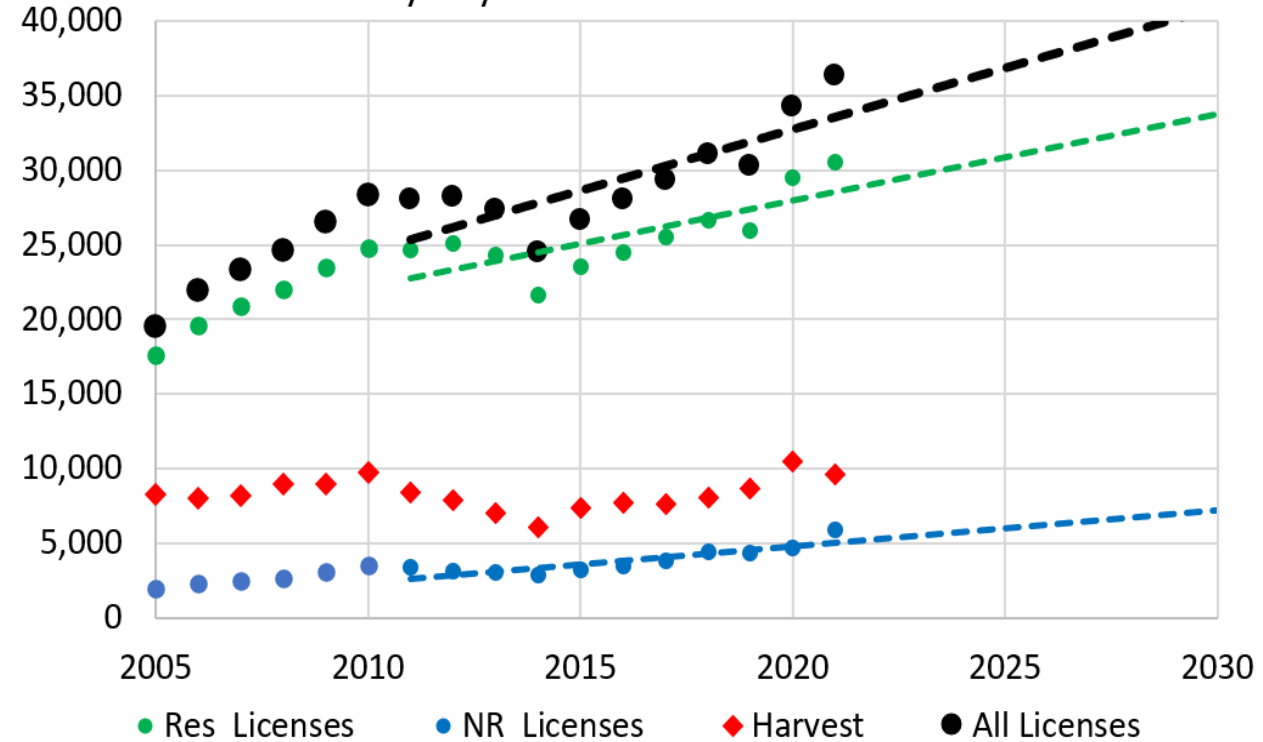


Future Trends?

Archery Any Antelope Licenses and Harvest



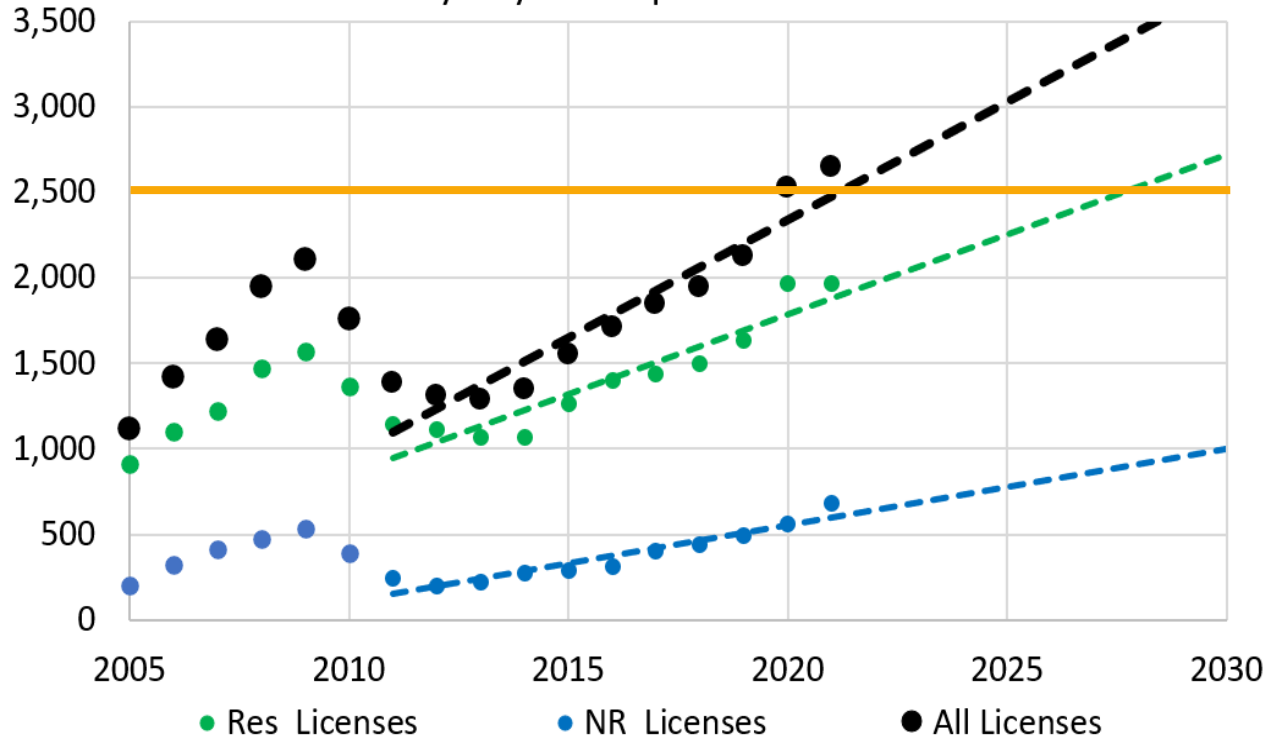
Archery Any Deer Licenses and Harvest



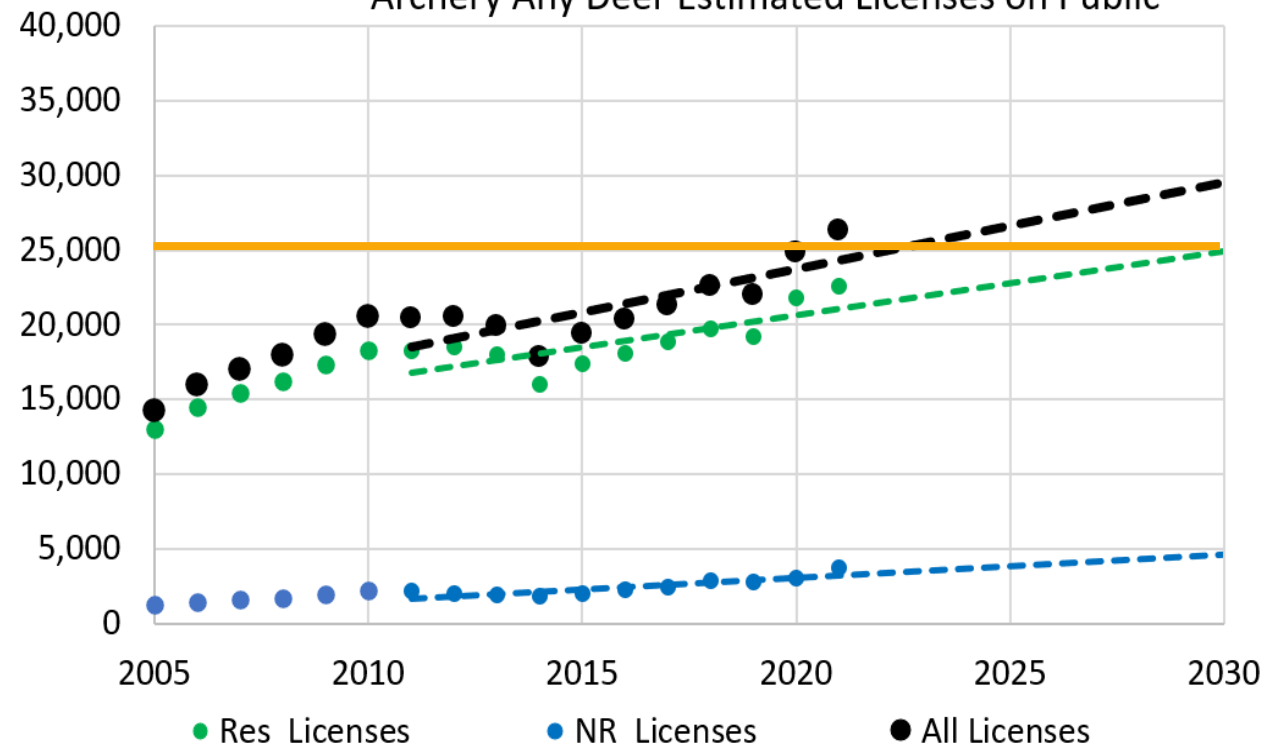


Future Trends?

Archery Any Antelope Estimated Licenses on Public



Archery Any Deer Estimated Licenses on Public





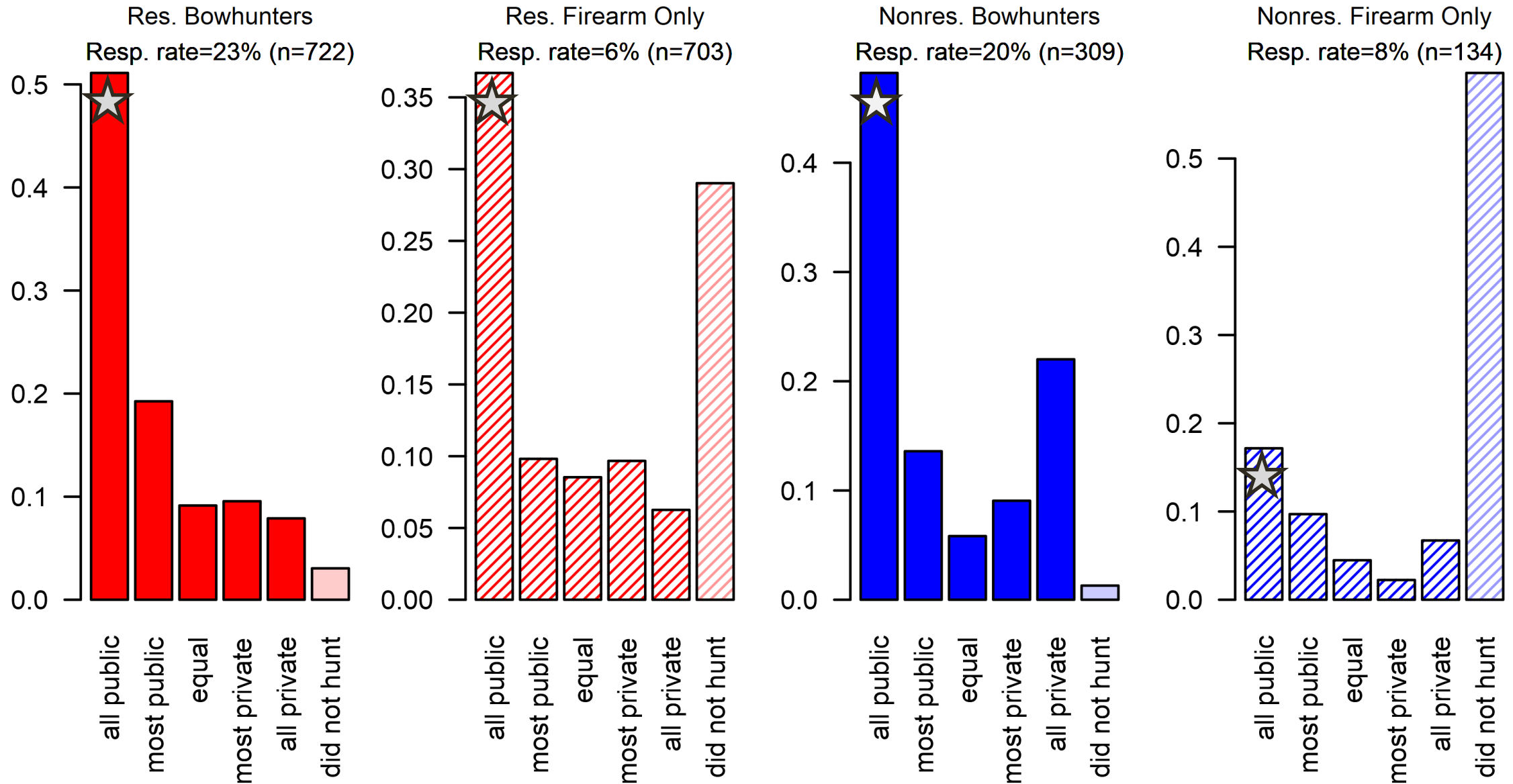
QUESTIONS?



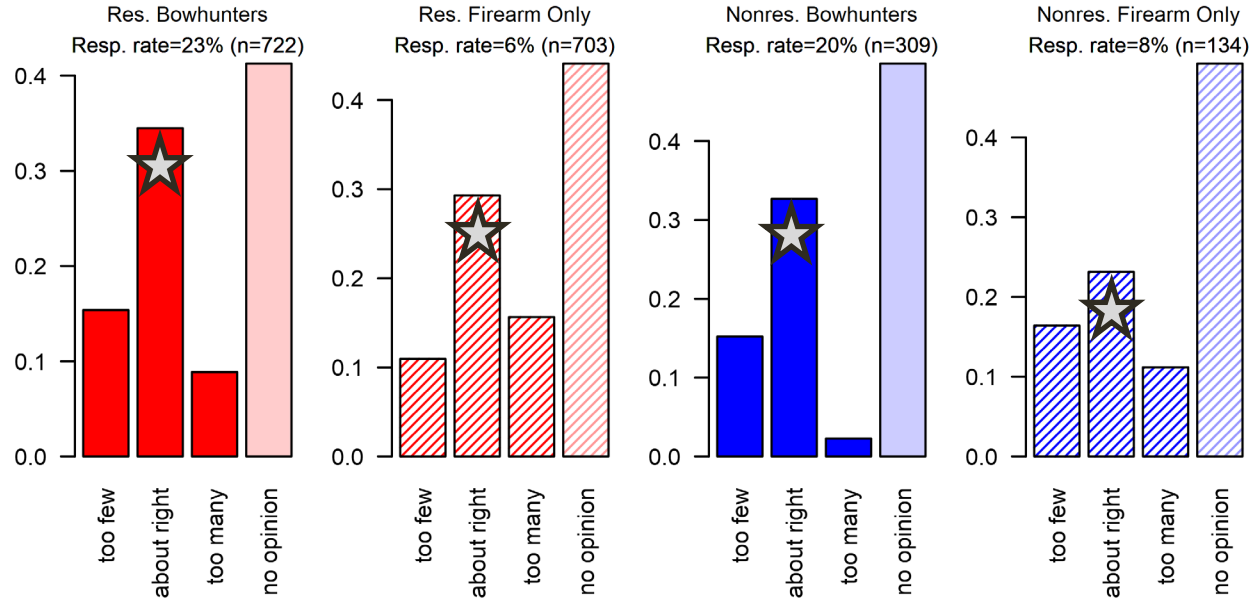
Antelope



Proportion of time spent hunting antelope on publicly accessible land

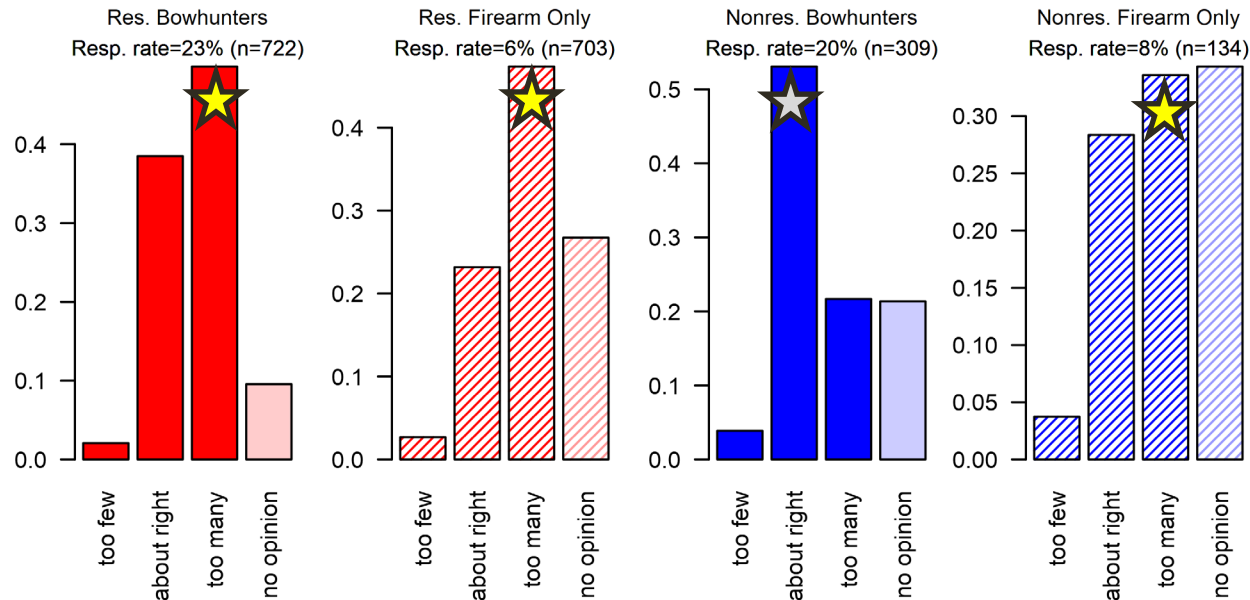


How do you feel about the # of antelope archery hunters on private land



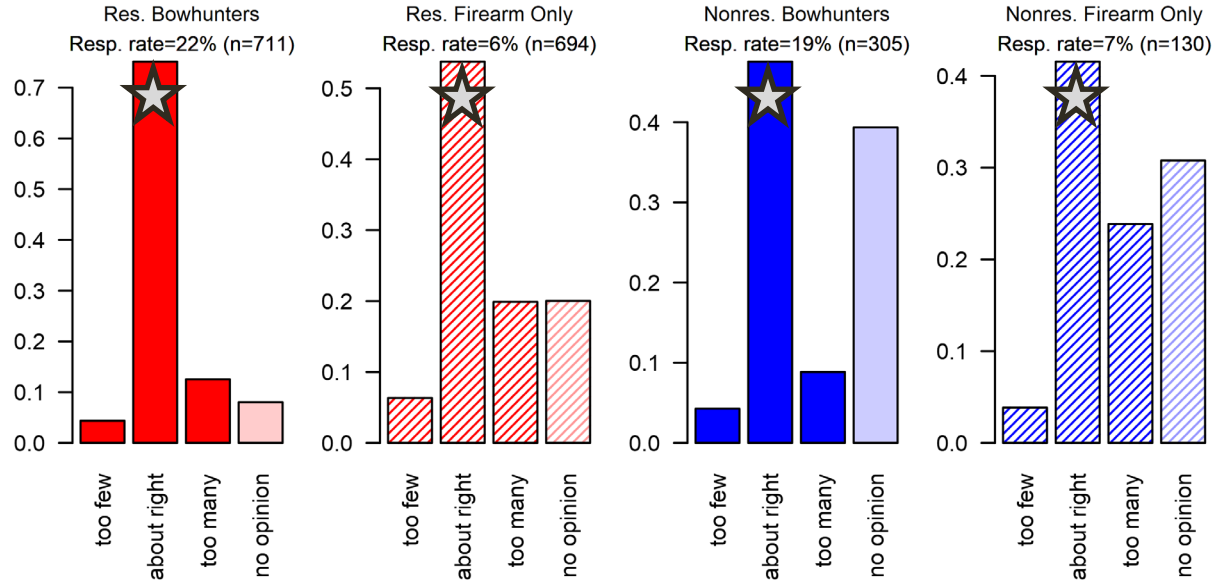
- **All hunter groups chose “about right” most for antelope archery hunters on private land**
 - Although the majority had “no opinion”

How do you feel about the # of antelope archery hunters on public land



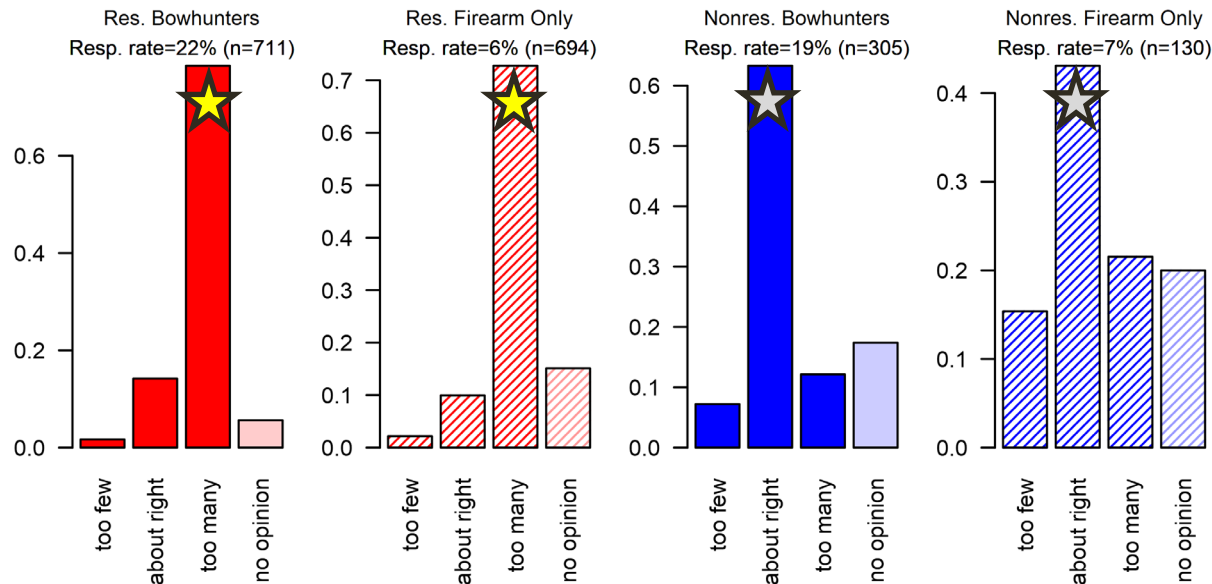
- **All groups except nonresident archery hunters chose “too many” most for antelope archery hunters on public land**

How do you feel about the # of resident antelope archery hunters



- All hunter groups chose “about right” most for antelope resident archery hunters

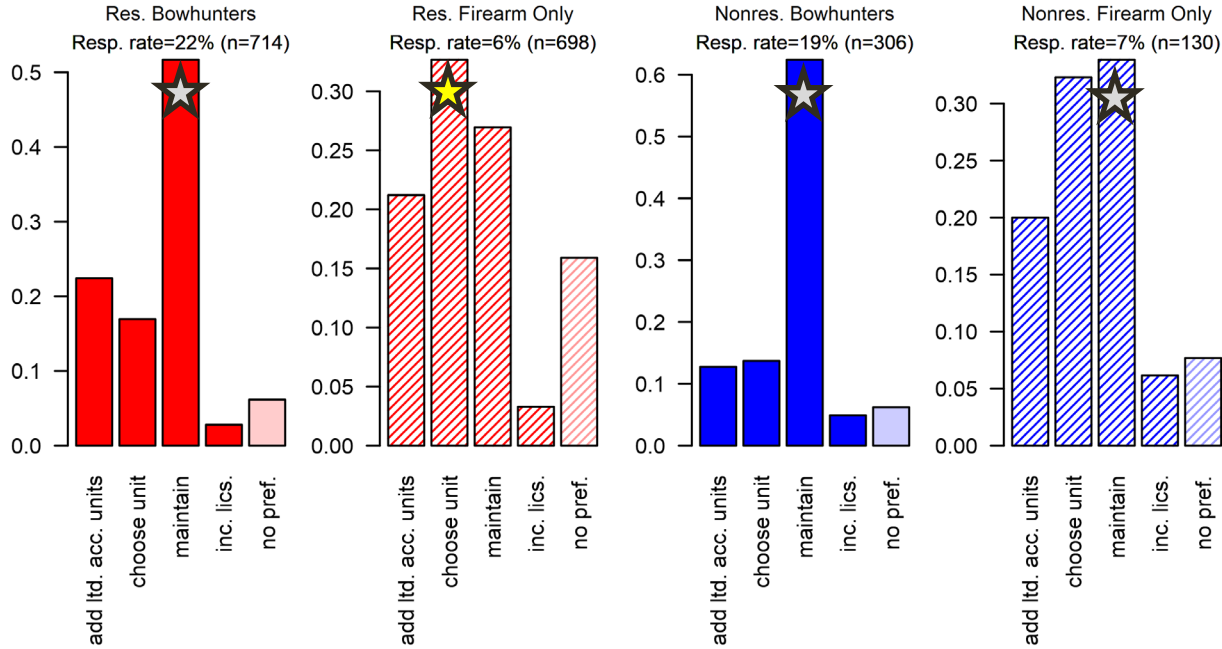
How do you feel about the # of nonresident antelope archery hunters



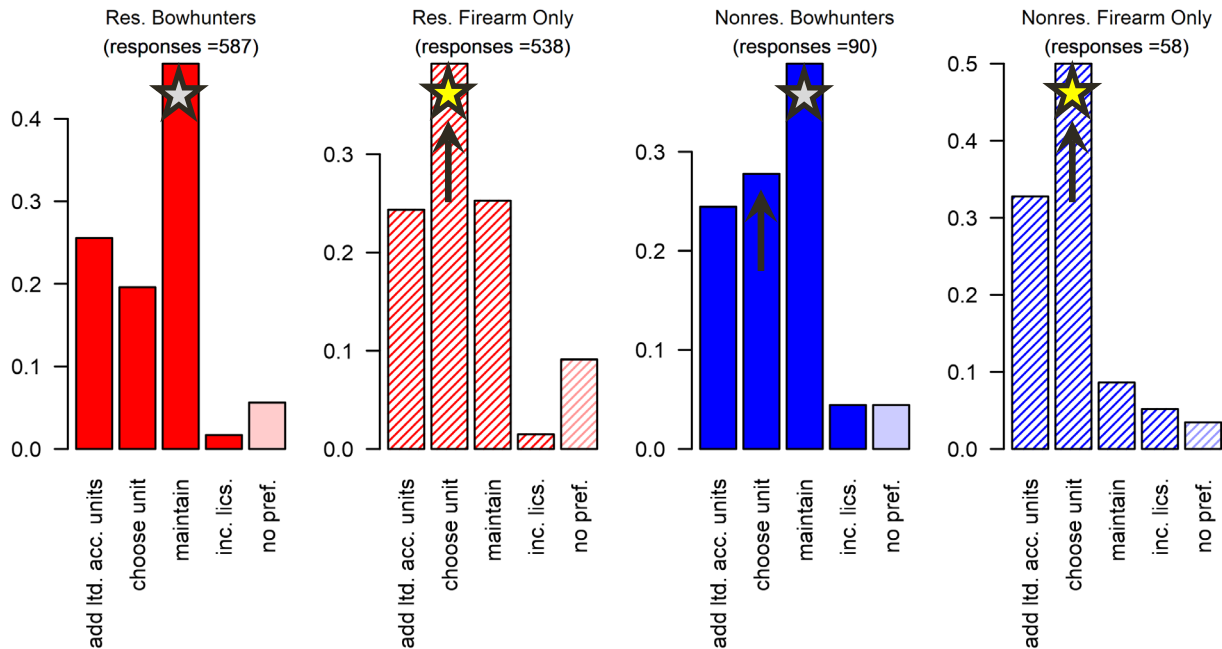
- Resident hunters chose “too many” and nonresidents chose “about” right” most for antelope nonresident archery hunters



Choice regarding any antelope archery licenses per hunter



- All groups chose “maintain” except resident firearm hunters chose “choose unit”



Results from respondents that selected “too many” archery hunters for at least 1 of the previous questions

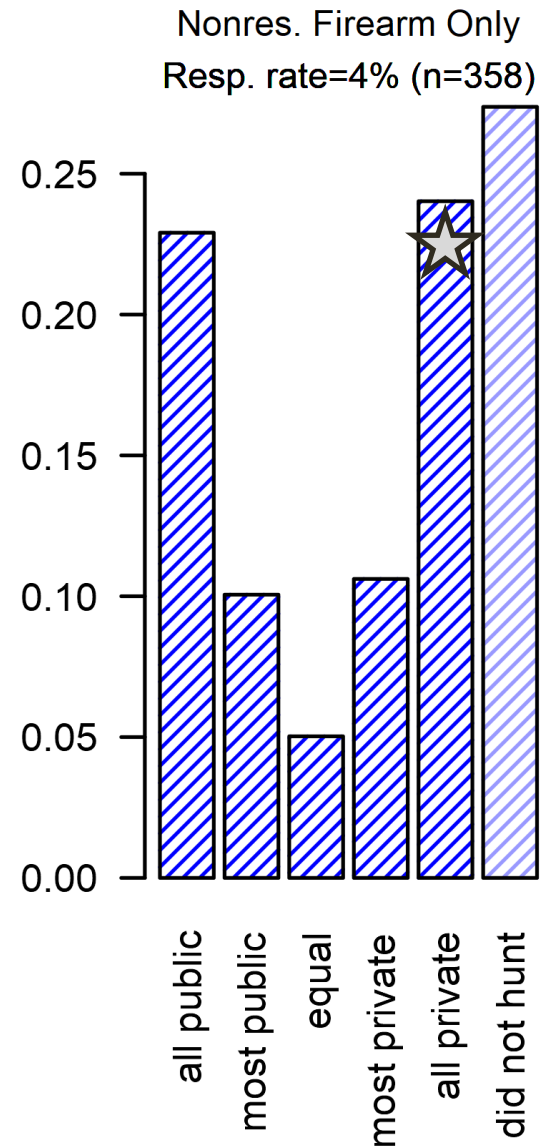
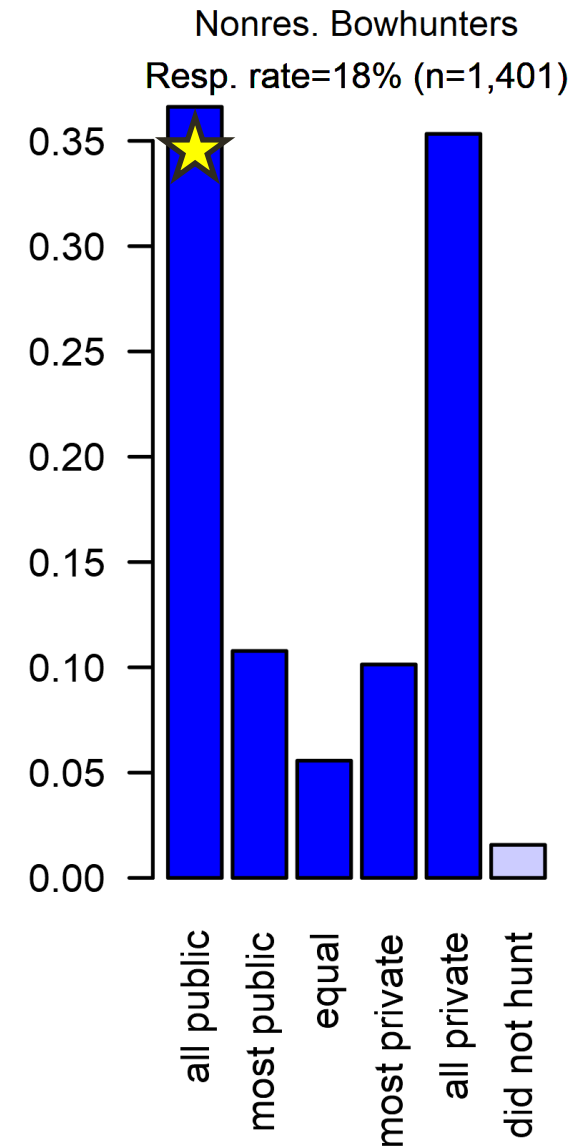
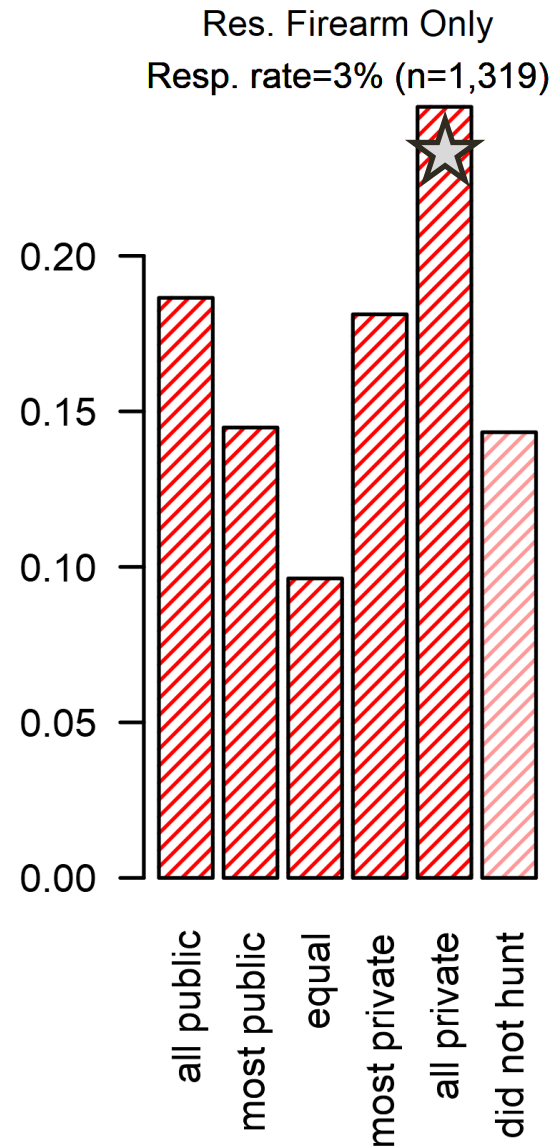
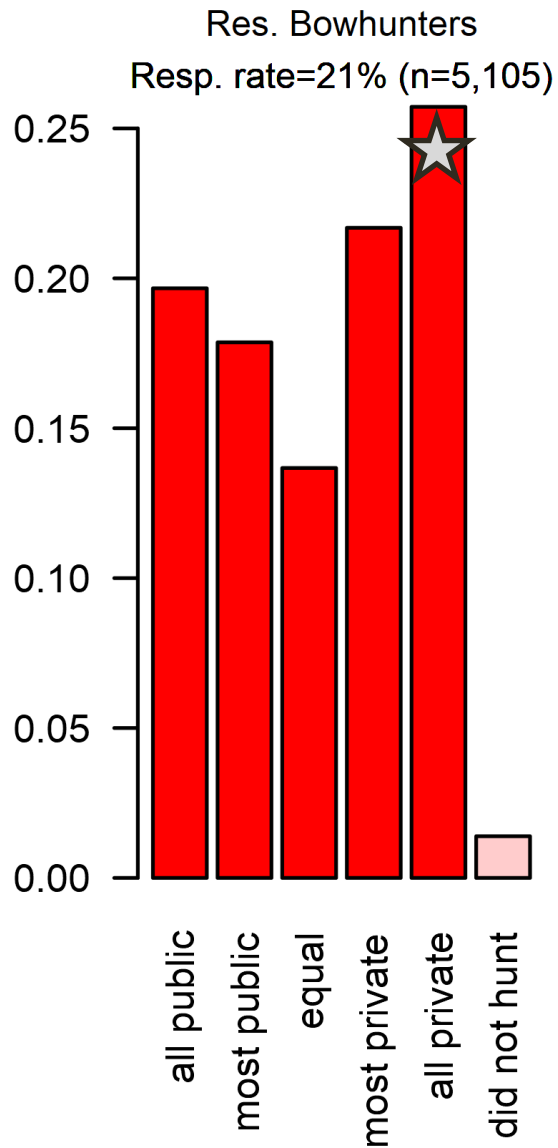
- Small change for resident archery hunters
- All other groups indicated “choose unit” more compared to all respondents



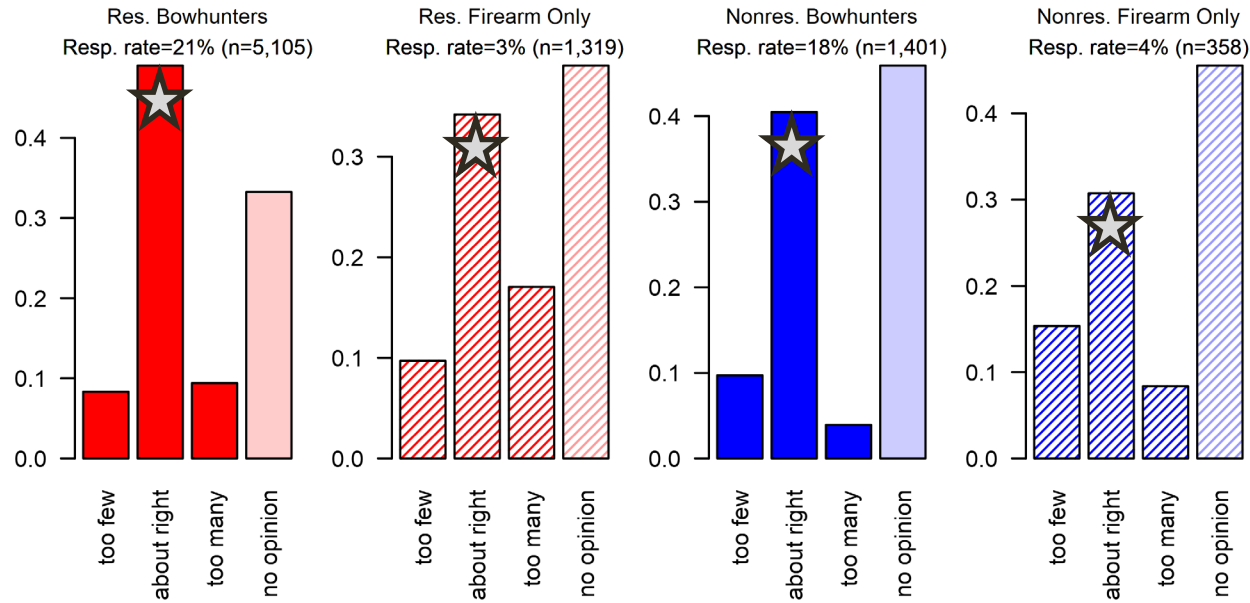
Whitetails and Mule Deer



Proportion of time spent hunting deer on publicly accessible land

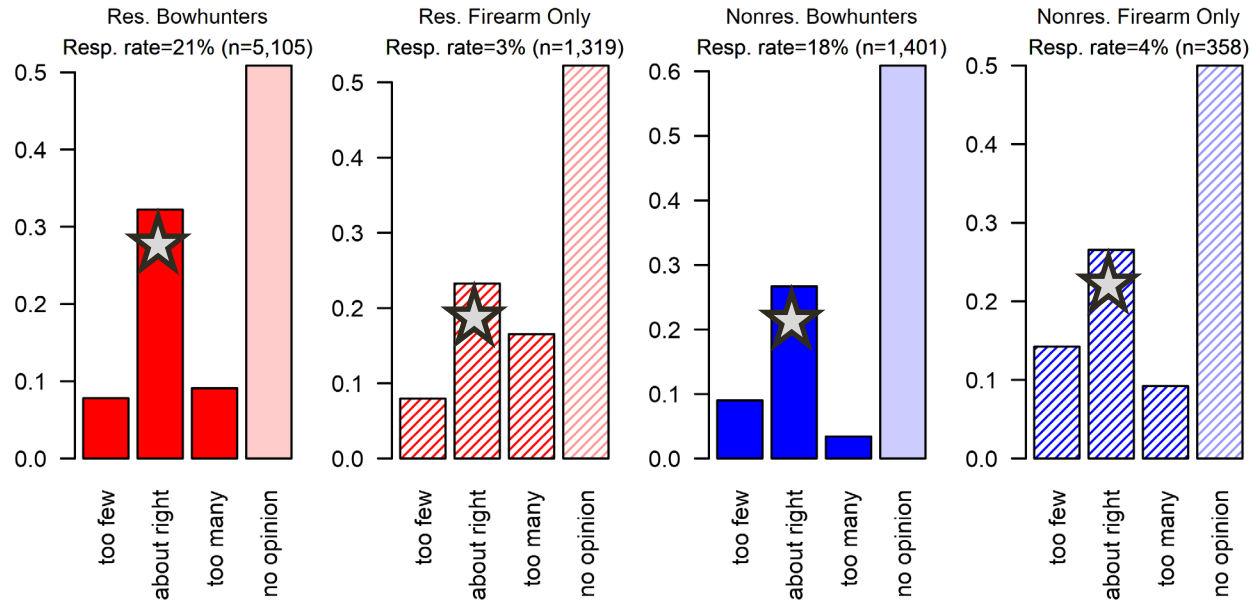


How do you feel about the # of whitetail archery hunters on private land

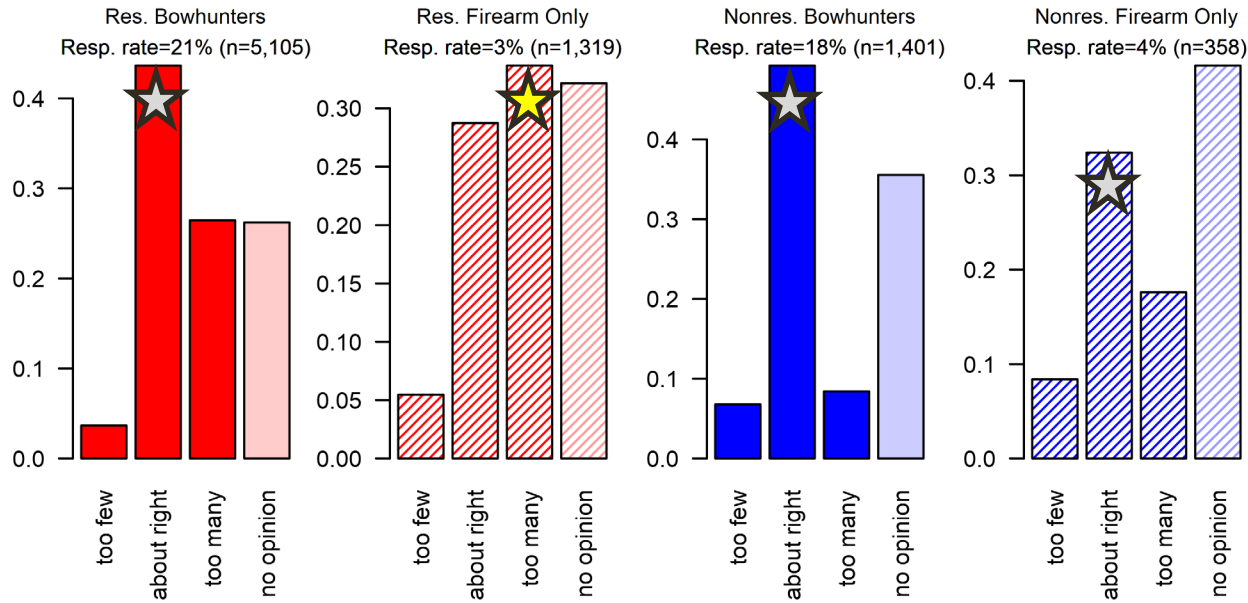


- Majority had “no opinion” but among choices selected:
 - All chose “about right” most for whitetail and mule deer archery hunters on private land

How do you feel about the # of mule deer archery hunters on private land

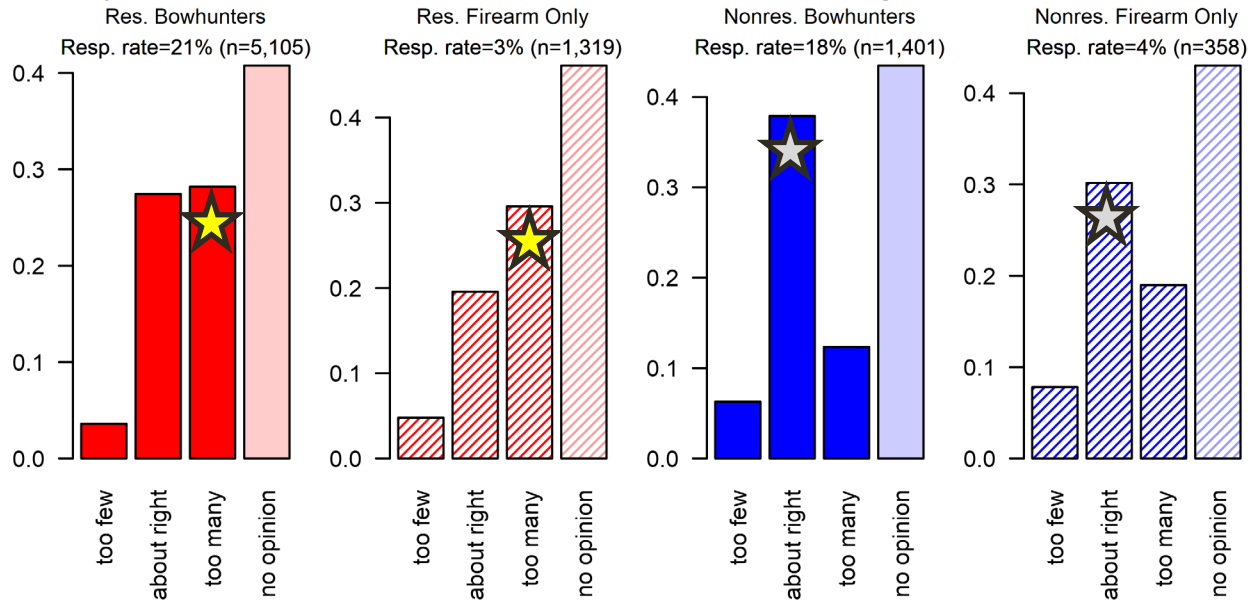


How do you feel about the # of whitetail archery hunters on public land



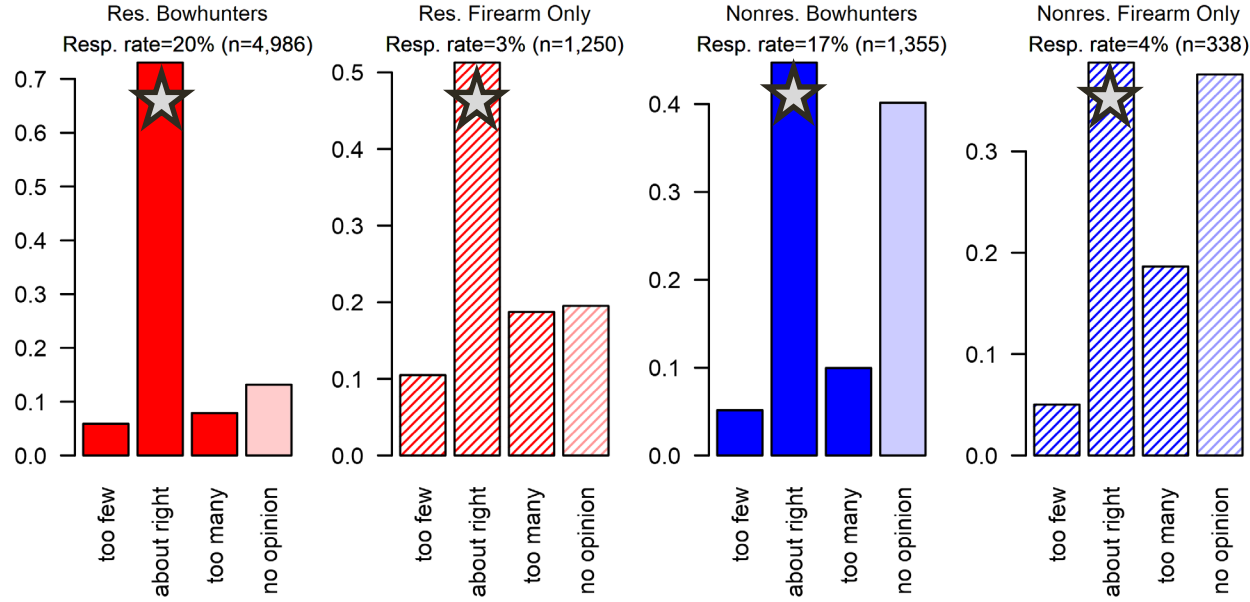
- Most chose “about right” for whitetail archery hunters on public land
 - Except resident firearm hunters chose “too many”

How do you feel about the # of mule deer archery hunters on public land



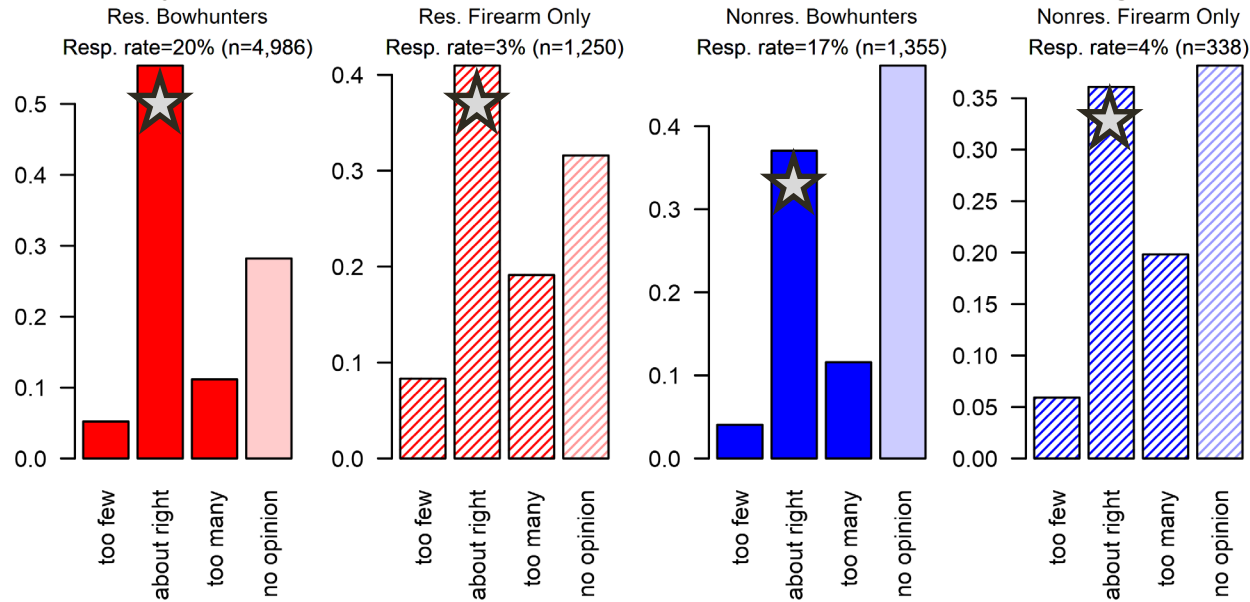
- Majority had “no opinion”, but among choices selected:
 - Residents chose “too many” for mule deer archery hunters on public land and Nonresidents chose “about right”

How do you feel about the # of resident whitetail archery hunters



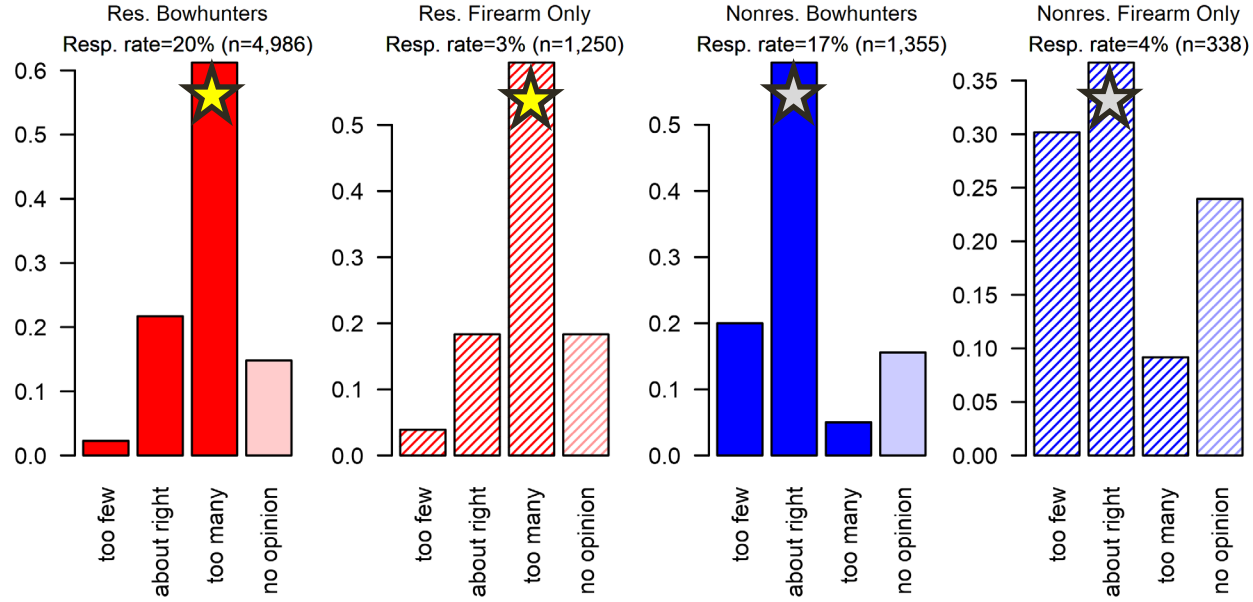
- All hunter groups chose **“about right”** most for **resident whitetail and mule deer archery hunters**

How do you feel about the # of resident mule deer archery hunters



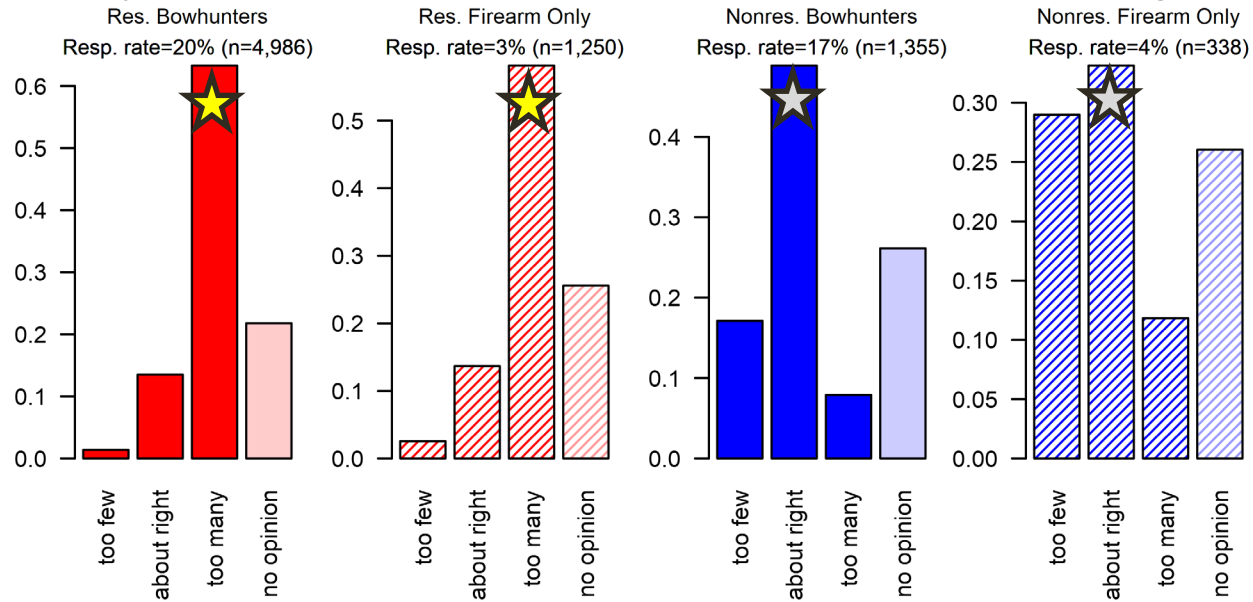
- Firearm hunters chose a higher proportion of **“too many”** compared to archery

How do you feel about the # of nonresident whitetail archery hunters

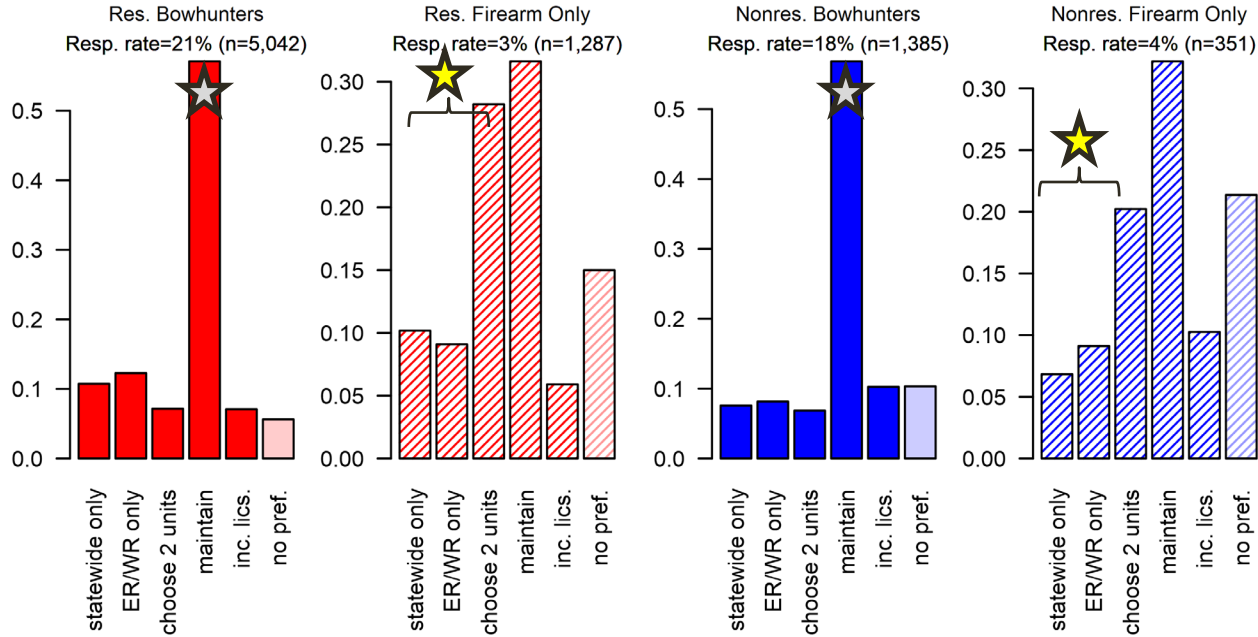


- Residents chose “too many” and nonresidents chose “about right” for nonresident whitetail and mule deer archery hunters

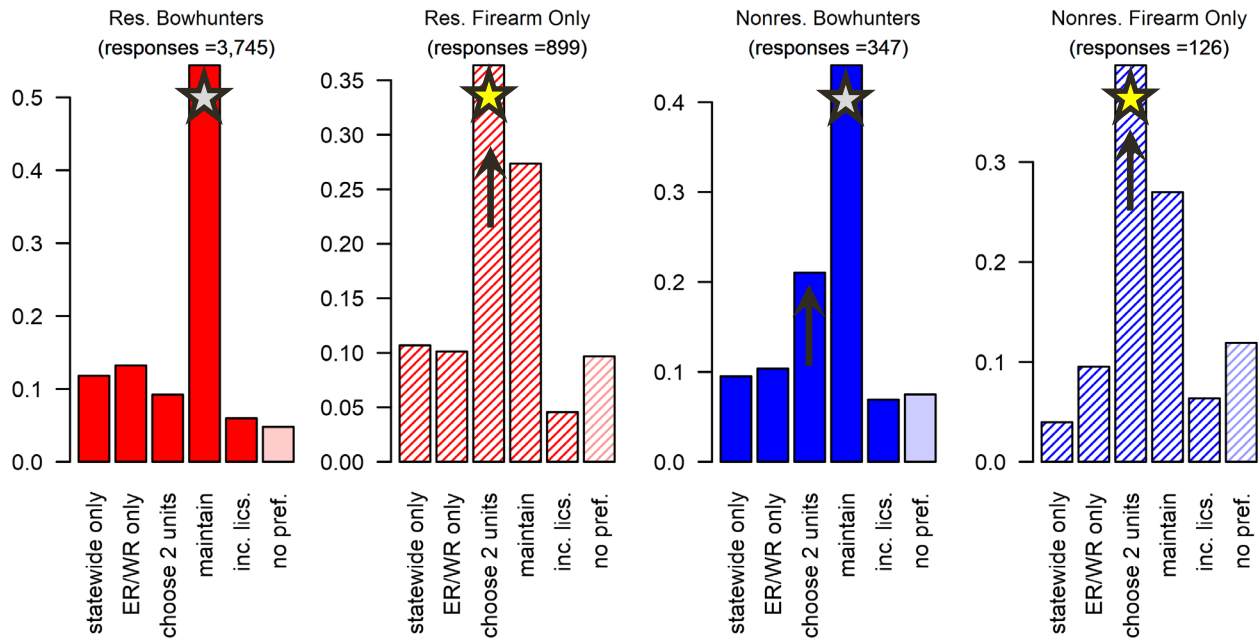
How do you feel about the # of nonresident mule deer archery hunters



Choice regarding the # of any deer archery licenses per hunter



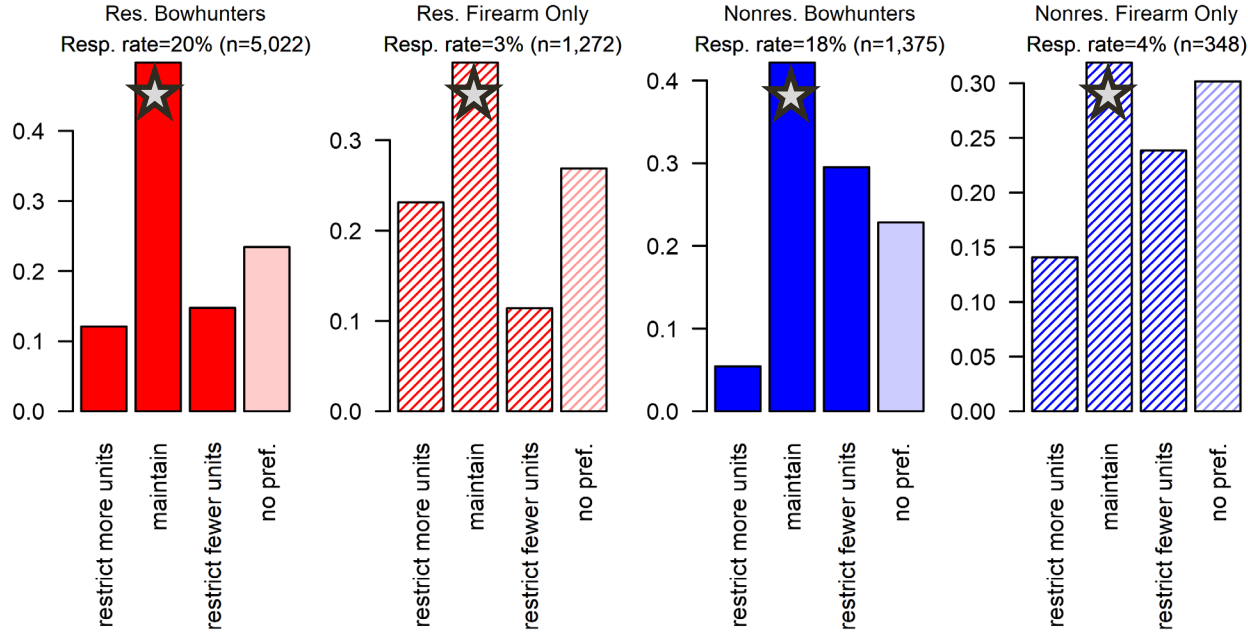
- Archery hunters chose “maintain”
- Firearm hunters chose to limit archery licenses, but no single choice > “maintain”



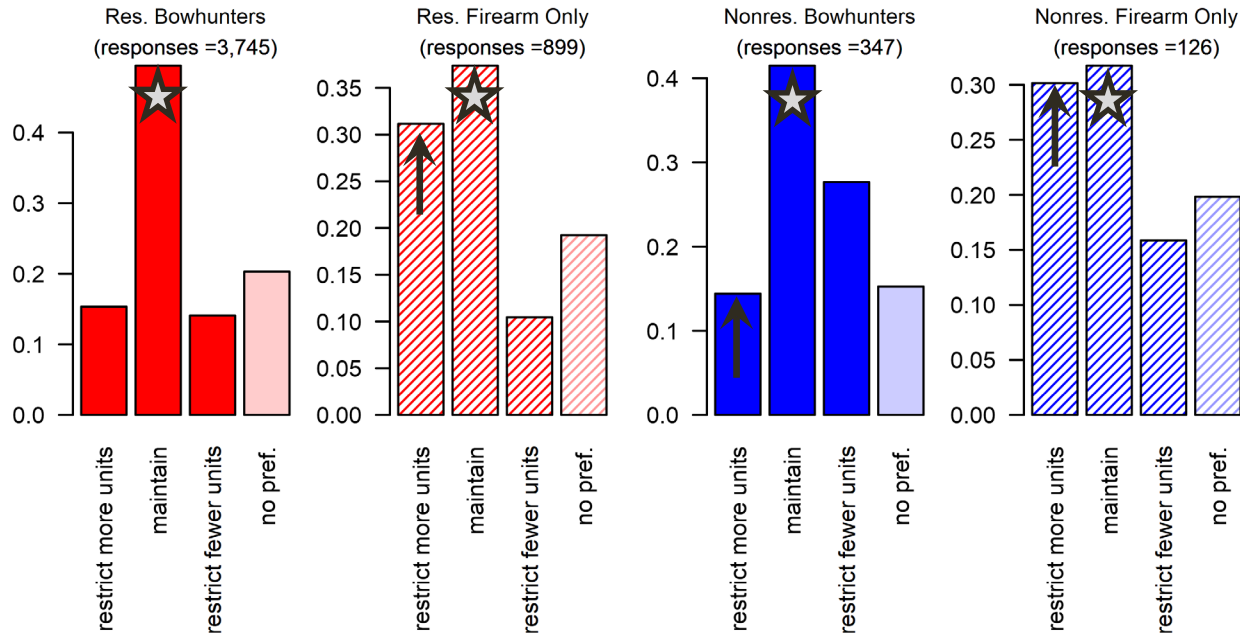
Results from respondents that selected “too many” archery hunters for at least 1 of the previous questions

- No change for resident archery hunters
- Nonresident archery hunters indicated “choose 2 units” more compared to all respondents
- All firearm hunters felt archery hunters should be limited by “choosing 2 units”

Choice regarding the # of limited access units



- All hunters chose “maintain”



Results from respondents that selected “too many” archery hunters for at least 1 of the previous questions

- Resident archery hunter choices changed little
- Nonresident archery hunters and all firearm hunters chose “restrict more units” at a higher proportion compared to all respondents