



JASON A. SHIPMAN
Certified Wildlife Biologist
Boone & Crockett Club Official Measurer

Wildlife & Habitat Consulting
Commercial Hunts

La Parita Ranch Helicopter Survey Conducted 9-30-25

Acreage: 1056 Majority County: Atascosa
Observers: Arrowhead Helicopter Services & Jason Shipman
Start: 8:00am End: 9:30am
Conditions: Cool, Calm, & Clear

Raw Data As Observed

Immature Bucks	Medium Bucks	Mature Bucks	Total Bucks	Does	Fawns	Hogs	Coyotes	Quail Coveys
20	40	12	72	91	66	0	2	29

Other: Axis (5B/11D/1F), 18 Javelinas, & 1 Badger

Buck:Doe Ratio: 1:1.26

Fawn Crop: 73%

Observed Deer Per Acre: 1:4.61





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OBSERVATIONS

It was a pleasure to fly the preseason helicopter survey at the ranch. Conditions were favorable and the survey went well. Transects were flown low, tight, and slow. The data obtained during the course of the survey and resulting population estimate is a good representation of the current population. Additional data from the infrared camera survey and subsequent inventory of individual bucks can be used in conjunction with herd composition data from the helicopter survey to obtain a better overall picture of the herd.

Following is a brief summary of the current population data observed from this year's survey. Density as observed indicates 1 deer per approximately 4.61 acres with a buck to doe ratio of 1:1.26. There were 0.73 fawns per doe (73% fawn crop). 72 bucks, 91 does, and 66 fawns were observed for a total of 229 deer. Other notables included: axis (5B/11D/1F), 18 javelinas, 2 coyotes, 1 badger, and 29 coveys of quail.

The genetic potential of the existing herd is excellent with big frames, great mass, and abnormal points noted during the survey. A strategic harvest will help maximize the genetic potential of the herd and tracking individual bucks from year to year remains an important task moving forward. Monitor feed/water sources closely and implement predator control to help recruitment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Producing great trophy deer takes time and money. One of the keys to success is consistency. Harvest goals pertaining to culling and density levels must be met every year, feed and water sources must be maintained, etc. Utilizing the right management techniques is paramount to the success of your wildlife program.

Recommendations include the following:

- Continued enrollment in MLDP program for harvest flexibility (Conservation Option)
- Utilize the DMP pens to maximize genetic gains in the future as necessary
- Conduct annual preseason helicopter survey to fulfill MLD requirements
- Conduct annual preseason infrared camera survey and inventory bucks
- Implement a stringent culling program targeting the bottom of all age classes
- Record all harvest data to track management program & fulfill MLD requirements
- Implement a predator control program utilizing snares to keep fawn crops elevated
- Implement habitat management practices to fulfill MLD requirements (shredding, fallow disking, brush control, providing water, etc)



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- Utilize fallow disking and shredding to promote forage diversity
- Consider pear/brush control on prior cleared strips throughout ranch
- Monitor supplemental feed and water sources closely

Harvest recommendations this year include 22 bucks and 48 does

Please refer to the included population model. It is absolutely imperative to the success of the program that the right deer are harvested each year. Intensify culling efforts on the buck segment of the herd by utilizing the inventory and targeting the bottom of all age classes prior to the rut. The doe harvest should focus on the older age classes to help improve genetics while maintaining a desired density.

In summary, the ranch is producing phenomenal deer! It has been an exciting and very rewarding project. I look forward to continued involvement with the wildlife management program and helping with the process of making it even better in the coming years! Please let me know if you have any questions as the season progresses.

DEER POPULATION SUMMARY

Ranch: La Parita Ranch

Survey Technique: Helicopter

County: Atascosa

Year: 2025

Survey Route/Pasture	Date	Deer Observed					Acres Sampled	Acres Per Deer	Deer Per 1,000 Ac.
		Bucks	Does	Fawns	Undet	Total			
La Parita Ranch	9/30/2025	72	91	66		229	1,056	4.61	216.9
Survey Totals		72	91	66		229	1,056	4.61	216.9
Incidental Observations									
Combined Totals		72	91	66		229			

Ranch Size (ac.): 1,056

Acres/Deer: 4.61

Does/Buck: 1.26

Fawns/Doe: 0.73

Composition -

Bucks: 31.4%

Does: 39.7%

Fawns: 28.8%

Deer/1,000Ac: 216.86

Adult/1,000Ac: 154.36

Acres/Adult: 6.48

Estimated Population -

Bucks: 72

Does: 91

Fawns: 66

Total: 229

Harvest Recommendation

Antlered Bucks: Observations: 20 Young/40 Middle Aged/12 Mature
Utilize trail camera inventory to facilitate a selective harvest
Harvest cull and mgmt bucks early (Oct/Nov)
Target the bottom of the age classes

Antlerless Deer: Implement doe harvest to maintain density - harvest oldest does

Remarks: Additional Observations: Axis (5B/11D/1F), 18 Javelinas, 2 Coyotes,
1 Badger, & 29 Coveys

Implement predator control efforts (snaring/aerial)
Monitor feed and water sources closely

DEER HARVEST RECOMMENDATION

Ranch: La Parita Ranch County: Atascosa Year: 2025

Objective & Goals: _____

Ranch Size: 1,056 acres

Estimated Deer Population:	Bucks	72
	Does	91
	Fawns	66
	Total	229

1. Recommended Population Harvest
 229 Total Deer X Kill Rate = 70 Deer Harvest Quota

2. Recommended Buck Harvest
 72 Total Bucks X Kill Rate = 22 Buck Harvest Quota

3. Recommended Doe or Antlerless Deer Harvest
 70 Recommended Deer Harvest Quota
 -22 Recommended Buck Harvest Quota
 48 Recommended Doe Or Antlerless Deer Harvest Quota

53% Of The Does Recommended To Be Harvested

4. Recommended Spike Buck Harvest
 22 Buck Harvest X Spike Kill Rate = 0 Spike Buck Quota

5. Potential Effect of The Harvest

	Bucks	Does	Fawns
Census	72	91	66
Rec. Har.	-22	-48	
	50	43	
Yearlings	33	33	
Carryover	83	76	

Estimated Winter Density 6.64 acres/deer
 Estimated Winter Sex Ratio 0.92 does/buck

Remarks: _____

La Parita Ranch
Helicopter Survey Photos 9-30-25





















CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT A STRATEGIC HARVEST TARGETING THE BOTTOM OF THE AGE CLASSES



MONITOR FEED AND WATER SOURCES CLOSELY



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CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT SHREDDING/DISKING TO INCREASE FORAGE PRODUCTIVITY AND DIVERSITY



IMPLEMENT BRUSH MANAGEMENT AS NECESSARY – LEAVE MOTTES TO MAXIMIZE EDGE EFFECT













