White-Tailed Deer Spotlight Survey – 2013

Count	Date	Acres Visible	Buck	Doe	Fawn	Unidentified	Total Observed	Density – Acres/Deer
1	08/20/2013	75	2	20	14	0	36	2.08
2	09/07/2013	75	1	14	11	0	26	2.88
3	09/24/2013	75	4	20	6	0	30	2.50
Total		225	7	54	31	0	92	2.46

Cumulative Census Statistics:

    White-Tailed Deer Density   2.5 Acres per Deer

    Doe-to-Buck Ration   7.71

    Fawn-to-Doe Ratio   0.57

    Percentage of Dee by Category

        Bucks   7.61%

        Doe   58.69%

        Fawns   33.69%

    Estimated Deer on Seven Falls Ranch   337

        Bucks   25.64

        Doe   197.78

        Fawns   113.53

    Recommended Harvest   37

    1 Buck/150 Acres*/#   5

    1 Doe/25 Acres*/#   33

    Estimated Post Season Density   3.33

    * Recommended Harvest Rates for Gillespie County by TPWD

    # Recommended Wildlife Biologist Harvest Rate of 20%

Harvest Recommendations:

1) Heavy emphasis must be placed on the harvesting of Doe. Over the last several years, the ranch has harvested fewer doe then harvest estimates and as a result, the population is approaching overpopulation.

2) the harvest of spike bucks should be included in the buck harvest quota, not added to it. Harvesting spike buck will remove poor quality buck from the herd at an early age.

3) the harvest of young, immature buck should be restricted. Deer body characteristics, in addition to antler characteristics, should be used to determine the relative age of buck on-the hoof.

Records Management:

as set forth by TPWD, the following information will be included:

A) Sex

B) Weight

C) Antler measurements; inside spread & number of points

D) Age