



# 2024 VERMONT MOOSE HARVEST REPORT





Most of the programs described in this report are funded through the *Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program*. This program was initiated in 1937 as the Federal Aid in Wildlife Act and created a system whereby taxes are paid on firearms, ammunition and archery equipment by the public who hunts. Today this excise tax generates more than one hundred million dollars each year that are dedicated to state wildlife restoration and management projects across the United States. The State of Vermont uses these monies for acquiring land, and for restoring and managing wildlife. These excise tax dollars, coupled with state hunting license fees, have been the predominant source of money funding the successful restoration and management of Vermont’s wildlife resources.

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*The MISSION of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont.*

## Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

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# 2024 Moose Harvest Report

## Overview

Hunters harvested a total of 62 moose during Vermont's two moose hunting seasons in 2024, providing about 75,000 servings of local, nutritious moose venison. The Department issued a total of 178 moose hunting permits for wildlife management units E1 and E2. These included 80 either-sex permits and 98 permits for antlerless moose only. Success rates for the archery season were close to normal, while success rates during the regular season were the lowest ever for these WMUs (**Table 1**).

Temperatures were slightly above normal during the archery season at the start of October. However, the season coincided with peak rut activity, which helped hunters have some success. The regular season saw hot and dry conditions, with record or near-record high temperatures for the first 5 days. These poor weather conditions contributed to the unusually low success rates. As is typically the case, daily harvests were highest early in the season, and the lowest daily harvest occurred on the last day (**Table 2**).

**Table 1. 2024 Moose permit distribution and harvest by season, permit type, and Wildlife Management Unit.**

Season	Permit Type	WMU	Permits	Bulls	Cows	Male	Female	Total	% Success
						Calves	Calves		
Archery	Either-sex	E1	13	6	0	0	0	6	46%
		E2	10	6	0	0	0	6	60%
		Total	23	12	0	0	0	12	52%
Regular	Either-sex	E1	32	7	2	0	0	9	28%
		E2	25	8	3	0	1	12	48%
		Total	57	15	5	0	1	21	37%
	Antlerless-only	E1	54	1	13	0	0	14	26%
		E2	44	0	15	0	0	15	34%
		Total	98	1	28	0	0	29	30%
Regular Season Total			155	16	33	0	1	50	32%
All Seasons Total			178	28	33	0	1	62	35%

## Archery Season (October 1–7, 2024)

The Department issued 20 either-sex permits by lottery for the archery season, and all three auction permit winners elected to hunt the archery season. These 23 hunters harvested 12 moose (all bulls) for a 52 percent success rate (**Table 1**).

The heaviest moose taken during the archery season weighed 923 pounds and was taken in Bloomfield. The widest spread was 59 inches on a bull taken in Averill, and the most antler points (18) were on another bull taken in Averill (**Table 3**).

**Table 2. 2024 Moose harvest by day during the archery and regular seasons.**

Day of Season	Archery	Regular
1	2	10
2	2	13
3	2	11
4	1	6
5	0	7
6	5	3
7	0	-

## Regular Season (October 19–24, 2024)

A total of 155 permits were issued for the regular season, including 152 permits issued by lottery and 3 Special Opportunity Permits issued through a sponsoring organization to youths with a life-threatening illness. Ninety-eight of the permits issued by lottery were for antlerless moose only.

Hunters harvested 50 moose for an overall success rate of 32 percent. Hunters with either-sex permits harvested 21 moose for a 37 percent success rate, while hunters with antlerless only permits harvested 29 moose for a 30 percent success rate (Table 1).

The heaviest moose taken during the regular season weighed 797 pounds and was taken in Lewis. The widest spread (60 inches) was on a bull taken in Averill, and the most antler points (23) were on a bull taken in Granby (Table 3).

### Biological Data Collection

All harvested moose were reported to the Department-run check station in Island Pond. This allowed Department biologists to collect important information from harvested moose to assess the status and health of the population.

In addition to age, weight, and antler measurements, biologists also counted winter ticks to assess their abundance and continuing impact on moose. Ovaries were collected to provide critical information on reproductive rates.

A summary of these biological data and the current status of the moose population will be provided in the Department's annual moose harvest recommendation.

## Looking to the Future

The management objective for wildlife management units E1 and E2 continues to be the reduction of the moose population to reduce the impacts of winter ticks and improve the health of moose. The harvest of 33 cow moose in 2024 was an important step in that direction.

The Department will present its 2025 Moose Harvest Recommendation to the Fish and Wildlife Board in February.

## Geographic Distribution

Moose were taken in 14 different towns. Towns with the highest harvests were Averill (11), East Haven (11), and Granby (8). Figure 1 shows the harvest locations for moose taken in 2024.

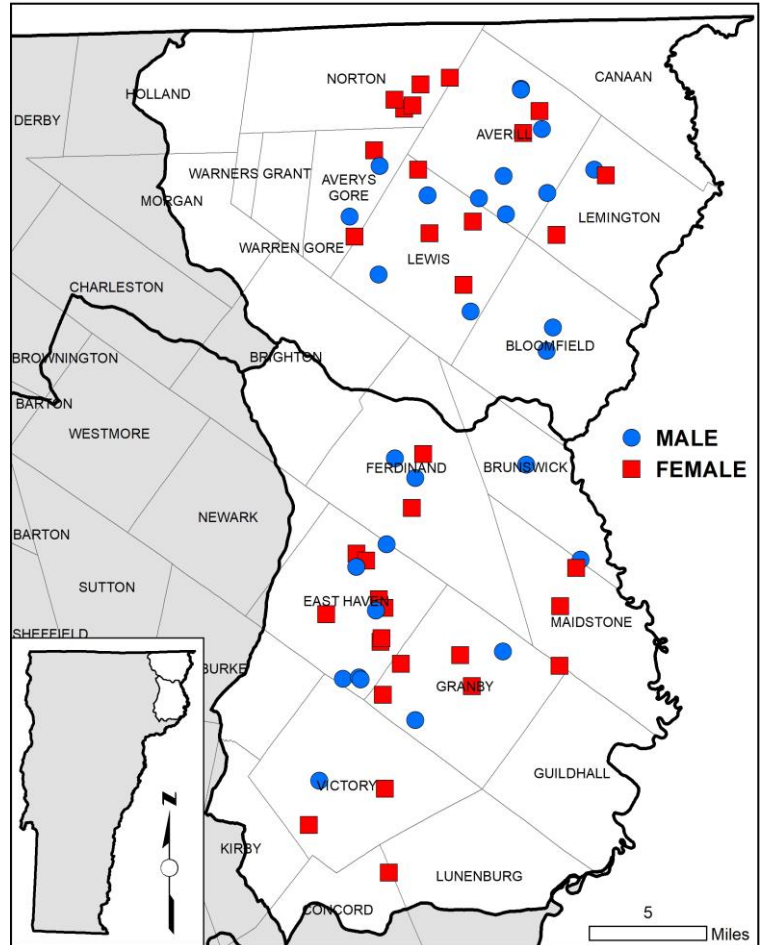


Figure 1. Harvest locations of moose taken during the 2024 moose hunting seasons.

**Table 3. Moose harvested during the 2024 moose hunting seasons.**

HUNTER	SEASON	WMU	TOWN	SEX	WEIGHT (lbs)	SPREAD (in)	POINTS	AGE
BAILEY	REGULAR	E2	FERDINAND	F	596			5
BANCROFT	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	M	344	21	4	1
BANDY	REGULAR	E2	VICTORY	F	551			2
BEGGS	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	F	544			8
BENOIT	REGULAR	E1	BRIGHTON	F	312			1
BERGERON	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	F	524			6
BOYER	ARCHERY	E1	BLOOMFIELD	M	923	54	17	5
BREEN	REGULAR	E1	BLOOMFIELD	M	608	40	13	4
BUSHEY	REGULAR	E1	LEMINGTON	F	410			2
BUTTERFIELD	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F	627			6
CATELLA	REGULAR	E2	VICTORY	M	298	19	3	1
CHAUVIN	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	M	692	57.5	23	12
CUBIT	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	F	526			4
CURRIER	ARCHERY	E1	AVERY'S GORE	M	548	32	12	2
DELABRUERE	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	M	390	13.5	2	1
DUFFY	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	F	469			5
ELDRED	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F	556			5
FOLEY	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F				1
FUCCI	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F	539			3
GOAD	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	M	474	30	12	2
GONYAW	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	M	797	45	14	6
GRANGER	REGULAR	E2	MAIDSTONE	F	357			1
GRATTON	REGULAR	E2	VICTORY	F	520			2
HAMPERS	ARCHERY	E1	LEMINGTON	M		36	8	2
HANDFIELD	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	M	785	60	21	3
HILL	REGULAR	E2	FERDINAND	M	791	48	15	7
HITT	REGULAR	E2	VICTORY	F	508			6
HOFFMANN	REGULAR	E2	CONCORD	F	278			1
HUTCHINS	ARCHERY	E1	AVERILL	M		52.5	16	9
LANTAGNE	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	F	400			1
LONGWAY	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	F	241			1
LONGWAY	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	F	574			3
MADISON	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	F	493			3
MANAHAN	REGULAR	E2	MAIDSTONE	F	423			2
MANNING	ARCHERY	E2	AVERILL	M	832	51	18	7
MCMAMARA	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	F	194			0
MEUNIER	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	F	502			8
MEUNIER	REGULAR	E2	MAIDSTONE	M	685	38	11	6
MUTHER	ARCHERY	E2	BRUNSWICK	M		50	11	7
NELSON	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	F	643			7
PIKE	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	544	33	6	4
POTTER	ARCHERY	E1	AVERILL	M	827	59	17	8
RAVELIN	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	587	33	7	3
REMILLARD	ARCHERY	E2	FERDINAND	M	484	19.5	4	1
RITZ	ARCHERY	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	732	47.5	17	10

**Table 3. Moose harvested during the 2024 moose hunting seasons, continued.**

HUNTER	SEASON	WMU	TOWN	SEX	WEIGHT (lbs)	SPREAD (in)	POINTS	AGE
ROY	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	791	44	15	4
ROYCE	REGULAR	E1	AVERILL	M	784	57.5	21	4
SANDERSON	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	F	426			1
SARGENT	REGULAR	E1	LEMINGTON	F	498			5
SCOTT	ARCHERY	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	713	38	14	3
SIMULA	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	F	462			7
STEVENS	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	F				4
STROHMAIER	REGULAR	E2	EAST HAVEN	F	512			5
THRESHER	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	M	519	33	9	2
UNMACHT	ARCHERY	E2	EAST HAVEN	M	746	50	13	9
VALLETT	REGULAR	E2	FERDINAND	F	309			1
WERTH	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	F	619			4
WHELPLEY	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F	581			7
WHITE	REGULAR	E1	NORTON	F	443			4
WHITE	REGULAR	E2	GRANBY	F	662			3
WHITTEMORE	ARCHERY	E1	AVERILL	M	509	25.5	10	2
WRIGHT	REGULAR	E1	LEWIS	M	663		4	6