

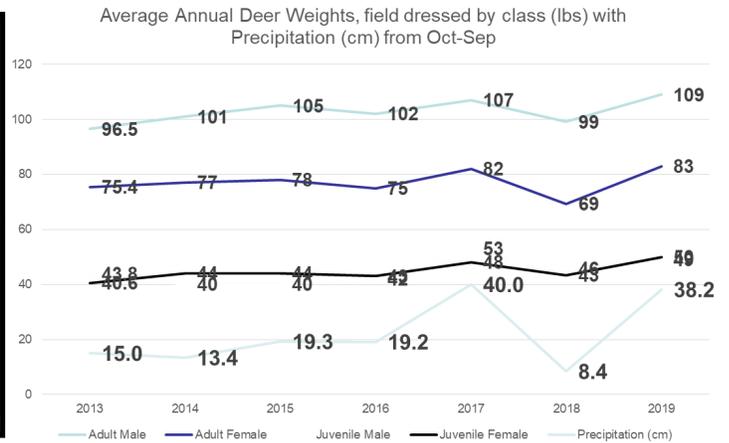
CAMP PENDLETON DEER HUNTING

2019 Season Summary

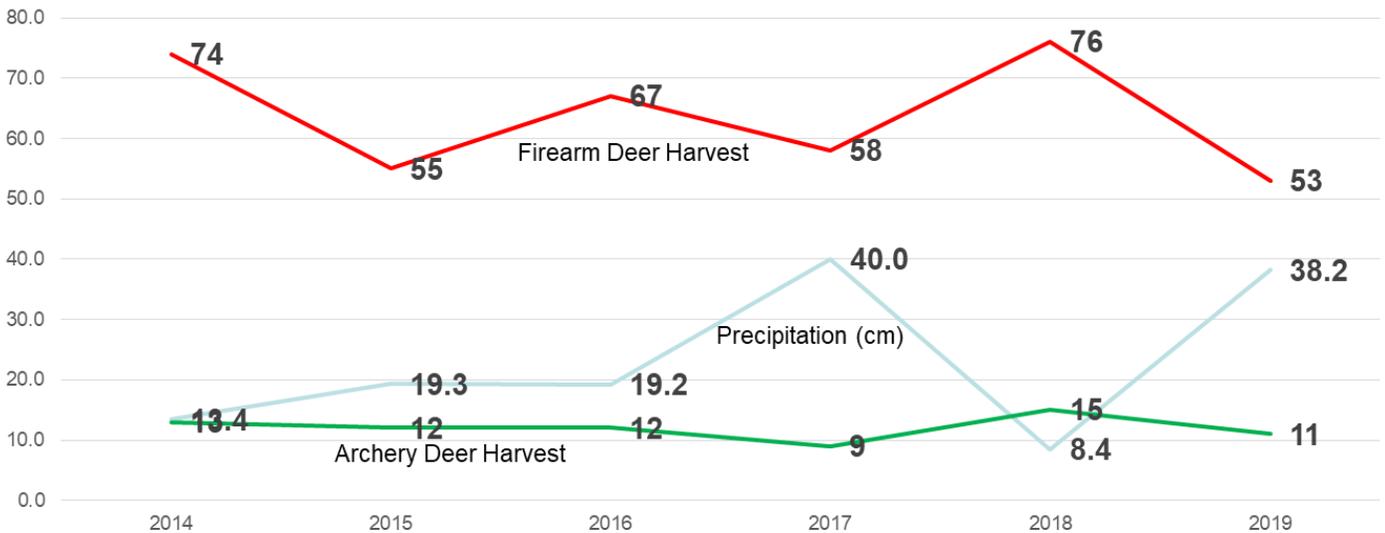
ARCHERY EFFORT: 891 hunts, 9 bucks/2 does harvested; highest archery effort on record

FIREARM EFFORT: 555 hunts, 24 bucks/29 does harvested, many areas under hunted due to weather/training

RAINFALL IS KING! More rain means more food, which means bigger animals. The top graph shows **weights** for bucks, does, and yearlings going up and down with the rainfall. But, the **harvest** appears to lag a year after heavy or light rains. While the 2019 rains meant big animals in 2019, it will likely mean a big harvest in 2020. The low 2018 rains likely lowered the 2019 harvest.



Precipitation and Harvest



UAVs ARE THE FUTURE! The white hot image of a deer in thick vegetation is easy to see with an infrared camera on a unmanned aerial vehicle. In 2016, the Game Wardens' helicopter cut a powerline and made an emergency landing while counting deer. In 2017, Wardens tried using a Shadow UAV, but could not tell a bison from a bush. In 2018, Wardens used a Reaper, and could see a deer twitch an ear from 14,000'. In 2019, Wardens conducted a scientific survey over the base with the Reaper. In 2018, Wardens used a Puma, but deer and boulders looked the same. In 2019, Wardens used a Puma during a cold night at much lower elevation and found deer easily. Great progress!

