



SCOTT FITZGERALD

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 3, 2015

Contact: Scott Fitzgerald, 608-266-5660

NOTE: This column is being submitted by Sen. Scott Fitzgerald for your consideration to print.

Fitzgerald Congratulates Hunters on Another Safe, Successful Season

One of Wisconsin's finest outdoor traditions continued this year as hunters took to the woods for another successful gun deer season. Both experienced sportsmen and 23,870 first-time hunters participated in this year's season.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has released the final summary of the state's 2015 nine-day season. The agency reported that incident rates continued their annual decline with DNR agents investigating only eight hunting-related incidents: five non-fatal and three fatal.

While these incidents are regrettable, the trend towards an increasingly safe annual hunting season continued in 2015. This year saw a drop in hunting incident rates to only 1.31 incidents per 100,000 hunters, a figure below Wisconsin's ten-year average. This decrease took place despite the rise in the number of participants in this year's deer hunt, with 612,377 gun deer licenses sold in 2015.

I am proud that Wisconsin's annual deer hunt continues to be a shining example of responsible firearm-ownership. Year after year, Wisconsin's legal gun owners take to the woods during the deer hunting season with a wide variety of firearms, and exercise their second amendment rights safely and largely without incident. This year was no exception, with the number of hunting incidents decreasing while the number of licenses sold went up.

Congratulations to Wisconsin's hunters on harvesting more than 200,000 deer this year, and thank you for making this another safe and successful season.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) represent the 13th Senate District, which covers portions of Dodge, Jefferson, Waukesha, Washington, Dane, and Columbia counties.

###

STATE CAPITOL

P.O. Box 7882 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53707-7882 • SEN.FITZGERALD@LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV

TELEPHONE: (608) 266-5660