### **MANAGEMENT**

Elk are primarily grazers and browsers. They prefer a landscape with open or young habitat. The DNR manages this property by cutting old timber to create young forests and by planting food plots on state land.





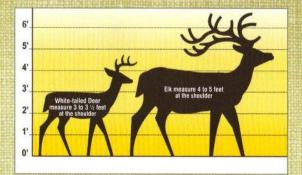
### **HUNTING MICHIGAN'S ELK**

Elk hunting is frequently called the hunt of a lifetime for many Michigan residents. Elk hunting is the primary tool used to maintain the balance between elk numbers and habitat, while also addressing crop damage concerns. Elk hunting has occurred annually since 1984. Between 30,000 to 40,000 people apply for a chance to hunt elk every year. The number of licenses issued generally ranges from 150-400 and depends on the current population and condition of the habitat.

# ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF ELK MANAGEMENT

Through an important partnership effort with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the DNR is working to improve elk viewing areas and elk viewing educational materials and programs.

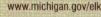
### **ELK FACTS**



Weight:	350 to 900 pounds	
Height:	4½ to 5 feet at the shoulder	
Winter Coat:	Head, neck, and legs are dark brown while its sides and back are much lighter	
Summer Coat:	Deep red-brown	
Antlers:	Grow annually on male elk up to 40 pounds in weight	
Food:	Grass, forbs, shrubs, trees	
Young: Calves born late May early Ju 25-30 pounds		
Breeding:	Late September to early October	
Population:	500-900	



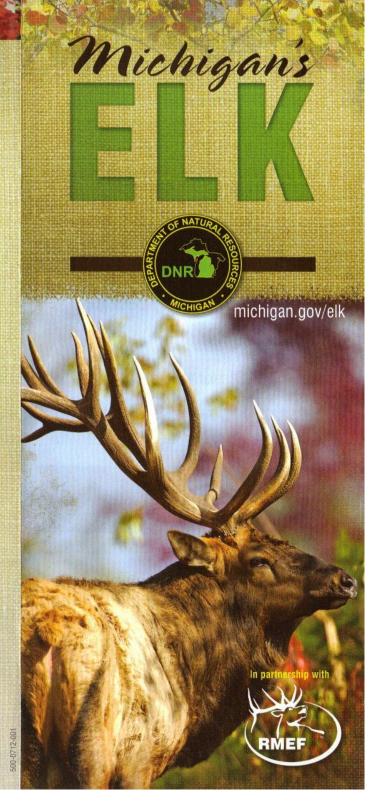








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# THE 2012 MICHIGAN ELK PLAN CHARGES THE DNR TO:

- 1) manage for a sustainable elk population in balance with habitat;
- 2) use hunting as the primary method to control elk numbers; and
- 3) to enhance public understanding of elk management in Michigan.

## LEGEND



**Elk Viewing Locations** 

---- Roads

---- Streams

Highway

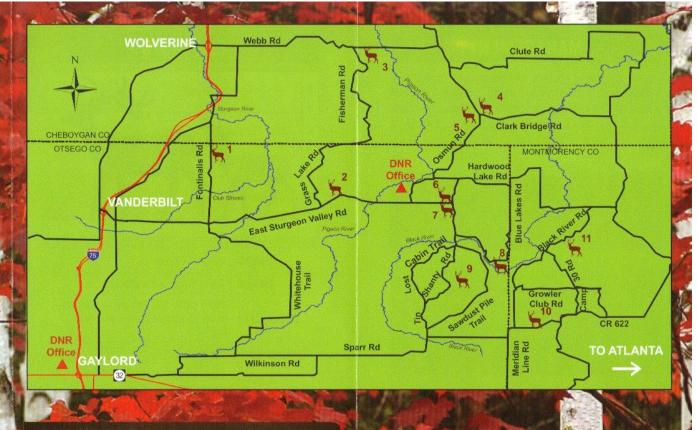


County Lines

### **ELK VIEWING LOCATIONS**

POINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	TYPE
1	45.185438	84.590372	at road
2	45.163343	84.499068	at road
3	45.26595	84.476635	hike
4	45.227167	84.387321	at road
5	45.219453	84.395627	hike
6	45.157258	84.41319	at road
7	45.149517	84.415166	hike
8	45.111883	84.377355	at road
9	45.09745	84.40406	hike
10	45.067578	84.349172	at road
11	45.12638	84.32985	at road

DECIMAL DEGREES



### **ELK VIEWING**

The most popular time to view elk is during the breeding season in September and October when they are feeding in open grassy areas and bulls are bugling. Summer observations are difficult due to leaf cover and viewing is limited. The best times to view elk are at dawn and dusk. Elk should be appreciated at a distance and individuals should not try to approach the animal. Most viewing locations can be accessed by seasonal roads; however, some may require a short hike. Viewing locations are not always marked and elk will not always be present. Elk may be viewed in many areas of the elk range.

www.michigan.gov/elk

