Hunter Participation in Multi-landowner Cooperatives: Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative

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Bradley Fund for the Environment - Sand County Foundation

USDA- Forest Service Northern Research Station

Safari Club International- Michigan Involvement Committee
Where I’m Headed

- Establishment of the KQDC
- Where is the KQDC?
- Participation in antlerless deer hunting
- Questionnaire administration
- Summary Stats
- Structural Equation Model
- Limitations, Conclusions, & Implications
Establishment of the KQDC
Establishment of the KQDC
Establishment of the KQDC
Where is the KQDC?
Where is the KQDC?
Motivation

Future willingness to participate in hunting

Satisfaction with hunting experience
Motivation

Constraints

Satisfaction with hunting experience

Future willingness to participate in hunting
Motivation

Constraints

Future willingness to participate in hunting

Satisfaction with hunting experience
Participation in Antlerless Deer Hunting

Motivation

Constraints

Satisfaction with hunting experience

Future willingness to participate in antlerless hunting
Personal interviews to develop survey questions $n=25$

Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative

A survey of your opinions
2014
Personal interviews to develop survey questions $n=25$

Past, Recent and Continuous Hunters- stratified sample
Personal interviews to develop survey questions $n=25$

Past, Recent and Continuous Hunters- stratified sample

Mail back questionnaire administered in Spring 2014
Analysis

- Personal interviews to develop survey questions \( n=25 \)
- Past, Recent and Continuous Hunters- stratified sample
- Mail back questionnaire administered in Spring 2014
- Exploratory Factor Analysis
- Structural Equation Modeling

Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative
A survey of your opinions
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Summary Stats

- \( n=489 \) (51% response rate)
- Average age 56 years with 40 years hunting experience
- 65% hunted KQDC in 2013: Past hunters \((n=40)\), Recent hunters \((n=180)\), Continuous hunters \((n=95)\).
- Future participation mean=3.89 \((n=488)\)
- Satisfaction with hunting experience mean=2.75 \((n=464)\)
Factor Analysis
Exploratory

- Motivations
  - Cooperative-KQDC
  - Goal
  - Nostalgic

- Constraints
  - Personal
  - Opportunity-KQDC
  - No knowledge
  - Monetary
Percentage of KQDC hunters motivations and likelihood of future participation based on 2013 harvest success $n=256$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None $(n=15)$</th>
<th>Goal-Orient. $(n=90)$</th>
<th>Nostalgic $(n=10)$</th>
<th>2+ Motivations $(n=141)$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Killed a deer -&gt; Participation</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maybe</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exploratory
  o Motivations
    o Cooperative-KQDC
    o Goal
    o Nostalgic
  o Constraints
    o Personal
    o Opportunity-KQDC
    o No knowledge
    o Monetary

Confirmatory
  o Motivation
    o Altruistic-KQDC
    o Extrinsic-KQDC
  o Constraints
    o Situational
      • No opportunity-KQDC
      • No connection-KQDC
    o Personal
      • Monetary
      • No control
Hunters are willing to hunt on the KQDC in the future which allows for continued engagement.
Implications and Conclusions

- Hunters are willing to hunt on the KQDC in the future which allows for continued engagement.

- Hunters perceive situational (KQDC) constraints which can inform habitat management in the future.
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Future participation does differ based on harvest success.
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Hunters have a sense of place, and aren’t different from traditional hunters which means they are willing to hunt on the KQDC in the future.
Thank you!

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Happy hunting!