



Summary of 2018-2023 Deer Browse Data at Griffy Lake Nature Preserve

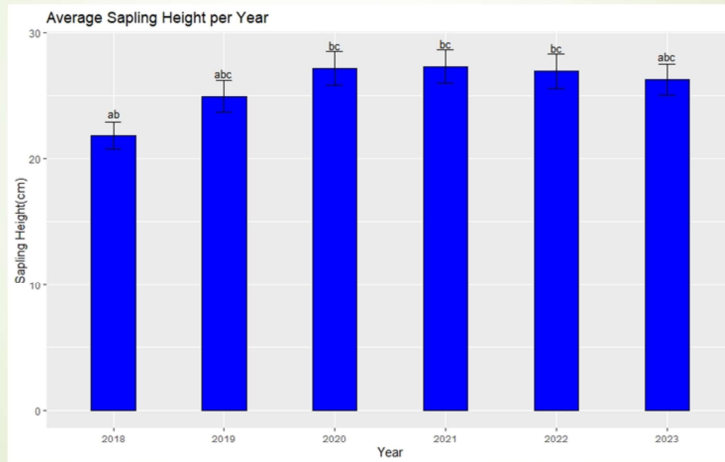
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All metrics seem to stagnating with continued significant browse

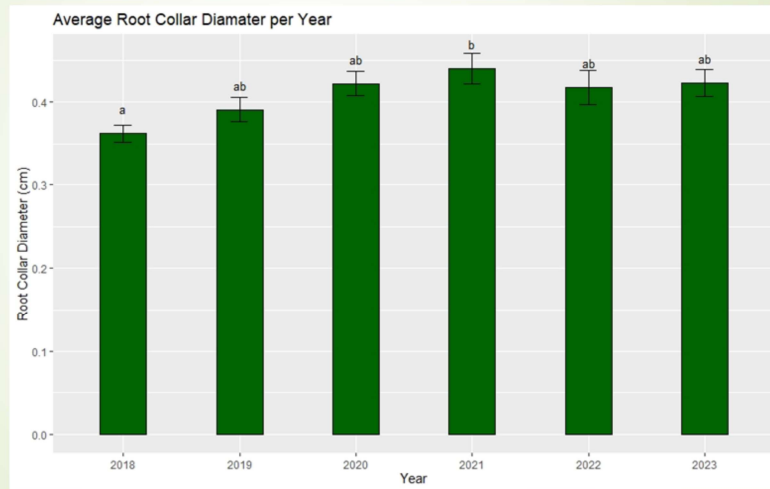
- After promising recoveries in metrics between 2019 and 2021, most are nearly unchanged since 2021
- Increasing the efficacy of the cull may be necessary for a resumption of improvements



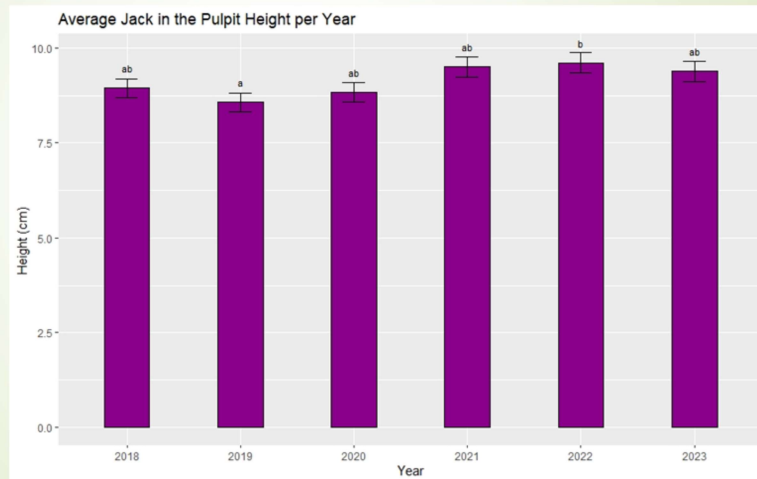
Woody Sapling Height Data



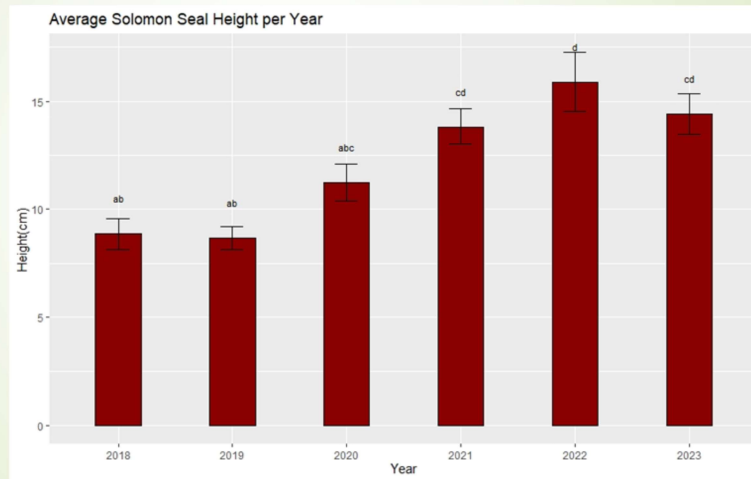
Woody Sapling Root Collar Diameter




Jack in the Pulpit Height



Solomon's Seal Height





Summary of 2023 Findings

- All metrics have stagnated so significant trends since 2021
- While browse has moderated since the culls began, browse remains locally heavy
- Woody plant growth rate are affected by dry soils from recent summer flash droughts independent of deer browse.
- After years of steady increases, Solomon's seal height fell slightly in 2023
- Jack-in-the-pulpit height has been nearly level the past 3 years
- The browse is heaviest in the Griffy Creek valley upstream from the reservoir in areas where invasive privet provides abundant winter browse
- Deer both benefit from and spread invasive species
- Both issue must be tackled to prevent further degradation of the park

Invasive Plant are another threat to Griffy Lake NP

