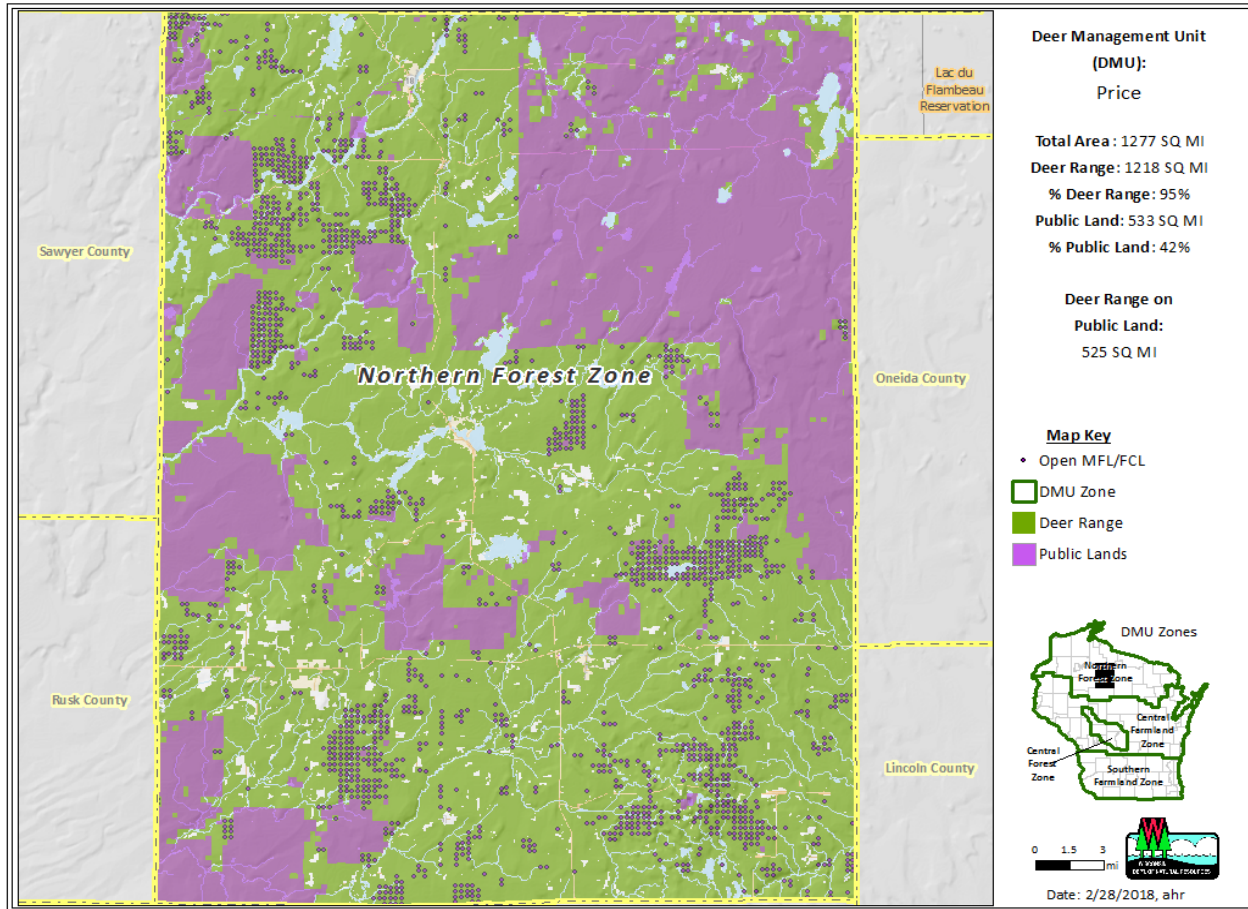


Price County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Price County Deer Management Unit is located in the Northern Forest Zone. Approximately 95 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. Habitat within the county varies widely from the northern hardwood stands of the National Forest in the northeast, to mixed deciduous forests of the west and central and the mix of scattered deciduous forests, alder swamps and agricultural lands in the south. Approximately 41 percent of the unit is open to public hunting. The public land consists of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Price County Forest, Kimberly Clark Wildlife Area, Spring Creek Wildlife Area and private and/or industrial forests enrolled in the open Managed Forest Law and Forest Crop Law programs. Hunter densities on opening day of the 9-day gun deer season range from 6-15 hunters per square mile of deer range with the highest in the southern one-third of the unit. Buck harvest rates follow a similar trend with 2-3 antlered bucks harvested per square mile of deer range in the south and 1-2 in the north. Deer densities had trended downward in much of the unit after the record harsh winter of 2013-14, but are now increasing throughout the unit. The current deer herd management objective is to maintain the population.

Deer Management Unit Harvest History

Fawn to doe ratios collected in late summer give information on fawn recruitment and survival and are used as an input into the formula for annual deer herd abundance estimation. Fawn to doe ratios were summarized using groups of county deer management units. County deer management units were grouped based on location, habitat characteristics, and deer demography.