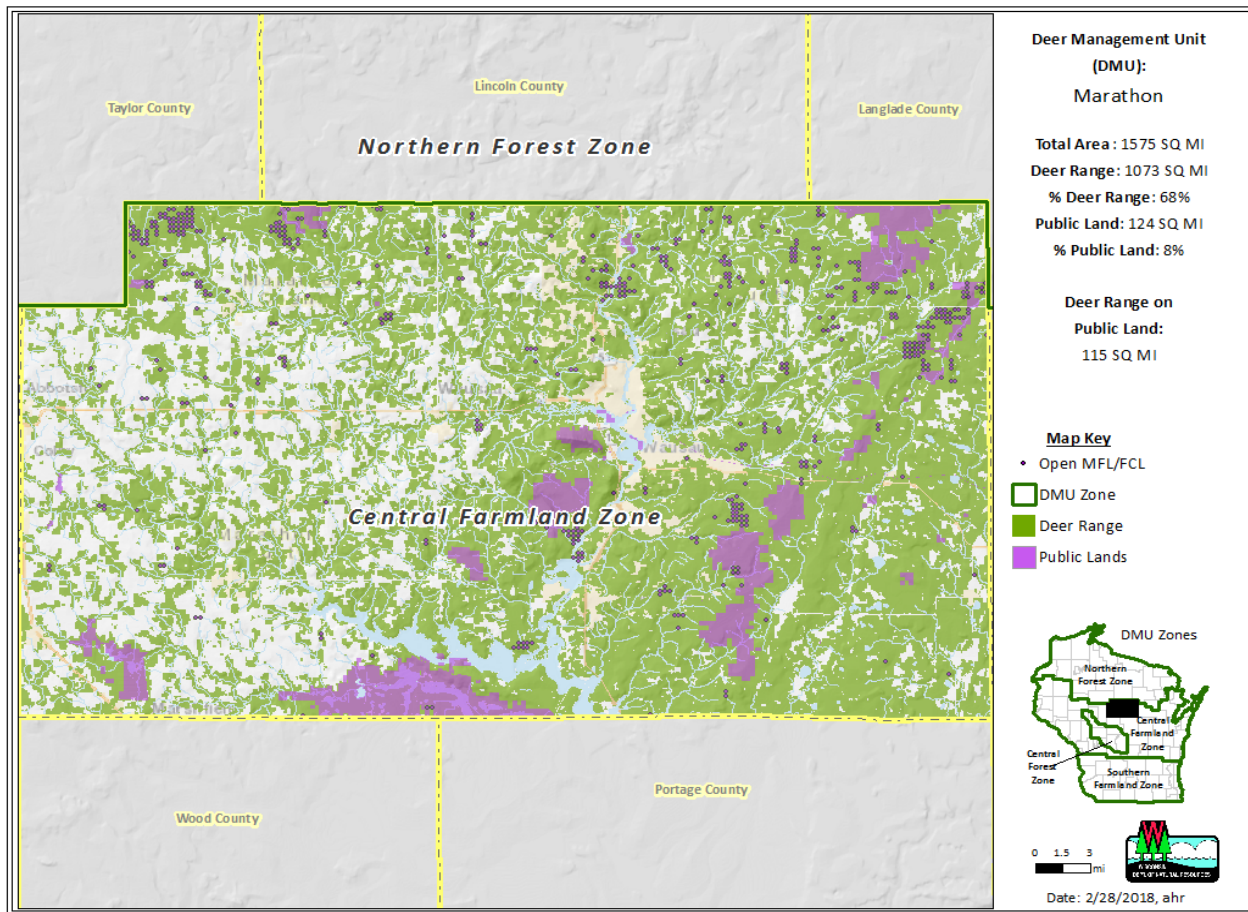


Marathon County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Marathon County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 68 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. Habitat quality varies across the unit creating somewhat of a disparity in deer distribution. The land use is heavily agricultural with areas of wooded habitat (primarily hardwood forest) present throughout. Public hunting opportunities are abundant with about 50,000 acres of open access land. These properties include Mead Wildlife Area, McMillan Wildlife Area, Bern County Forest Unit, Burma County Forest Unit, Nine Mile County Forest Unit, Ringle County Forest Unit, Kronenwetter County Forest Unit, Leathercamp County Forest Unit and Harrison-Hewitt County Forest Unit. Public hunting is also permitted on portions of Rib Mountain State Park and a few properties enrolled in the Voluntary Public Access program. Hunters in the unit typically harvest between 10,000 and 15,000 deer each year. 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.

Central Farmland Management Zone