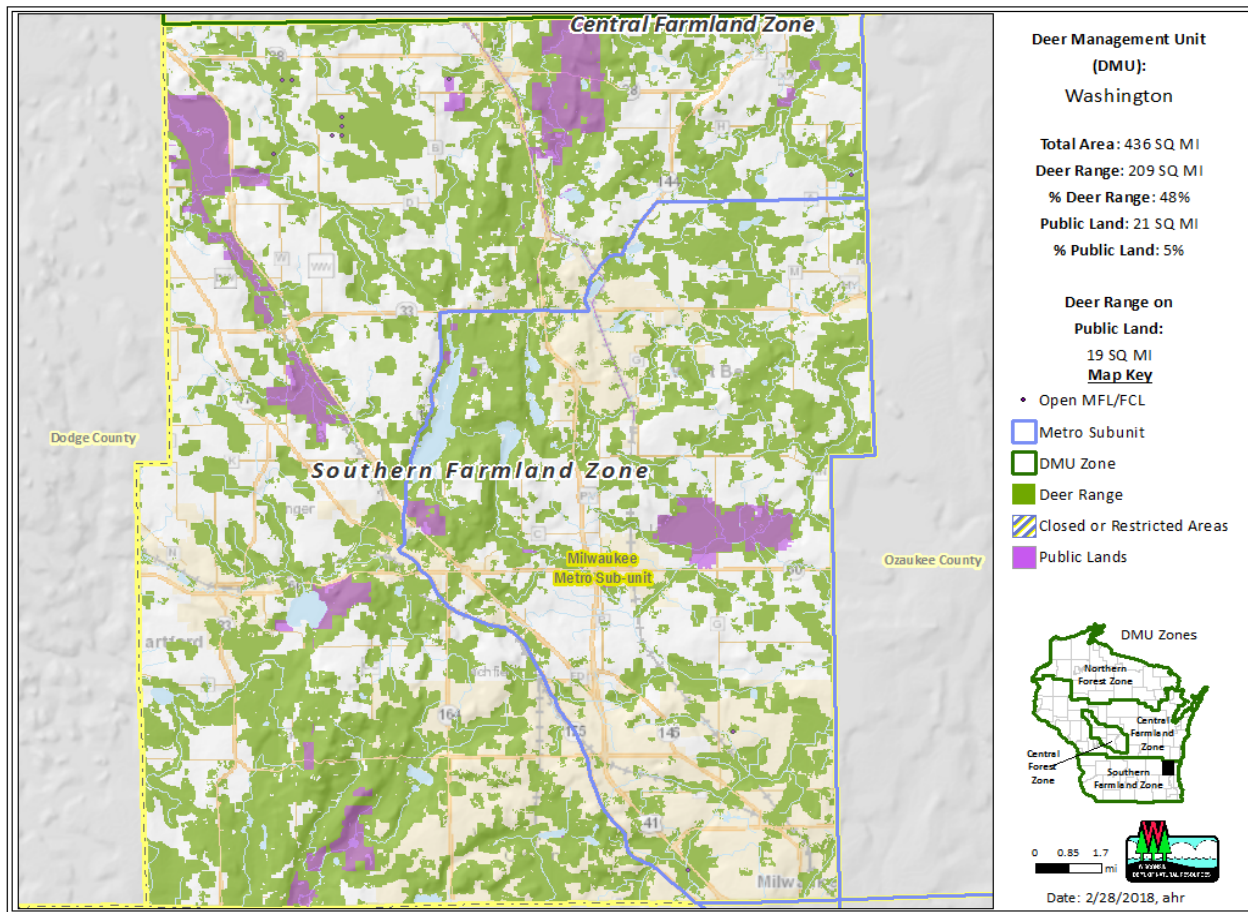


# Washington County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

The Washington County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 51% of the unit (139 square miles) is considered suitable deer range. Non-deer range includes lands within cities (West Bend and Hartford), villages (Kewaskum, Newburg, Richfield and Slinger) smaller communities, residential and commercial developments, farmland, parks and small areas with fragmented or no deer habitat. The southeastern half of the unit contains a portion of the Milwaukee Metro subunit; the Washington CDAC opted to decrease the boundaries of the Milwaukee Metro subunit with Washington County in 2017. The historic deer management objective for the Milwaukee Metro subunit has been to manage deer numbers at a relatively low level to help reduce deer-vehicle collisions and deer damage to crops, nurseries, landscape vegetation and native ecosystems. Most deer hunting occurs on private land. About 14,000 acres is open to public deer hunting of some form. Public lands include a 3,000-acre section of the Kettle Moraine State Forest-Northern Unit, Jackson Marsh, Allenton Marsh, the eastern half of Theresa Marsh Wildlife Area (the western half is in the Dodge County Deer Management Unit) and the Loew Lake Unit-KMSF. Other public deer hunting opportunities are available on parcels of the North Branch Milwaukee River Farming Heritage Area, other scattered state-owned or eased parcels, Voluntary Public Access leased parcels, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District parcels, certain Ozaukee/Washington Land Trust parcels, and miscellaneous parcels. Deer hunting pressure varies widely depending on landownership. Agricultural and nursery deer damage situations are common, as many areas of deer habitat are surrounded by cities, homes or other deer "refuges". Typically, about 10-15 deer shooting permits per year are issued in the unit for nursery/crop damage abatement. The current deer herd management objective is to maintain the population.