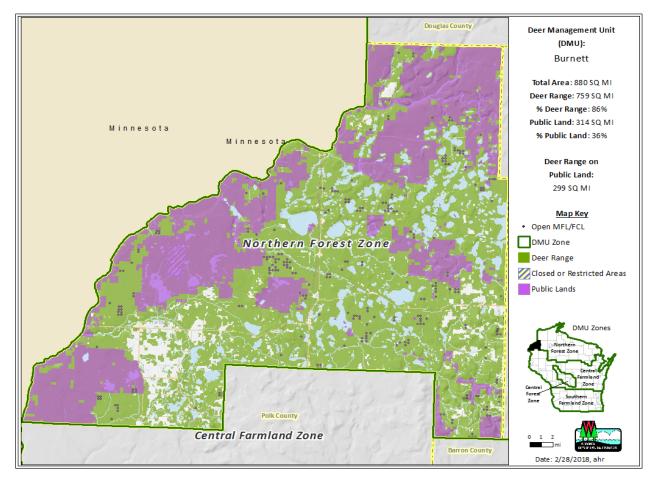
Burnett County Deer Metrics Report Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Burnett County Deer Management Unit is located in the Northern Forest Zone. The unit totals 880 square miles, of which approximately 86 percent is considered suitable deer range (758 square miles). Approximately 36 percent of the unit is in public lands open to public hunting (313 square miles) and includes the Burnett County Forest, Governor Knowles State Forest, Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, Fish Lake Wildlife Area, Amsterdam Sloughs Wildlife Area, Clam River Fishery Area and St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

The major forest cover-type in the unit is a mix of scrub oak, jack pine and aspen. The remainder of the unit is primarily in the Northwest Lowlands and Forest Transition Ecological Landscape. Forest cover in this area is comprised of a mix of northern hardwoods including red oak, maple, birch, and aspen. Hunter density on the opening day of the 9-day gun deer season over the last 10 years has ranged from 9-22 hunters per square mile. Because of differences in habitat type, deer are not evenly distributed throughout the unit with deer densities varying from sandy, forested portions to areas with heavier soils and a mix of forest and agriculture. Buck harvest rates have varied from 2-4 bucks per square mile of deer range over the past 10 years. A limited amount of agricultural damage due to deer occurs in the unit.

The current deer herd management objective is to maintain the population.

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