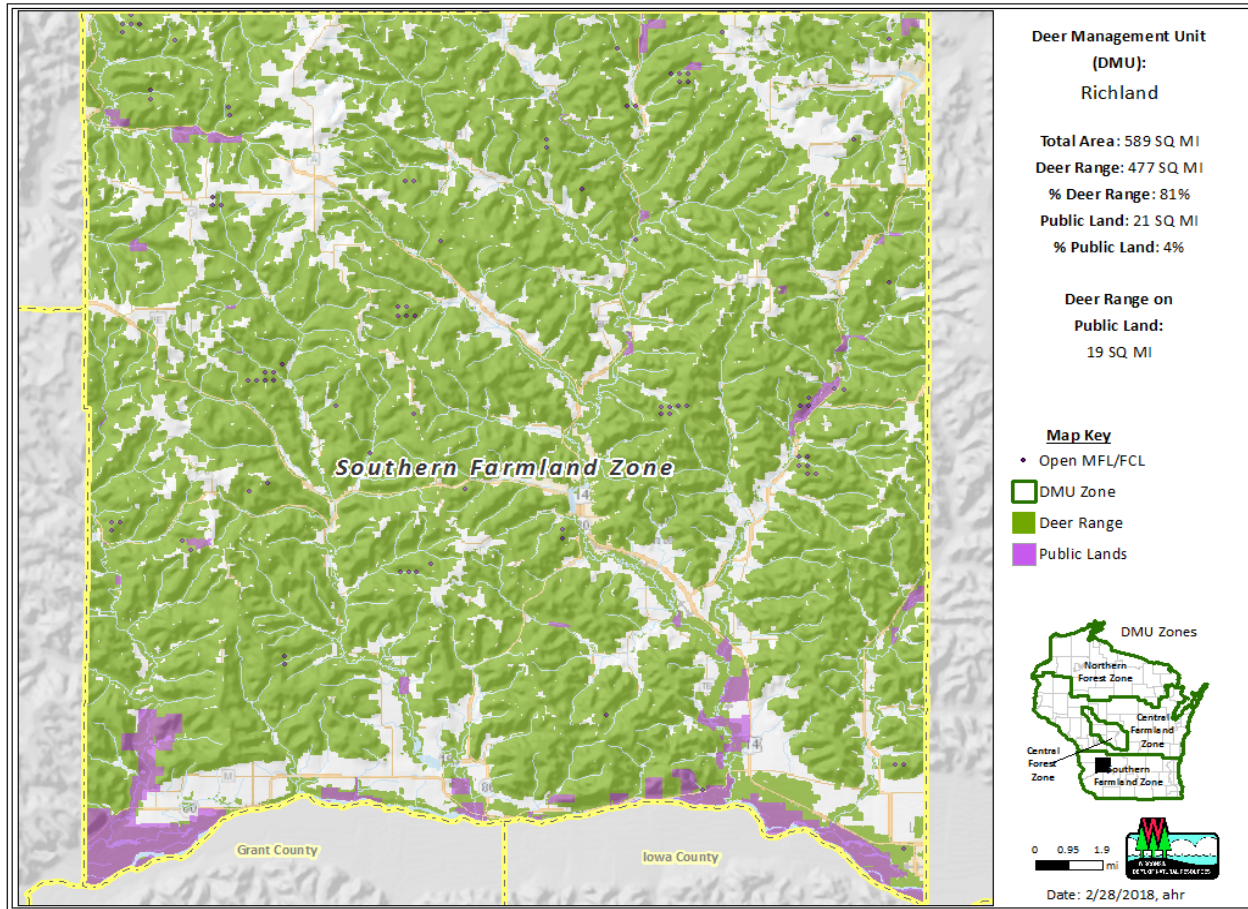


Richland County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

Richland County is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. The total land area is 589 square miles, with 477 square miles (81 percent) considered suitable deer range. Richland County is a mosaic of forest and farmland in hilly terrain, making it ideal for supporting high densities of deer. There are many absentee landowners and a high portion of the deer hunters live in other parts of the state. The southern edge of the county contains large tracts of public land in the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway, which receives moderate to high hunting pressure. Deer damage to agricultural crops is consistently high. During the 2017 hunting season, the harvest averaged 12 deer per square mile of deer range. Chronic Wasting Disease is spreading rapidly after first being detected in 2002 in the southeastern part of the unit. There were 87 new cases of CWD detected in 2017, bringing the total to 256. For the latest information on CWD, please visit the following DNR webpage: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/prevalence.html>. The current deer herd management objective is decrease.

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.

Southern Farmland Management Zone