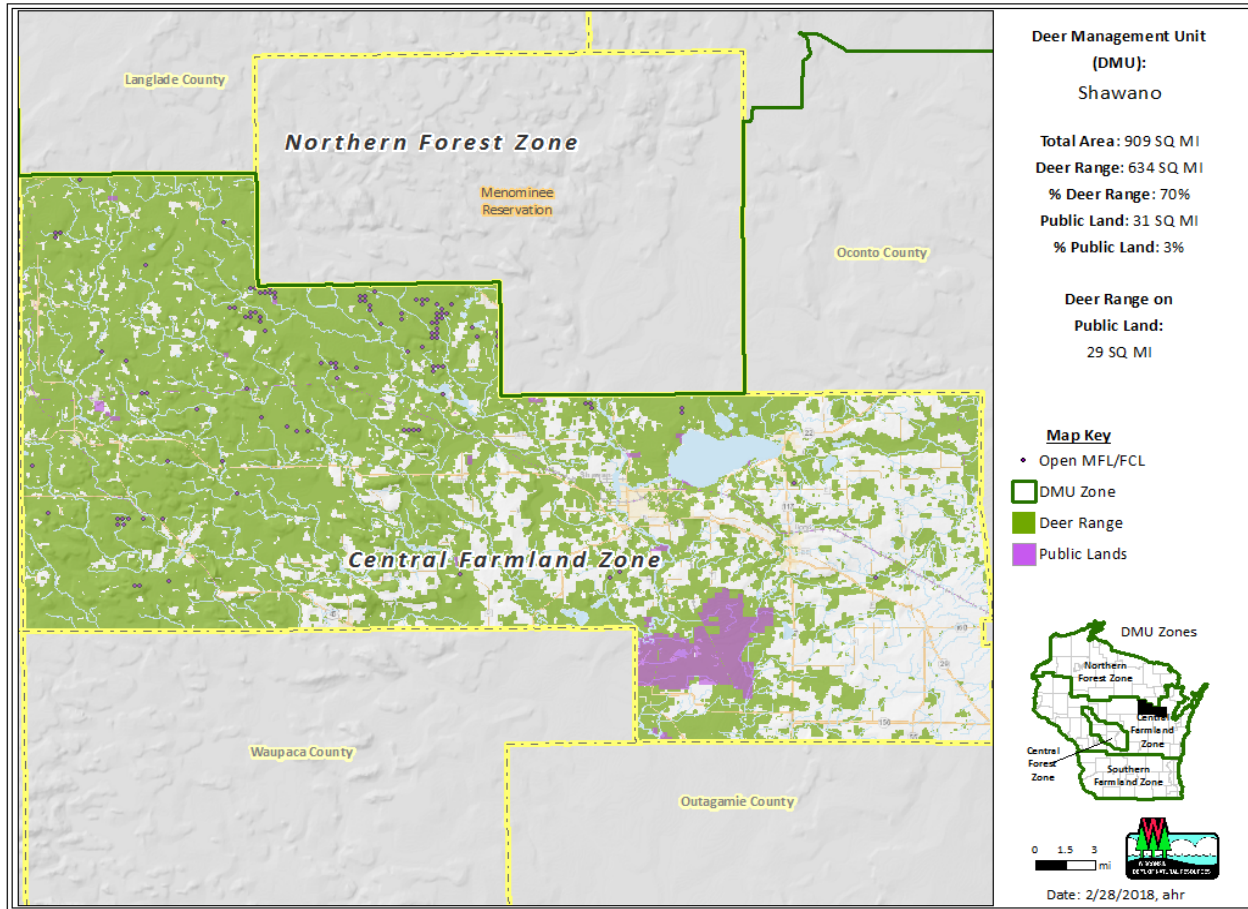


# Shawano County Deer Metrics Report

## Spring of 2024

### Management Unit:



### Manager's Note:

The Shawano County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 63 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. There is a transition between the northern forest and southern agricultural landscape. Habitat varies greatly across the unit with large river systems of the Red, Pensaukee, Shioc, Embarrass and Wolf Rivers serving as travel corridors for wildlife. The majority of the unit is in private landownership, but Navarino Wildlife Area provides considerable acreage for public land hunting (14,000+ acres). Scattered Fishery Areas, State Wildlife Habitat Areas and State Natural Areas add another 1,000+ acres of state-owned public hunting land. There are also lands enrolled in the Managed Forest Law program that are open to public hunting as well as county-owned lands. Available habitat includes large blocks of northern hardwood forest interspersed with cedar swamps and agricultural fields, bottomland hardwoods along the rivers, upland mixed forests of aspen, oak and pine and isolated woodlots in the eastern portion. There are many areas where it is difficult to regenerate trees after harvest or planting due to browsing by deer. Deer exclosures are necessary to protect and regenerate tree species valuable to wildlife, such as oak and aspen. Deer-vehicle collisions are common considering the high number of main highways, especially Highway 29 which bisects the unit, and Hwy 47 and Hwy 22. Winters are mild to moderate and can reduce susceptible segments of the population, mainly fawns and bucks having less fat reserves. Stockbridge-Munsee, Menominee and Ho-Chunk Tribes own land in the unit. Deer are very abundant and the herd is steadily increasing with the lower antlerless harvest over the past 10 years. The current herd management objective is to stabilize this growing population, with antlerless tags being available to increase the antlerless harvest.