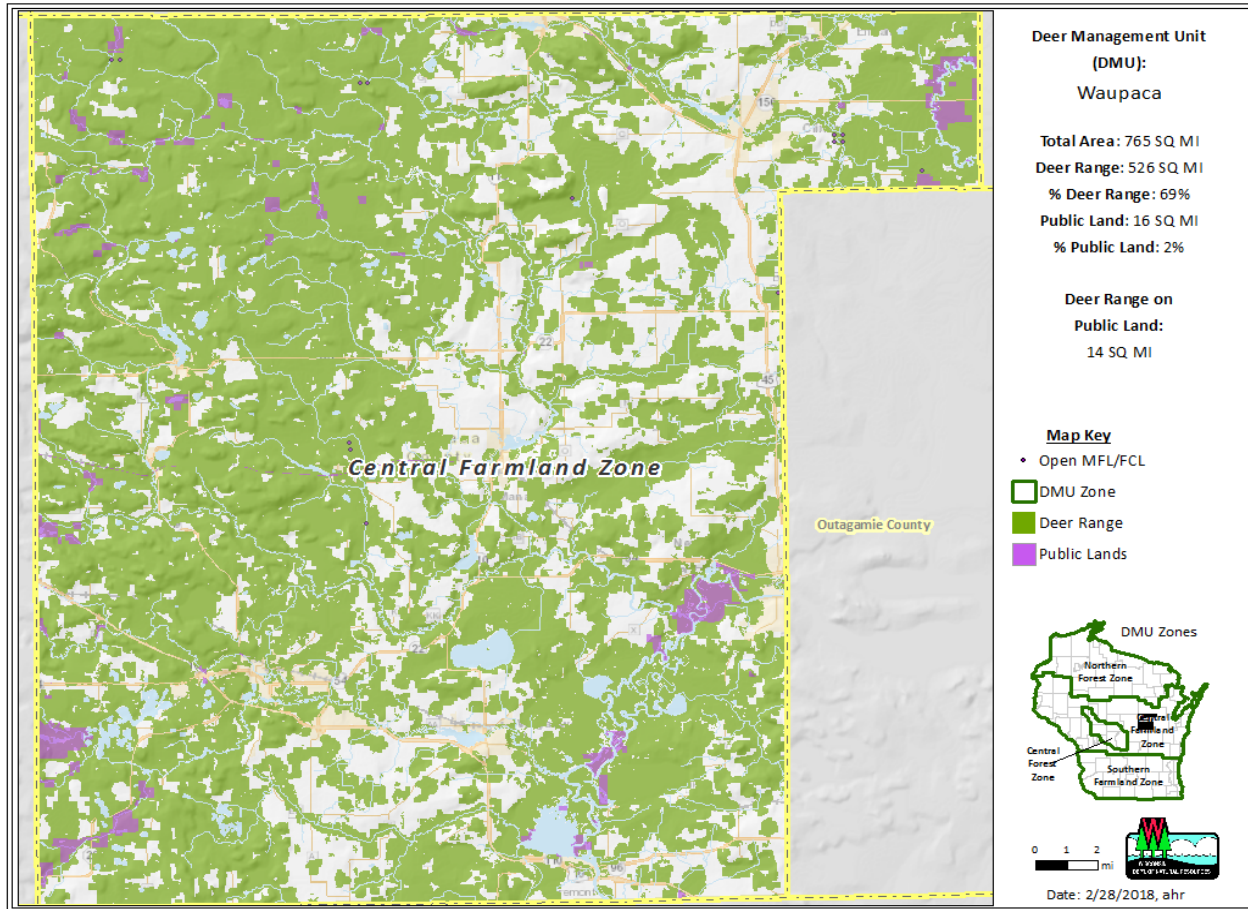


Waupaca County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Waupaca County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 69 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. Habitat types vary greatly across the unit and include forested lands, wetlands, grasslands and areas heavily dominated by agriculture. Although deer are not distributed evenly across the landscape, this area has some of the highest deer densities of anywhere in the state. Deer densities are at a level in some areas that they are believed to be having a detrimental impact on habitat quality. As would be expected with high deer densities, the unit consistently ranks at or near the top of all units when it comes to the number of deer harvested per year. Landownership in the unit is primarily private, with less than 3 percent of lands being open to public hunting. Approximately 10,000 acres of public land do, however, offer excellent hunting opportunities and over 90 percent of the public acreage is considered suitable deer range. Public hunting opportunities are available at Mukwa Wildlife Area, many scattered Fishery Areas and at Hartman Creek State Park. 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