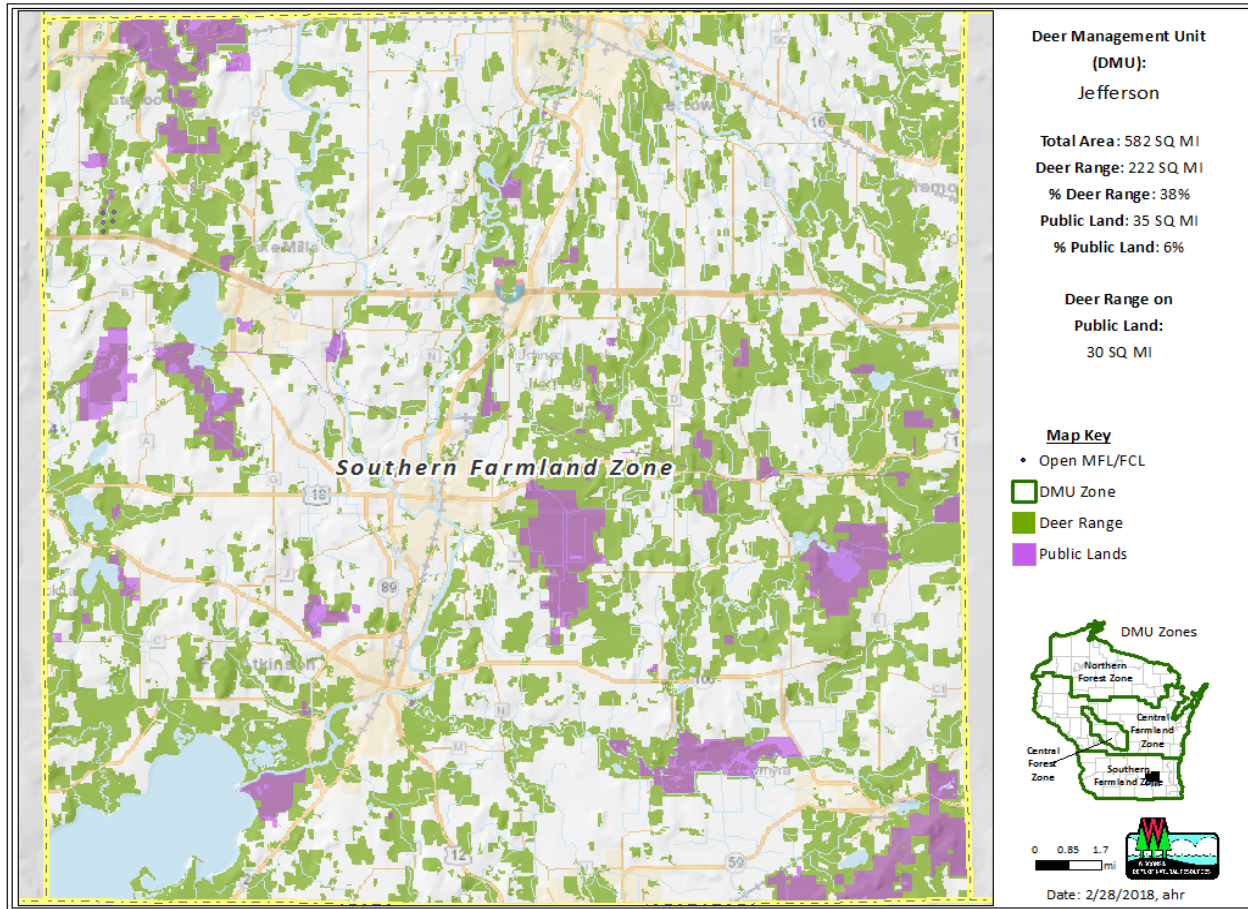


Jefferson County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Jefferson County Deer Management Unit is located in the Southern Farmland Zone. Approximately 38 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range. The predominant land use is agriculture with the majority of lands being privately owned. However, public hunting opportunities are abundant with approximately 20,000 acres of state-owned lands open for public use. State-owned properties include Jefferson Marsh Wildlife Area, Koshkonong Wildlife Area, Lake Mills Wildlife Area, Prince's Point Wildlife Area, Rome Pond Wildlife Area and a portion of Waterloo Wildlife Area. These public parcels receive heavy hunting pressure throughout the season. Habitat quality is variable across the unit, creating disparity in deer distribution throughout the unit. The unit is a Chronic Wasting Disease-affected unit. Twelve CWD-positive deer have been confirmed since 2005, with the majority located along the boundary with Rock County. For the latest information on CWD in this unit, please visit the following DNR webpage: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/prevalence.html>. The deer population in the unit is slightly rising. 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.

Southern Farmland Management Zone