DEER PERMIT AREA 254 HUNTING INFORMATION

2023 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: Three-deer limit
Firearm Options: Shotgun using slugs, muzzleloaders and handguns legal for big game
Special Regulations: N/A
Seasons:

Archery: Sept. 16 - Dec. 31
Youth: Oct. 19 - 22
Early Antlerless: N/A
Firearm A: Nov. 4 - 12
Firearm B: N/A
Muzzleloader: Nov. 25 - Dec. 10
Late CWD Hunts: N/A

Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 254 includes Freeborn and parts of adjoining Counties. The landscape is used primarily for row crop production, with urban area associated with Albert Lea and small towns. There is a high percentage of private lands where hunting access is determined by landowners. Deer habitat is provided by a patchwork of grasslands, marshes, brushy areas and woodlands often associated with rivers, lakes and large marshes. Winter conditions were generally mild and good numbers of deer and fawns are observed. Historically, a moderate season framework is used. This year's Three-deer bag limit is meant to provide good hunting opportunities and stabilize deer numbers near goal.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Jeanine Vorland, 507-414-6200

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information
See mndnr.gov/cwd/cwd-testing.html for CWD testing options

A deer feeding and attractant ban is in effect for Dodge and Mower Counties. See mndnr.gov/cwd/feedban.html for details

Land Cover Types

Land Cover Types	% Tot.
Woody Cover	3
Grassland and Wetlands	10
Annual Row Crops	77
Open Water	2
Developed	8

Total Land Area in 2022 (Non-water)

924 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Hunting

Publically Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	5
State Forest	0
Misc. State Land	0
County Managed Land	0
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	4
USFS Land (National Forest)	0
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	0
Walk-In Access	0
Total for Public Hunting	9

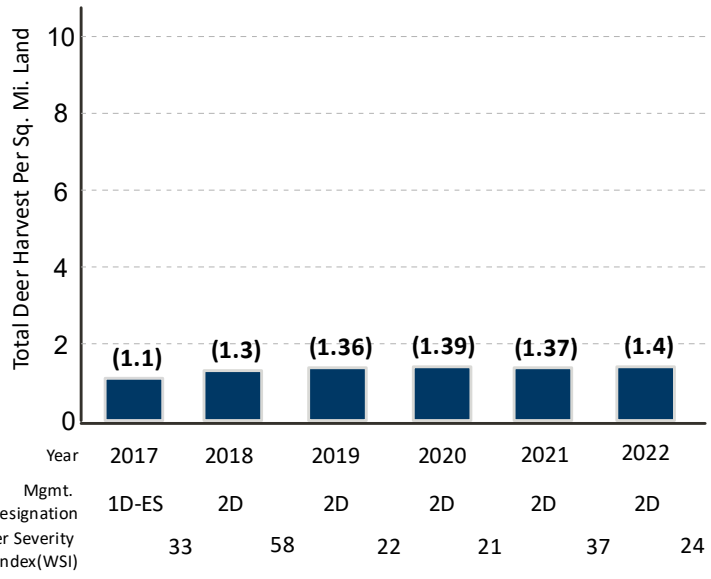
2022 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 3
Hunter Success: 35%

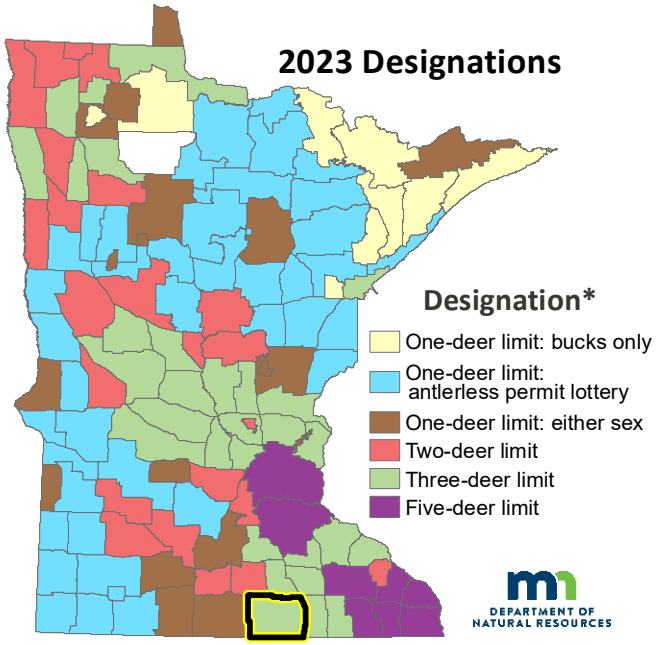
2022 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	539	59	243	43	884
Archery	110	6	94	10	220
Muzzleloader	58	10	75	12	155
Total Harvest	707	75	412	65	1259

Deer Harvest, Management Designation and Winter Severity Index from 2017 - 2022/23



2023 Designations



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

* see page 70 in the hunting regulations for details

mndnr.gov/deermap
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