

DEER PERMIT AREA 256 HUNTING INFORMATION

2025 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: Two-deer limit

Firearm Options: All Legal Firearms

Special Regulations: N/A

Seasons:

Archery: Sept. 13 - Dec. 31

Youth: Oct. 16-19

Early Antlerless: N/A

Statewide Firearms: Nov. 8 - 16

Late SE Firearms: N/A

Muzzleloader: Nov. 29 - Dec. 14

Late CWD: N/A

Land Cover Types % Tot.

Woody Cover	8
Grassland and Wetlands	23
Annual Row Crops	62
Open Water	2
Developed	5

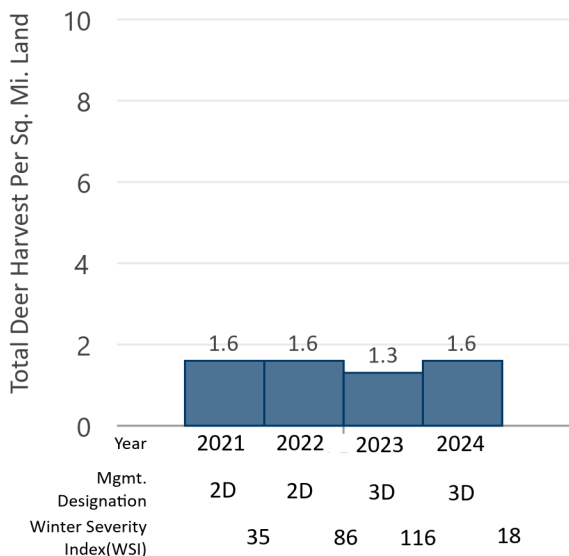
Total Land Area in 2024 (Non-water)

654 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Access Hunting

Publicly Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	21
State Forest	0
Misc. State Land	1
County Managed Land	0.8
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	22
USFS Land (National Forest)	0
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	0
Walk-In Access	0
Total for Public Hunting	44.8

Harvest, Designation and Winter Severity Index (WSI)



Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 256 includes portions of southern Marshall, western Pennington, Red Lake, and Polk counties. Landcover is dominated by 62% agriculture row crops, followed by 23% grasslands and wetlands, and 8% brushlands and woodlands. Although the winters of 2021 and 2022 were moderately severe, this highly productive deer population has remained over the goal established in 2020. The buck harvest increased 20% this past year, an indication that this herd can quickly rebound with mild winters like the past two. We expect another uptick in deer numbers this fall so a 2-Deer limit will be offered again for the 2025 deer seasons to allow increased hunter opportunity, especially in areas with higher deer densities.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Doug Franke, 218-219-8587

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information
Optional CWD testing

A deer feeding and attractant ban is in effect for Polk County. See mndnr.gov/cwd/feedban.html for details

2024 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

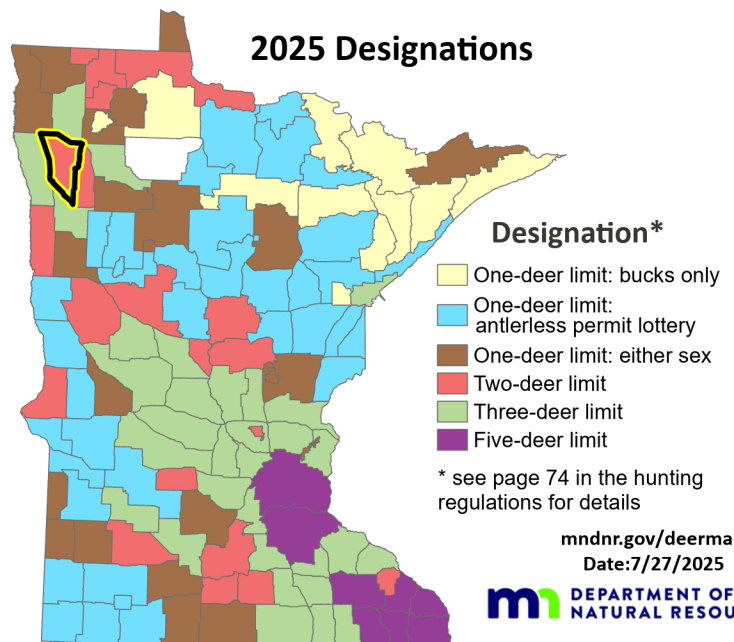
Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 3

Hunter Success: 43%

2024 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	570	59	230	42	901
Archery	40	4	32	4	80
Muzzleloader	21	4	24	3	52
Total Harvest	631	67	286	49	1033

2025 Designations



mndnr.gov/deermap

Date: 7/27/2025